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Subject **BB&K Legal Alert: California Governor Issues New COVID-19 Executive Order Impacting Local Government**

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Legal Alert

California Governor Issues New COVID-19 Executive Order Impacting Local Government

Addresses Open Meetings, Delivery Ordinances, Working After Retirement and Government Claim Deadlines During Coronavirus Pandemic

In a continued effort to address the COVID-19 state of emergency, California Gov. Gavin Newsom issued Saturday a new Executive Order, [N-35-20](#). For local government agencies, there are four sections of the Order that are particularly relevant.

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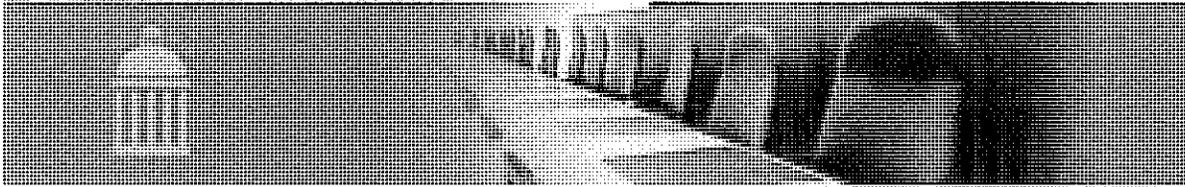
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Legal Alert

Update: Calif. Open Meeting Requirements Under COVID-19

Governor Issues New Executive Order Excusing Physical Location Requirements for Public Comment and Observation for Public Meetings

Yesterday, California Gov. Gavin Newsom issued [Executive Order \(N-29-20\)](#), which, in part, supersedes Paragraph 11 of Executive Order (N-25-20) issued on Thursday. The new Executive Order excuses a legislative body, under the Ralph M. Brown Act, from providing a physical location for the public to observe and comment if certain conditions are met.

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Legal Alert

Businesses and Public Agencies Must Follow New 911 Direct Dial Requirements

Impacts All Multi-Line Telephone Systems

On Monday, "Kari's Law," which imposes 911 direct dialing requirements on multi-line telephone systems went into effect. Important for Best Best & Krieger LLP clients is that these obligations apply to public agencies or businesses with an MLTS.

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, in a statement released Friday explained: "Starting next week, it will be easier for Americans in hotels, office buildings, and campuses to dial 911 and get help from first responders during emergencies - and it will save lives.... [T]his is a reminder to building managers and others responsible for multi-line telephone systems that they must adhere to the new requirements going forward."

In October, BB&K disseminated a Legal Alert discussing the law and its requirements. We invite you to review it and contact us if you have any questions.

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Legal Alert

Three Federal Actions to Address COVID-19

How These New Measures Impact Businesses, Public Agencies and Employees

As of today, the United States government has taken two significant actions to provide resources to address the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19: On March 6, it enacted the \$8.3 billion Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act and, on March 13, President Donald Trump declared a nationwide emergency. The Administration and House of Representatives have agreed on a third action that awaits passage in the Senate in the coming days: the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which provides a second round of supplemental appropriations and tax credits for new sick, family and medical leave requirements. Under the current proposed bill, state and local governments are subject to these paid sick, family and medical leave requirements, but are excluded from the corresponding payroll tax credits. Follow the link for an overview of these three substantial steps and their effects.

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Legal Alert

The EPA's National Water Reuse Action Plan

Joint Plan Aims to Meet Rising Water Demands

A new [National Water Reuse Action Plan](#) focuses on water reuse practices aimed at strengthening water security, sustainability and resilience for both rural and urban communities. The Plan was released by the Environmental Protection Agency in conjunction with other federal, state, tribal, local and water sector partners. The EPA and its partners hope to increase water reuse to address the rising demands for water across the United States. Currently, water reuse amounts to less than 1 percent of the demand.

The Plan includes 11 strategic themes with 37 actions to be implemented by a spectrum of federal, state, local and private sector partners.

