



## WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

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## SGMA NEWS

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### County Groundwater Sustainability Committee

#### **NOTICE OF CANCELLATION**

**Madera County  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
(in the Madera, Chowchilla, and Delta-Mendota Subbasins)  
Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 1, 2026  
At 1:30pm**

**MEETING LOCATION**  
Madera County Government Center  
200 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Madera CA 93637  
Board of Supervisors Chambers

Notice is hereby given that the Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency Committee Meeting of September 1, 2026 is cancelled and rescheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2026.

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# Sustainable GWM Grant Program Guidelines Released

Under Proposition 4, DWR has released the [2026 Draft Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program Guidelines](#). These draft rules prioritize a 2025 legislative allocation of \$3.5 million for small Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and \$6.5 million for Underrepresented Communities Technical Assistance, with broader project solicitations expected in early 2027. To provide a program overview, review key guideline components, and accept public comments, DWR will host two public workshops, one on Tuesday, September 1, 11 a.m. to noon ([register](#)), and another on Tuesday, September 22, 10 to 11 a.m. ([register](#)). The public comment period is open from July 31 to September 30. Please email your comments to [FinancialAssistance@water.ca.gov](mailto:FinancialAssistance@water.ca.gov). For more information, see the DWR [public notice](#) for these workshops

## Domestic Well News

**MADERA COUNTY GSA**  
DRY WELL PROGRAM

**MADERA COUNTY GSA**  
DRY WELL PROGRAM

**About Madera County GSA's Dry Well Program**

The Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (MCGSA) Dry Well Program (Program) provides financial assistance to landowners impacted by declining groundwater levels in the Madera Subbasin, within the MCGSA. This Program helps fund (up to \$35,000) the drilling of new domestic well or connection to an existing community water system to replace those that have gone dry or been damaged by subsidence.

**MCGSA Dry Well Program Contact Information**

Phone: (559) 655-4807 | Email: [info@maderadrywell.com](mailto:info@maderadrywell.com) | Website: [www.maderadrywell.com](http://www.maderadrywell.com)

**Madera County GSA Dry Well Program Eligibility**



To determine which GSA your property is within, please visit the Program website at [maderadrywell.com](http://maderadrywell.com).

**Pre-Qualified Drillers**

For a list of pre-qualified drillers, please visit [maderadrywell.com](http://maderadrywell.com).

**Eligibility Requirements**

- Must be a landowner with a domestic well located within the MCGSA boundaries.
- Property must have a domestic well that went dry after 1/1/2026 or is on the Self-Help Enterprises Interim water assistance list (with a dry domestic well due to declining groundwater levels that occurred after the 1/1/2020 cutoff).
- Property owner must have owned property for a minimum of one year.
- Dwelling unit must be considered "habitable."

For more information, scan the QR Code for Program Details & Application

**Madera County GSA Dry Well Program Process**

| Apply                                                                                                                                                                                               | Assessment                                          | Approval                                                                                                                                                                                    | Payment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Record                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Complete application and submit a \$100 application and assessment fee. If the well qualifies for mitigation, the application and assessment fee will be reimbursed as an eligible mitigation cost. | MCGSA or its agents will conduct a well assessment. | A well qualifies, the landowner will select three (3) bids from well drillers. At least two (2) bids must be from any MCGSA-qualified well driller fee. MCGSA will approve one of the bids. | MCGSA will advance the landowner up to \$35,000 in eligible mitigation costs on a schedule set by MCGSA. At completion, the landowner must provide sufficient documentation to support the amount advanced and landowner must return any advanced funds to MCGSA that were not used (as specified in landowner agreement). | Record of mitigation is filed on the deed. |

**Contact Information for Surrounding Madera Subbasin GSAs**

Madera Irrigation District, City of Madera, Madera Water District - (559) 655-9099  
Root Creek Water District - (559) 255-2305  
Gravelly Ford Water District - (559) 474-1000  
New Stone Water District - (559) 834-6677

## Madera Dry Well Program

The Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (MCGSA) Dry Well Program (Program) provides financial assistance to landowners impacted by declining groundwater levels in the Madera Subbasin, within the MCGSA. This Program helps fund (up to \$35,000) the drilling of new domestic well or connection to an existing community water system to replace those that have gone dry or been damaged by subsidence.

