



WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS



SGMA NEWS

Hope to see you at the Resource Fair on
November 6, 2026 - 10:00 to 2:00

MADERA COUNTY GSAs
FALL
GSA RESOURCE FAIR

November 6, 2026
 10:00am - 2:00pm

Madera County Government Center
Main Lobby
200 W. 4th Street
Madera, CA 93637

No Registration Needed

You're invited! Come & explore...

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Water Institute
- Discover the Dry Well Program
- National Weather Service
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Madera/Chowchilla Resource Conservation District
- Madera County Flood Control Agency
- Meet your Water Resources Specialist & More!

MADERA COUNTY

Join us for Dessert & Refreshments!

WNR@maderacounty.com (559) 662-8015 www.maderacountywater.com

County Groundwater Sustainability Agency Committee Meeting

The next Madera County GSA Committee meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, November, 10, 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 Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Meeting

The next Madera County GSA Board meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, November, 17, 2026.

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

Flood

Help Keep the Watercourses Flowing

Best practices for landowners with a creek, slough, drainage channel, or other watercourse.

Watercourses are an important part of Madera County's drainage system. Regular maintenance can help preserve flow capacity, reduce avoidable obstructions during storms, and protect the neighboring properties. Madera County Code 16.12.090 requires property owners or lessees to keep the portion of a watercourse within their property free of trash, debris, excessive vegetation, and other obstacles that would pollute, contaminate, or significantly slow or obstruct the flow.

Before the Rainy Season – A quick Checklist

- ✓ Inspect the watercourse and identify trash, excessive vegetation damaged private structure, or flow restrictions.
- ✓ Remove trash and manageable debris and dispose of it properly.
- ✓ Manage excessive vegetation that significantly restricts flows; avoid unnecessarily removing healthy vegetation that helps stabilize the banks.
- ✓ Keep privately owned culverts, fences, crossings, or other structures from becoming hazardous obstructions.
- ✓ Do not place cut vegetation, soil, construction material, or other debris where stormwater can carry it into the channel.
- ✓ Make routine maintenance a habit instead of allowing vegetation and debris to accumulate for years.

Don't Over Clear

Propper maintenance does not mean removing every tree, shrub, or piece of vegetation. Madera County code specifically addresses excessive vegetation that significantly impacts the water flow. Remember, vegetation can also help stabilize banks and reduce erosion.

Important

Check before major channel work

Excavation, grading, substantial vegetation removal, bank alteration, or other work affecting the waterway may require County, State, or federal review or permits. Check requirements before beginning significant work.



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Tyson J. Pogue, Sheriff-Coroner

Emergency Sand and Sand Bag Locations 2026-2027 (Revised 9-16-2026)

Below is the list of locations that have sand and sandbags available for residents, depending on where they live. For all locations, you must bring your own shovels. The County has a limited supply of Sandbags. If you need additional sandbags, you can purchase them at a local hardware store. Some locations do not have sandbags. Please refer to the table to determine which locations have bags and which do not.

Please go to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) YouTube page for directions to properly filling and placing of sandbags. <https://youtu.be/H-qO0eE1kwM>

For additional Winter Weather Information, such as knowing weather terms, preparing, and safety tips, go to <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

Madera County Valley Locations

Name	Address	Sand	Bags
Madera County Fire Station #1	Between the Fire Station and Fire Administration (14225 Road 28, Madera, CA 93638)	✓	✓
Madera County Fire Station #3	21205 Road 26 Madera, CA 93638 559-661-0507	✓	✓
Madera County Fire Station #19	35141 Bonadelle Avenue, Madera, CA 93638 559-645-1399	✓	✓

Madera County Mountain Locations

Name	Address / Location Details	Sand	Bags
Madera County Fire Station #8	47050 Road 417, Coarsegold, CA 93614 559-683-8008	✓	✓
Madera County Fire Station #11	33400 Douglas Ranger Station Road, North Fork, CA 93643 559-877-2600	✓	✓
Madera County Fire Station #12	48355 Liberty Drive, Oakhurst, CA 93644 559-683-4808	✓	✓

Page | 2

City of Chowchilla Locations

Sand and Sandbag Sites are for City Residents Only.