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Legal Alert

Election Void for Being Held on Improper Day, Court Holds

California Appellate Court Invalidates Water District Board Election

A recent decision by a California appellate court highlights the importance of holding elections in accordance with the time and date requirements of the Elections Code.

In *Atwell Island Water District v. Atwell Island Water District*, the Fifth District Court of Appeal, in a partially published opinion, concluded that an election held to fill the expiring seats of two members of a water district's governing board was void for being held the day after a state holiday.

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Join Us for a Free BB&K Webinar

Stormwater Permitting at Schools and Community Colleges

The California State Water Resources Control Board will require most K-12 public school districts and community college districts in California to obtain a permit for stormwater discharges from their campuses. This permit will require changes to current operations and impose costs on districts. In this BB&K webinar, Partner Rebecca Andrews and Founder and President of Olaunu Daniel Apt will review the current status of the permit process and requirements and provide an overview of steps involved in establishing a stormwater discharge compliance program.



Rebecca Andrews
Contact Rebecca

Daniel Apt
Contact Daniel

When

Tuesday, March 24
10 - 11 a.m. PDT

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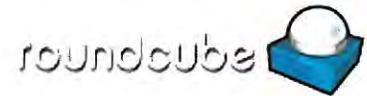
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Legal Alert

COVID-19: Water Shutoff Moratorium for Homes and Critical Small Businesses

California Governor Restricts Water Supply Discontinuation for Non-Payment

In response to growing health and economic concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic, California Gov. Gavin Newsom issued an [Executive Order](#) that temporarily suspends water shutoffs for non-payment. The Order states that, to limit the spread of COVID-19, it is crucial that individuals maintain a source of clean water so that they can wash their hands regularly and thoroughly. The Order also states that the rising unemployment rates, loss of income and business closures have made it difficult for individuals and business to continue paying utility bills - potentially creating a significant health risk.

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Legal Alert

Public Records Requests During COVID-19 Crisis

California Public Agencies Struggle with CPRA Compliance

Public agencies are likely grappling with California Public Records Act request challenges - especially deadlines and document access limitations - during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, the CPRA itself does not include any language that would reasonably allow an agency to delay compliance with the CPRA's time limits based on emergencies or crises. While Gov. Gavin Newsom's various executive orders in response to the coronavirus provided some relief to public agencies with regard to other obligations, they have not provided any relief to public agencies with respect to the CPRA.

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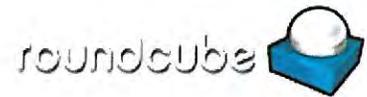
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How to Remain Compliant with Ethics Laws and Principles

AB 1234 Ethics Training

Best Best & Krieger LLP is offering an ethics training webinar that satisfies AB 1234 biannual training requirements. The webinar is interactive, allowing attendees to ask questions.

The webinar will cover:

- General ethics laws and principles
- Laws governing personal financial interest (Political Reform Act and Government Code section 1090)
- Laws governing personal advantages and perks (limits on gifts, travel, loans, mass mailings, misuse of public funds)
- Transparency laws (Brown Act open meeting law and California Public Records Act)
- Fair process (common law conflict of interest and due process)

Who should attend:

- Public agency in-house and general counsel
- All officials, officers and employees who file Statements of Economic Interest (SEI, Form 700)
- Any employee designated by his or her agency to receive AB 1234 training
- Any public agency employee interested in learning the public integrity laws and best practices to promote positive public perceptions and avoid legal problems

When:



Michael Maurer
Contact Michael



Albert Maldonado
Contact Albert

Thursday, May 21
10 a.m. - Noon (PDT)

Cost:
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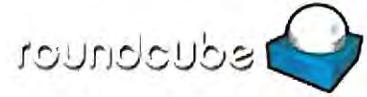
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Legal Alert

New Court Rules During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Bail, Evictions, Remote Hearings and Depositions and Statutes of Limitation Rule Changes

The California Judicial Council, the rule-making arm of the California court system, adopted several important statewide rules at an emergency meeting Monday. Most notably, the Council issued rules that set bail at \$0 for most misdemeanor and lower-level felony offenses, effectively stopped all evictions other than those necessary to protect public health and safety, issued rules promoting remote hearings and depositions, and tolled statutes of limitations in civil matters. The rules are designed to last throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