[Click here or scan the QR code in the flyer above or visit maderadrywell.com for more information.](#)

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## STAY COOL/STAY SAFE

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# HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION CHECKLIST

*Protect Your Workers. Protect Your Operation.*

Use this checklist to help ensure compliance with Cal/OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention Standard (CCR 3395).



A safe team is a strong team.  
**Plan. Provide. Protect.**

|                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                         |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | <b>1. TRAINING</b><br>Employees and supervisors are trained on heat illness prevention procedures before the start of each heat season. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  | <b>2. DRINKING WATER</b><br>Plenty of fresh, cool drinking water is available and easily accessible to all employees at all times.      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  | <b>3. SHADE</b><br>Access to shade is provided when the temperature reaches 80°F or higher.                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  | <b>4. HIGH HEAT PROCEDURES</b><br>Additional precautions are in place when temperatures reach 95°F or higher.                           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  | <b>5. ACCLIMATIZATION</b><br>New and returning employees are gradually acclimatized to working in the heat.                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  | <b>6. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES</b><br>Procedures are in place and communicated for responding to heat illness emergencies.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |

# STAY INDOORS DURING HEAT WAVES



Stay indoors in **air conditioning** whenever possible. If your home doesn't have AC, check if your area has a cooling center.



Remain hydrated by drinking **water** and avoiding alcohol.



Check on those **most vulnerable** to heat, including children and the elderly.



If you must go outdoors, go early or late in the day, and dress in light-colored clothing.



weather.gov



NWS Hanford, CA



## What is Major HeatRisk?

extreme

**3 - major**

moderate

minor

little/none

**Major HeatRisk is the  
3rd of 4 levels  
of HeatRisk**

### What it means:

- Major Risk of heat-related illnesses for **much of the population** - especially those without effective cooling or hydration.
- **Little to no relief at night** - air conditioning is necessary - fans and open windows at night will not be enough.

### Actions to take:

- Drink plenty of water or sports drink
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing
- Avoid outdoor activities during the warmest parts of the day
- Use air conditioning and remain in cool places during the day

weather.gov/**Hanford**  
National Weather Service • Hanford, CA



## EVENTS

Next Lunch-MAR:



SJV Water Resilience Outcomes

The next [Lunch-MAR presentation](#) will feature Laura Ramos, Director of the [California Water Institute](#) at Fresno State. She will discuss the numerous positive outcomes generated at San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Water Resilience Summit held last May at Fresno State. The summit served as a collaborative working forum focused on translating water policy reports into practical, actionable results for the region.

This [hour-long webinar](#) begins at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 2.

Registration is not required to attend.

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A poster for the Smart Farm University Project. The background is a photograph of a vineyard with rows of grapevines stretching into the distance under a clear sky. At the top left is the Fresno State logo. To its right is the text 'Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology'. Below this is the title 'Smart Farm University Project' in a bold, red font. Under the title, it says 'FREE educational workshops on the following:'. A list of workshops follows: 'September 03: Meat, Poultry and Egg Safety Branch (Virtual)', 'September 10: Citrus Pest & Disease Prevention Division', 'September 17: Office of Agricultural Resilience and Sustainability', and 'September 24: Healthy Soils Program'. To the right of the list is the CDFA logo (California Department of Food & Agriculture) and a large QR code. Below the QR code, text reads 'Click or Scan the QR code to Register. Attend In-Person or Online. In-Person seating is limited.' At the bottom left, it says 'In-person workshops held at: 5370 N. Chestnut Ave. Fresno, CA 93740 from 3pm to 4pm.' Below that is the contact information 'Juan Jose Rodriguez; Project Manager; 559-278-4860'. At the very bottom is the USDA logo and the text 'National Institute of Food and Agriculture U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'.

