



**WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES
NEWS FOR GROWERS
IN THE MADERA COUNTY GSAs**

August 2026



COUNTY GSA COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Madera County GSA Committee Meeting is scheduled
for **Tuesday, September 01, 2026 at 1:30 PM.**

In case you missed the previous meeting the recording and agenda packets can be viewed on the [County GSA Committee](#) webpage. Information can also be found on the [Board meeting portal](#).

COUNTY GSA BOARD MEETING

In case you missed the Madera County GSA Board meeting on **July 21, 2026**, a short summary of the GSA items is provided below.

Item 9.b:

The Board approved a Transfer of Appropriations in the amount of \$2,044,703 to reimburse the General Fund for GSA operation costs - General Fund for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

For more information,
visit maderacountywater.com



Item 9.a:

The Board provided direction to the Madera County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) to use the existing Cost Sharing Memorandum of Understanding in the Chowchilla Subbasin to pay for subsidence monitoring in an amount not to exceed \$21,216.67 to be split equally by the four GSAs in the Chowchilla Subbasin.

For more information,
visit maderacountywater.com



Item 9.c:

The Board adopted Resolutions declaring Special Assessments and the Notice of Levy of Special Assessments in the Madera and Chowchilla Subbasins against the real property owned by responsible parties subject to unpaid and past-due penalties imposed for excessive groundwater extraction pursuant to California Water Code section 10732.

For more information,
visit maderacountywater.com



The next Madera County GSA Board meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, September 15, 2026.

For more information, visit the [Board meeting portal](#) to view the full agenda packet
and recording.

INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES

Aquifer Pumped Hydroelectricity Pilot Project Survey


The California State University



Clean Energy Opportunities from California's Irrigation Wells

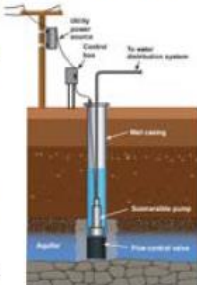
Aquifer Pumped Hydroelectricity (APH) Pilot Project Survey

[\(Click Link Here\)](#)

What Is This Project?

California is working toward **100% clean electricity by 2045**. To support renewable energy from solar and wind, researchers are studying **Aquifer Pumped Hydroelectricity (APH)**, a concept that could use existing irrigation wells and aquifers to store and generate electricity. As part of this pilot study, we are collecting irrigation well information to explore whether this technology could work in agricultural areas.

For more information, go to <https://www.calstate.edu/water>



How APH Works

APH uses the height difference between ground level and the water table.

- When extra solar or wind energy is available, water is pumped above ground.
- When electricity is needed, water flows back underground through the APH adapted well that helps generate power.

Why This Matters

If feasible, APH could:

- Reduce energy costs for well owners
- Improve grid reliability during peak demand
- Store excess solar and wind energy
- Support rural and disadvantaged communities
- Help California meet climate goals

Why We Are Collecting Well Information

Public records for irrigation wells are incomplete. Farmers and landowners are the best source of accurate information.

We are collecting basic well information* such as:

- Location
- Pump size (horsepower)
- Well depth and diameter
- Well condition

*All information will be handled responsibly and respectfully. Information will be accessible only by our project team and details will not be posted online or shared with others.

Who Should Complete the Survey

- Farmers and well-owners
- Irrigation and water districts
- Groundwater sustainability agencies
- Local governments and community groups

Who to Contact

Dr. Steve Blumenshine
Executive Director, CSU-WATER
sblumens@mail.fresnostate.edu



Survey QR Code
(<https://arcg.is/1PGyXz2>)

This project is led by [CSU-WATER](#) and the [Center for Geospatial Science & Technology](#) at CSU Northridge, with support from the California Energy Commission (CEC) through its EPIC clean energy research program.

 [@CSU_WATER](#)
 [linkedin.com/company/csu-water/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/csu-water/)
 www.calstate.edu/water

Scan or click the QR Code in the flyer or click the button below to access the survey. Visit the website for more information on [Aquifer Pumped Hydro](#).

Click Here for Survey

Fresno State Smart Farm University

FRESNO STATE

Jordan College of Agricultural
Sciences and Technology

Smart Farm University Project

FREE educational workshops on the following:

August 06:
Risk Management Agency

August 13:
Farm Service Agency

August 20:
Agricultural Marketing
Service



Click or Scan the
QR code to Register.

Attend In-Person or Online.

In-Person seating is limited.



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



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

FRESNO STATE | Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

Smart Farm University Project

Talleres educativos GRATUITOS sobre lo siguiente:

August 06:
Risk Management Agency

August 13:
Farm Service Agency

August 20:
Agricultural Marketing Service

Asista en persona o en línea:

Haga clic o escanee el código QR para registrarse.

Los asientos para asistir en persona son limitados.