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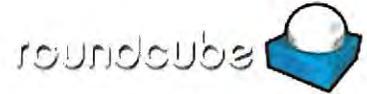
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Join Us for a Free BB&K Webinar

Part Two: Leveraging FEMA and Other Federal Grant Funding Opportunities for COVID-19 Response

Best Best & Krieger LLP, in conjunction with Nan McKay & Associates and Guidehouse, are presenting a second webinar for municipalities, special districts, school districts and other government agencies on the nuts and bolts of FEMA Public Assistance and other federal grant opportunities for COVID-19 response. The content of this webinar will include a deeper dive into the grant process based on the questions received during the [first webinar](#).

Topics will include:

1. CARES Act Update
2. Applicant Eligibility
3. Project Worksheets
4. Documentation
5. Eligible Costs
6. 5% Administration Fee
7. CDBG Update
8. Conflicting Disasters

When

Wednesday, April 22
10-11 a.m. PDT

Roundcube



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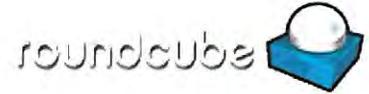
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Legal Alert

Records Disclosure and Retention When Working Remotely

How COVID-19 Stay Home Orders Impact Government Records

As more and more local public agencies send employees home to work, working remotely has raised some unique records disclosure and retention issues.

Records that concern the conduct of the public's business are public records subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act, even if the records are retained on an employee's private device or account. If an employee is using a private laptop with remote access, such as a virtual private network, known as VPN, then the laptop most likely does not need to be searched in response to a CPRA request. However, if a record is exclusively kept on a personal laptop, then a search as contemplated in *City of San Jose v. Superior Court* may be appropriate.

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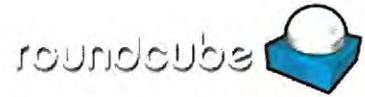
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Legal Alert

Final Rule Narrowing Clean Water Act Jurisdiction to be Published Tomorrow

EPA and Army Corps of Engineers New "Waters of the U.S." Definition Takes Effect on June 20

On Tuesday, the Federal Register will officially publish the Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers final rule establishing a new definition of "Waters of the United States" that are protected by the Clean Water Act. The final rule is set to take effect 60 days after publication, on June 20.

[READ MORE >](#)



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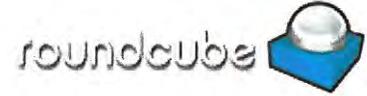
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Legal Alert

Supreme Court Decision Creates New Standard for Clean Water Act NPDES Permit

County of Maui v. Hawai'i Wildlife Fund

Today, the Supreme Court announced a 6-3 [decision](#) in the case of *County of Maui v. Hawai'i Wildlife Fund*. The decision involves whether a federal permit is required under the Clean Water Act when pollutant flows through groundwater before reaching surface waters that are subject to regulation under the Act. The Court held that a permit is required when the discharge to groundwater is the "functional equivalent of a direct discharge" to surface waters.

[READ MORE >](#)



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Recent Insights

[Final Rule Narrowing Clean Water Act Jurisdiction](#)

[Decision Could Expand Clean Water Act NPDES Permit Requirements](#)

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Legal Alert

New Public Records Act Opinion Considers Extent of Trade Secret Privilege

Drug Company's Mandatory Release of Price Increase May Compromise Privilege, Permitting Disclosure Under the CPRA

A California appellate court recently held that disclosure of trade secret information to third parties, even if mandated by statute, may compromise the privilege. The Second District Court of Appeal in *Amgen Inc. v. The California Correctional Health Care Services* considered a California Public Records Act request for records a third party claimed were protected by the trade secret privilege.