**FRESNO STATE** | Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

**Smart Farm University Project**

FREE educational workshops on the following:

**September 03:**  
Meat, Poultry and Egg Safety Branch (*Virtual*)

**September 10:**  
Citrus Pest & Disease Prevention Division

**September 17:**  
Office of Agricultural Resilience and Sustainability

**September 24**  
Healthy Soils Program

**cdfa** CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

**QR Code**

Click or Scan the QR code to Register.  
Attend In-Person or Online.  
In-Person seating is limited.

*In-person* workshops held at:  
[5370 N. Chestnut Ave.](#)  
[Fresno, CA 93740](#)  
from 3pm to 4pm.

Juan Jose Rodriguez; Project Manager; 559-278-4860

**USDA** National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



UC Sustainable Agriculture  
Research & Education Program  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



F3 LOCAL  
FARMS  
TOOD  
FUTURE

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## Developing Agritourism on Your Farm



### Central Valley Agritourism Intensive

**What to Expect:**  
Have you considered opening your farm to the public? UC SAREP's Agritourism Intensive training provides participants with a comprehensive introduction to agritourism and a supportive network to explore diversification through the development or expansion of an agritourism enterprise. Hands-on activities and homework assignments guide participants through evaluating and developing their agritourism enterprises. Participants are expected to attend every class.

**Who Should Attend:**  
Presentations and activities are designed for California farmers/ranchers interested in starting or expanding an agritourism enterprise.

**Format:**  
The training will take place in-person over 4 weeks in September. Each session will include presentations from experts and experienced agritourism operators along with hands-on activities and group discussions.

ASSESS your potential – DEVELOP your plan – CONNECT w/peers!

**Date:**  
Every Tuesday in September:  
Sep. 8, 15, 22, & 29, 2026

**Time:**  
10:00 AM -12:00 PM

**Contact:**  
Marisa Johnson  
[mjohnson@ucanr.edu](mailto:mjohnson@ucanr.edu)  
530-750-1200 ext.1830

**Location:**  
TBD, Fresno County

**Learn more & Register:**



## Central Valley Agritourism Intensive | California Agritourism

### About the Event

Have you considered opening your farm to the public?

Offering agritourism on your farm can:

Diversify and increase your revenue

Create a direct-to-consumer market outlet

Increase your brand awareness

Connect you to your community

UC SAREP is partnering with F3 Local to provide the Central Valley Agritourism Intensive training. **The training will take place every Tuesday in September: September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026, 10am-12pm, in-person in Fresno County.**

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# SAVE THE DATE

for Farm Bureau of Ventura County's

## AGRI-TECH FAIR

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2026**

- 40+ Ag Industry Exhibitors & Vendors
- Engaging Educational Presentations
- Network with Industry Professionals
- VCAILG, DPR & CCA CEU's requested



Farm Bureau of Ventura County's

### AGRI-TECH FAIR

September 22, 2026

**Learn More Here**

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[Home | Agricultura Tech Fair](#)  
[www.vcagritechfair.com](http://www.vcagritechfair.com)

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MADERA COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS

# CELEBRATE AGRICULTURE



IMAGINED & RENDERED IN CALIFORNIA

100% PRODS FROM LOCAL ARTISTS

## WITH THE ARTS 2026

THU AUG 20 THRU WED OCT 21

### EXHIBITION & COMPETITION

OUR 33RD YEAR  
— A Tradition Since 1994 —

MADERA COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

Opening Reception & Awards  
THURS AUG 20 ~ 5:30-7:30

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The flyer for 'IRRIGATION EVALUATIONS' features a collage of agricultural images: a field of yellow wildflowers, a person in a straw hat working in a field, a row of trees in an orchard, and large metal water storage tanks. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with green and white color accents.

## IRRIGATION EVALUATIONS

FEBRUARY - NOVEMBER

Maximize your crop production by identifying inefficiencies in your irrigation system. Our free evaluations help you conserve water while improving distribution uniformity and system performance — leading to healthier crops and higher yields with less waste.