Juan Jose Rodriguez, Project Manager: 559-278-4880

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

FRESNO STATE | Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

Smart Farm University Project

ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਵਿਸ਼ਿਆਂ 'ਤੇ ਮੁਫ਼ਤ ਵਿਦਿਅਕ ਵਰਕਸ਼ਾਪਾਂ:

August 06:
Risk Management Agency

August 13:
Farm Service Agency

August 20:
Agricultural Marketing Service

ਵਿਅਕਤੀਗਤ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾਂ ਐਨਲਾਈਨ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੋਵੋ:

ਰਜਿਸਟਰ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ QR ਕੋਡ 'ਤੇ ਕਲਿਕ ਕਰੋ ਜਾਂ ਸਕੈਨ ਕਰੋ।

ਵਿਅਕਤੀਗਤ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਬੈਠਣ ਲਈ ਸੀਟਾਂ ਸੀਮਤ ਹਨ।



Juan Jose Rodriguez, Project Manager: 559-278-4880

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

[Click Here to Register](#)

Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

AG BURN ALTERNATIVES GRANT PROGRAM ORCHARD/VINEYARD REMOVALS

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) is accepting applications for the Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program. This program provides incentives to commercial agricultural operations located within District boundaries to chip agricultural material from orchard and vineyard removals and use for soil incorporation (whole orchard/vineyard recycling), on-site land application, off-site beneficial re-use (mulch, composting, land application near roadways for dust suppression, and other District approved beneficial re-use of the chipped material). Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis while funds are available. Additionally, this program provides incentives for the use of air curtain burners, which may only be used to dispose of diseased material or material with embedded wire, such as cordon (spur) pruned vineyard material.

Land conversions intended for non-agricultural purposes are not eligible for funding.

Applicant must not have chipped, nor can begin chipping, any of the acres of the orchard or vineyard to be removed at the location referenced in their application until they have received an executed voucher. Additionally, applicant must not have used, or begin using an air curtain burner to dispose of any diseased agricultural material or material with embedded wire to be removed at the location referenced in their application until they have received an executed voucher.

Final disposition of agricultural material must be used for soil incorporation, on-site land application, or off-site beneficial re-use, and cannot be used in any combustion processes such as biomass power generation, pyrolysis, or firewood, with the sole exception of air curtain burners, which may only be used to dispose of diseased agricultural material or material with embedded wire such as cordon (spur) pruned vineyard material.

**San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
Grants and Incentives Department
1990 East Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726-0244**

You may also contact us by phone, email, or visit our website:

(559) 230-5800

grants@valleyair.org

<https://ww2.valleyair.org/grants/ag-burn-alternatives-grant-program>

Click the flyer above or the buttons below or visit the website at
[Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program | Valley Air District](#) for more information.

[Click Here to Visit the Website](#)

[Click Here for Program Guidelines](#)

EVENTS

2026 Pistachio Week



August 11–17, 2026
Central Valley & Statewide, CA

Pistachio Week, presented by American Pistachio Growers, is an annual weeklong celebration of the pistachio harvest that brings together growers, restaurants, consumers, and industry partners across California. Participating chefs at restaurants throughout the Central Valley and beyond create inventive pistachio-infused dishes, from appetizers to desserts, highlighting the nut's incredible versatility. The week also features industry mixer events, networking

opportunities, and community gatherings designed to strengthen connections between growers, processors, and the public. It's a delicious and festive celebration of one of California's most celebrated specialty crops.

Learn More Today! → <https://americanpistachios.org/>

Agri-Tech Fair

A promotional graphic for the Agri-Tech Fair. On the left is a large, detailed image of a halved avocado. To its right is a decorative graphic of a molecular or network structure with yellow, green, and red nodes connected by thin lines. The text 'SAVE THE DATE' is in large, outlined orange letters. Below it, 'for' is in a cursive font, followed by 'Farm Bureau of Ventura County's' in a small sans-serif font, and 'AGRI-TECH FAIR' in large, bold green letters. A yellow rounded rectangle contains the date 'SEPTEMBER 22, 2026'. Below this is a bulleted list of event highlights. At the bottom right is a logo with three hexagons labeled 'LEARN', 'INVEST', and 'GROW', next to the text 'Farm Bureau of Ventura County's AGRI-TECH FAIR' and the date 'September 22, 2026'.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

Pomegranate Tour

FRESNO MADERA YF&R

PACKINGHOUSE TOUR

PETER'S PACKING IN REEDLEY

RSVP FOR INFO
POMEGRANATE TOUR

AUGUST 24TH
STARTS AT 6 PM



MORE INFORMATION:

@FRESNOMADERAYFR ON
INSTAGRAM

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

CONTACT US

For questions, please contact your Water Resources Specialist directly.

Aleta Allen (559) 831-7166 aleta.allen@maderacounty.com	Leticia Tapia (559) 831-7172 leticia.tapia@maderacounty.com
Jacinta Cabral (559) 831-7173 jacinta.cabral@maderacounty.com	Tukta Phetasa (559) 514-4819 tukta.phetasa@maderacounty.com

If you don't know who your Water Resources Specialist is you can reach us at (559) 662-8015, email ETmeasurement@maderacounty.com, or visit our [website](#) to [schedule an appointment](#).



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

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