[READ MORE >](#)



Annie Loo
annie.loo@bbklaw.com

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Subject **Notes from the Field // March**
From CARCD <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <info@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-31 16:58



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Notes from the Field // March 2020

In This Issue:

1. [Featured: Senate Bill 1028 would fund conservation practices and technical assistance in California](#)
2. [Get to Know the San Mateo RCD](#)
3. [Conservation Updates](#)
4. [Partner Spotlight: the Pacific Forest Trust](#)
5. [Upcoming RCD Events](#)

Senate Bill 1028 would fund conservation practices and technical assistance in California



In the 2020 legislative season, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) and the Nature Conservancy are co-sponsoring Senate Bill (SB) 1028, authored by Senator Bill Dodd. SB 1028 would establish the Environmental Farming Incentives Program, providing cost-share and technical assistance for producers to implement a range of conservation practices on their land. The bill can be seen as California's version of the federal Environmental Quality Incentives Program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service.

More and more, Californians are realizing that farmers have been and will play a critical part in mitigating climate change and creating resilient landscapes.

Practices like cover cropping and planting hedgerows can have ecological and climate benefits and beyond what benefits the farmer. Other practices like planting pollinator habitat and making rice paddies a stopping point for migrating birds allows farms to double as habitat in areas where habitat is scarce. However, implementing these practices can be costly and require expertise beyond what the farmer currently holds. The Environmental Farming Incentives Program would provide cost share and technical assistance from experienced local conservationists.

[Read more](#)

GET TO KNOW AN RCD



Kellyx Nelson, executive director for [the San Mateo Resource Conservation District \(RCD\)](#) and board member for the CARCD, is diving head first into working with the California Natural Resources Agency on their Cutting Green Tape Initiative. It is one of the many ways that Kellyx has been innovating new approaches for more efficient and effective permitting in order to increase the pace and scale of conservation and restoration efforts.

[Read more](#)

Conservation Updates

COVID-19 Resources for RCDs

We have compiled some resources that will be useful to RCDs during the COVID-19 crisis. We know that the issues that RCDs are facing are complex and unprecedented—please don't hesitate to contact CARCD if you have any questions.

[Visit the COVID-19 Resources page](#)

CAL FIRE awards \$8.9M to RCDs for fire prevention

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection awarded nearly \$8.9 million to RCDs through their Fire Prevention Grants. Congratulations to the [RCD of Monterey County](#), [San Mateo RCD](#), [Placer County RCD](#), [Shasta Valley RCD](#), [Calaveras County RCD](#), [Tulare County RCD](#), and [Ventura County RCD](#)!

[Read more](#)

Kick-off for new sustainable cannabis certification

CARCD and Emerald Grown kicked-off the first Advisory Panel meeting of the Growing Responsible and Socially Sustainable Cannabis (GRASS-C) certification. GRASS-C will be a tiered market-incentive certification program for environmentally responsible cannabis production in California.

[Read more](#)

What were RCDs up to in February?

California is home to 95 unique RCDs operating in ten regions throughout the state. RCDs are California's boots-on-the-ground, providing everything from technical assistance to design and installation of conservation projects to community education— and more. Each month, we work to compile a small sampling of the incredible work that the districts are doing in and on behalf of their communities.

[Read more](#)

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



A think-and-do-tank of scientists, conservationists, policy wonks, entrepreneurs, and outdoor enthusiasts, [the Pacific Forest Trust](#) advocates for healthy forest ecosystems, including sustainable wood harvest, healthy watersheds, thriving

wildlife, and a well-balanced climate. The Pacific Forest Trust serves on CARCD's Forestry Committee and we continue to partner with them to promote sound policy that benefits Californians through the preservation of our natural resources.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming RCD Events

Updated: Napa County RCD's Sudden Oak Death Blitz

April 11, 2020

The Napa County RCD has updated their volunteer event "Sudden Oak Death Blitz" on April 11 from 10am to 11:30am at the Ag Commissioner's Office Building front porch (1710 Soscol Avenue). To maintain public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, the event will be held as an outdoor event with no group meeting. Coordinator Bill Pramuk will be onsite to supervise, answer questions, and ask everyone to respect "social distancing". No more than nine people at a time can be present. Participants may sign up online at [the SOD Blitz program page](#) where they can view a brief Powerpoint presentation and a 15-minute training video. [Click here for more details](#).