**We Will:**

- Conduct an in-field system and site evaluation
- Identify any system inefficiencies
- Develop full conservation plan

To schedule an evaluation, please contact:  
**Kevin Reyes**  
Programs@maderachowchillarcad.org  
(559) 755-5148

MADERA/CHOWCHILLA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

california almonds  
Almond Board of California

#NOREGRET'S Initiative

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## OTHER NEWS

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The logo features a stylized orange flower with a green stem and leaves, set against a blue circular background.

**UC Master Gardener**  
University of California  
Agriculture & Natural Resources

# Go Native

*By UC Master Gardener Nancy Weeks*

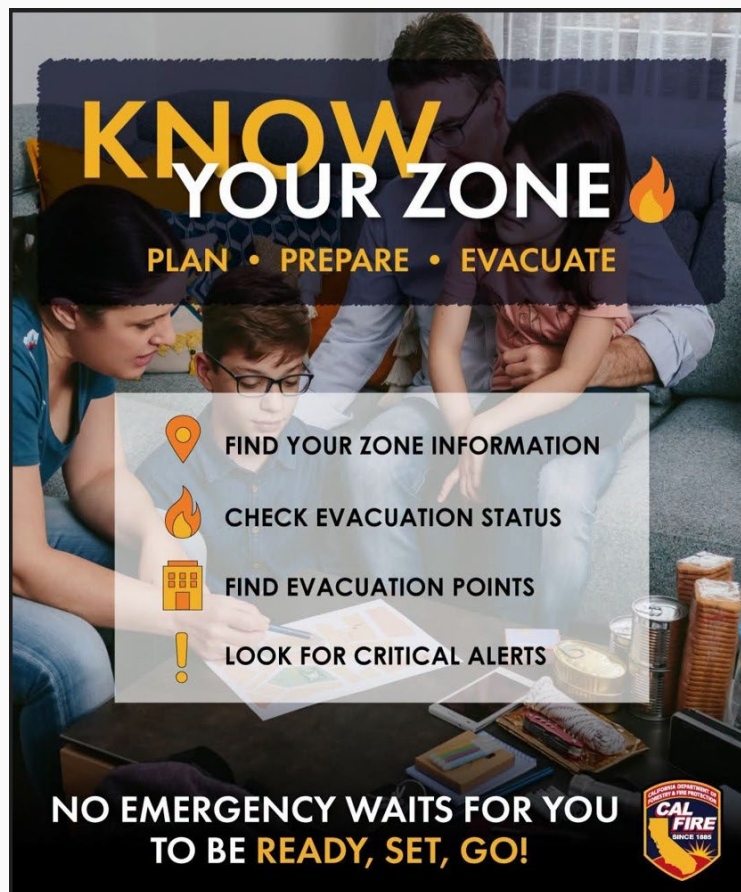
California is home to over 6,000 native plant species that thrive in local climates, require minimal water and support birds, bees, butterflies and other pollinators. These native plants existed in the state before European colonization and are adapted to California's diverse climates, soils and ecosystems.

There are many benefits of planting native species in the garden:

- Drought tolerance and lower irrigation needs, making them ideal for water scarce areas.
- Well-adapted to local conditions, and often able to withstand extreme heat and poor soils.
- Minimal fertilizer and pesticide requirements, which reduced their environmental impact.
- A food and habitat resource for pollinators and other wildlife.

[Click here](#) for the full article.

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[CalFire - Prepare](#)

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Visit our website at:  
[maderacountywater.com](http://maderacountywater.com)

Have questions on your allocation, measurement, or any other GSA concern?  
[Schedule an appointment](#) with us! We can also be reached at (559) 662-8015, at the  
County Government Building on the third floor, or you can visit us online  
at [maderacountywater.com](http://maderacountywater.com).

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*Madera County Water & Natural Resources, 200 West 4th Street, Suite 3100, Madera, CA 93637  
Phone: 559-662-8015.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).