Name	Address / Location Details	Sand	Bags
Chowchilla Public Works Yard	340 North 1 st Street (off Sonoma Avenue), Chowchilla, CA 93610	✓	✗
Chowchilla City Hall	130 South 2 nd Street, Chowchilla, CA 93610 Hours: Monday to Friday 7am to 4pm	✗	✓
Chowchilla Police Department	122 Trinity Avenue, Chowchilla, CA 93610 Hours: After City Hall Business Hours Only	✗	✓

City of Madera Locations

Please go to the City of Madera's website for up-to-date information. Sand and Sandbag Sites are for City Residents Only.

<https://www.madera.gov/emergency-protective-services/emergency-preparedness/floods-and-sandbags/>

Name	Address / Location Details	Sand	Bags
Madera Public Works Corporation Yard	1030 South Gateway Drive, Madera, CA 93637	✗	✓
City of Madera Sand Locations	Northwest Corner of "E" Street & 14 th Street, Madera, CA 93637 (across the railroad tracks from the Public Works Corporation Yard)	✓	✗

☎ (559) 675-7770

📍 2725 Falcon Drive, Madera, CA 93637

✉ Sheriff@MaderaCounty.com

☎ (559) 675-7770

📍 2725 Falcon Drive, Madera, CA 93637

✉ Sheriff@MaderaCounty.com

Sandbag Locations Here



EVENTS



Next Lunch-MAR meeting to discuss 112 years of recharge - November 4

Next week's [Lunch-MAR](#) meeting, "Proof Positive: A Century of Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) in Southern California," will feature [San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District](#) (SBVWCD) General Manager [Betsy Miller](#). She will share how the SBVWCD drew on 112 years of continuous recharge data to isolate the basin-scale effects of its operations and how this information provided a grounded point of reference for regions weighing MAR investments in their own basins. This [hour-long webinar](#) begins at 12:30p.m on Wednesday, November 4. Registration is not required to attend.

A poster for the Smart Farm University Project. At the top left is the "FRESNO STATE" logo in red and blue. To its right is the text "Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology" in blue. Below this is the title "Smart Farm University Project" in red. Underneath is the text "FREE educational workshops on the following:". A list of workshops follows: "November 05: (Virtual) USDA Veterans Beginning Farmer & Rancher Program", "November 12: Natural Resources Conservation Service- NRCS", and "November 19: (Virtual) Boots to Roots". To the right of the list is the USDA logo. Below the list, there is a QR code and the text "Click or Scan the QR code to Register." and "Attend In-Person or Online." and "In-Person seating is limited." and "In-person workshops held at: 5370 N Chestnut Ave, Fresno, CA 93740 from 3pm - 4pm." At the bottom left is the USDA logo and the text "National Institute of Food and Agriculture U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE". At the bottom right is the text "Juan Jose Rodriguez; Project Manager: 559-278-4860".

FRESNO STATE | Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

Smart Farm University Project

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November 05:
(Virtual) USDA Veterans Beginning Farmer & Rancher Program

November 12:
Natural Resources Conservation Service- NRCS

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

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



CalCAN Conference 2026

Save the Date for the California Agriculture & Climate Conference!

San Joaquin Valley perspectives. Statewide agricultural solutions.

Agriculture is facing unprecedented challenges from climate change, economic pressures, and increasing regulation.

CalCAN's inaugural San Joaquin Valley conference will bring together farmers, researchers, technical advisors, policymakers, and agricultural leaders from across California to discuss challenges, explore opportunities and build connections towards a stronger, more resilient agricultural landscape across California.

Date: November 9, 2026

Location: DoubleTree Fresno Convention Center, Fresno, CA

For more information:

[California Agriculture & Climate Conference | CalCAN - California Climate & Agriculture Network](#)

JOIN US FOR THE

2ND ANNUAL FARMER AG NETWORK ROUNDTABLE

FARMING TODAY

Conversations, Challenges & Regenerative Solutions



FARMERS, YOUR VOICE MATTERS. COME SHARE. COME LEARN. COME CONNECT.



LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!
FREE FOR FARMERS, RANCHERS;
\$25 FOR NON-FARMER, RANCHER

Interpretation will be offered
in: Spanish & Hmong

Questions? Call: (559) 309-2022 or
email deborah@farmeragnetwork.org

Nov 10 2026

8:30AM-3PM

Caruthers Fairgrounds
13599 S. Raider Ave
Caruthers, CA 93609

Doors will open at 8:00AM

FEATURED CONVERSATIONS

- FARMER ROUNDTABLES
- TARGETED GRAZING
- REGENERATIVE PRACTICES
- SGMA
- SOIL HEALTH
- FARMER-TO-FARMER LEARNING

REGISTER HERE



<https://FarmerAgNetwork2026.eventbrite.com>

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR FOUNDING SUPPORTERS



[**REGISTER HERE**](#)



Fresno Ag Expo November 13, 2026 @ the Big Fresno Fairgrounds

Fresno is the #1 ag county in the state and this annual event is held in the center of the Central Valley's rich and diverse agricultural production. Since 1996, this event has become a tradition for nearly 1,000 grape, nut and tree fruit growers to attend. This year, the expo will be featuring 5 PCA, 6 CCA & 1 INMP Credit, Free Breakfast & Tri-Tip Lunch, Industry Trade Show, State of the Raisin, Table Grape, Wine, Almond, Walnut, Pecan, Pistachio & Fresh Fruit Industry presentations and seminars on: Rat Infestation Concerns, Optimizing Nitrogen & Water Use Efficiency on the Farm, Recent Carpophilus Beetle & Red Leaf Blotch Threat in Tree Nuts, New Raisin Varieties & Trellising Systems, Orchard & Vineyard Pest/Disease/Weed Management, an Update on Pesticide Laws & Regulations, and more.

Register to attend:

[Register to Attend — Free Admission | Malcolm Media Ag Expos](#)

NOV 16, 2026



MADERA COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

AG PLASTIC CONTAINER

RECYCLE EVENT



Recycling & shredding provided by Interstate Ag Plastics
Supported by Ag Container Recycling Council

Accepting:

- Triple rinsed pesticide containers (inspection mandatory & containers must be clean)
- 30 or 55 gallon drums (must be cut in quarters)
- Caps, labels, and bungs must be removed
- No need to peel off those pesky sticky labels
- No bulk cage type containers
- No trash or poly pipe

MCFB Parking Lot
1102 S Pine St
Madera, CA 93637

VISIT

WWW.MADERAFB.COM

EMAIL

OFFICE@MADERAFB.COM

CALL

559.674.8871



Register
Today!



MADERA/CHOWCHILLA
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

**ANY CONTAINERS NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS
WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

2026 Fall Ag Plastic Container Recycle Event

RECHARGE IN ACTION

A Farmer Field Day
November 17, 2026



Join us for a classroom and field day event focused on real-world groundwater recharge solutions for Central Valley farms.



Explore Recharge
Options

See how recharge
basins, injection wells,
subsurface recharge, and
on-farm recharge work.



Find Funding and
Support

Learn about incentives,
technical assistance, and
resources for recharge
projects.



Understand the
Benefits

Discover how recharge
can support groundwater
supplies, farms, habitat,
and flood management.



Farmer-to-Farmer
Learning

Hear practical insights
and real-world lessons
you can apply on your
farm.



RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Visit the event website to learn more and register:
<https://www.californiawater.org/event>
Or call (559) 278-7001 to register.



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FRESNOSTATE | California Water Institute



Recharge in Action: A Farmer Field Day

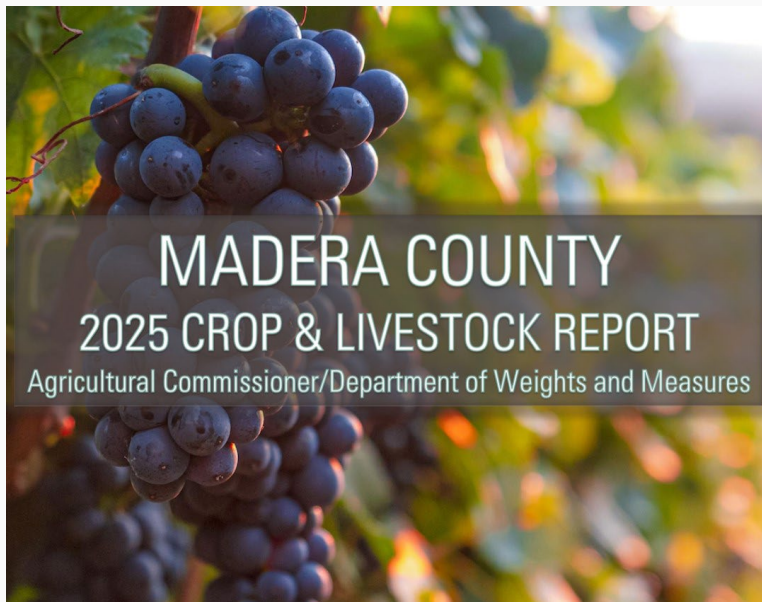
The California Water Institute at Fresno State in partnership with Sustainable Conservation is hosting a classroom and field day for landowners on November 17 at the Fresno State campus. Whether you own or lease property, you will learn about groundwater recharge solutions that are available, hear from growers implementing these practices in their fields, and learn how recharge can support SGMA compliance and long-term farm water resilience. Learn more and register today at <https://www.californiawater.org/event/recharge-in-action/> or call (559) 278-7001 to register.

OTHER NEWS

How MLRP delivers environmental and community benefits



California's [Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program \(MLRP\)](#) helps to strategically transition farmland away from groundwater-intensive agriculture to other uses that deliver many environmental and community benefits. Once a dairy farm, the approximately 500-acre [Capinero Creek Restoration Project](#) in the San Joaquin Valley offers an inspiring example of MLRP's potential. The project has attracted endangered species (notably the blunt-nosed leopard lizard), tested virtual fencing for grazing cattle, and involved local high school students in scientific research. The restoration project shows that MLRP and other land transitioning efforts work, often with better-than-predicted results. To read more on how MLRP shaped this project, see the [full article](#) on the Environmental Defense Fund [website](#).

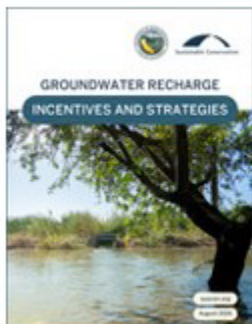


Madera County agriculture jumps 12.3% to \$2.61 billion as dairy, pistachios surge

Madera County's agricultural production reached \$2.61 billion in 2025, an increase of \$286.3 million, or approximately 12.3%, from the previous year, according to the county's newly released [2025 Crop and Livestock Report](#). The report, prepared by the Madera County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, shows that almonds remained the county's leading agricultural commodity, while milk, pistachios and cattle recorded substantial increases in value. Total agricultural production rose from \$2.33 billion in 2024 to \$2.61 billion in 2025, reflecting shifts in commodity prices, production volumes and market conditions.

For full article:

[Madera County agricultural production reaches \\$2.61 billion in 2025](#)



Sustainable Conservation releases groundwater recharge guide

The [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act](#) requires groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) to create and carry out groundwater

sustainability plans to balance groundwater use and replenishment. Many districts now promote groundwater recharge by directing excess surface water onto suitable farmland during winter storms. Teaming with [DWR](#), [Sustainable Conservation](#) recently published [Groundwater Recharge Incentives and Strategies](#), a guide that presents examples of groundwater recharge incentives and management strategies that water districts and GSAs can adapt to the conditions of their subbasins. The guide is [available](#) now.



Worried about the upcoming storm season?

We are here to help!

Visit the FAM Co office or contact us to get information on local resources, and ways to get prepared for storm season.

**Located at the Oakhurst Government Center
40325 Hwy. 41, Oakhurst, CA 93644**

fireadaptedmadera@gmail.com

Visit our website at:
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.