Updated: Coastal San Luis RCD's CDFA Healthy Soils Program Tour

April 2020, TBA

Coastal San Luis RCD's CDFA Healthy Soils Program Tour will now be held as a virtual tour. Stay tuned for a link to the Virtual Field Tour scheduled for mid-April. The tour will feature the following presenters:

- Jake Smith, Gopher Glen Organic Apple Farmer - Orchard Management
- Charlotte Decock, Cal Poly Soil Ecologist - Healthy Soils Program
- Lindsay Ringer, Coastal San Luis RCD Conservation Manager - Soil Sampling and Soil Design

Contact Lindsay at lringer@coastalrccd.org with questions.



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Resource Conservation Districts

Your partner in local conservation and sustainable agriculture

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Subject **CARCD Webinar on Grant Status with DOC & Resources Agency**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-09 11:52



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Hi folks,

We know that one of the challenges RCDs face right now is uncertainty around cashflow and grant status in light of the COVID-19 crisis. We have reached out to our partners at the Department of Conservation and the Natural Resources Agency to host a special webinar about the State's plan for cashflow. There will also be a Q&A where they will answer questions about grant programs. We hope you will join us.

When: Thursday, April 16th from 2pm-4pm

Who: Bryan Cash - Assistant Secretary, Administration and Finance at the California Natural Resources Agency

Keali'i Bright - Division Director, Division Land Resource Protection at the California Department of Conservation.

Where: Zoom (see link and call-in information below)

Thank you,

Karen Buhr
Executive Director
California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
916-524-2100

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://zoom.us/j/872769674?pwd=QnlwTzBNM1dGa0hzZEhTR2NHUXRUUT09>

Meeting ID: 872 769 674

Password: 982231

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/aeGgpKt1NZ>



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To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <kiko-barr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-10 19:51



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you!

Warm regards,

The CARCD Team

In This Issue:

1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [COVID-19 Resources](#)
3. [Advocacy](#)
4. [RCD News](#)
5. [Conservation Announcements](#)
6. [Funding Announcements](#)

CARCD Updates

Resources for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

Have you heard people open up events and meetings by saying something like, "We would like to acknowledge that we are in the traditional land of _____ people..."? Have you practiced land acknowledgement for your RCD already? Read [this quick guide from Native Governance Center](#) about how to approach land acknowledgements. During your next virtual team or Board meeting, you can discuss [this 4-min video about the importance of land acknowledgement](#) and learn more about [the peoples of your District here](#). Even during shelter-in-place, we are in and on some place! If you're feeling uncertain, [here is a helpful FAQ](#) from the (non-governmental) US Department of Arts & Culture.

CARCD Webinar on Grant Status with DOC & Resources Agency

We know that one of the challenges RCDs face right now is uncertainty around cashflow and grant status in light of the COVID-19 crisis. We have reached out to our partners at the Department of Conservation and the Natural Resources Agency to host a special webinar about the State's plan for cashflow. The webinar will feature Bryan Cash, Assistant Secretary with the Administration and Finance Department at the California Natural Resources Agency, and Keali'i Bright, Division Director with the Division of Land Resource Protection at the California Department of Conservation. There will also be a Q&A where they will answer questions about grant programs. The webinar will be on Thursday, April 16 from 2pm - 4pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/872769674?pwd=QnlwTzBNM1dGa0hzZEhTR2NHUXRUUT09>

Meeting ID: 872 769 674

Password: 982231

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,872769674# US

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US

High School Speak-Off Competition Announced

The 2020 High School Speak-Off Competition is now open! The theme for this year is "How should Resource Conservation Districts serve and engage the entire community in conservation work?" Thank you to the RCDs who submitted suggestions, and to RCD of Monterey County that provided this one. RCDs, please feel free to reach out to your local schools and make them aware of the Speak-Off Contest topic and have their high school students get started on researching the topic and drafting their speeches for the Fall Regional Speak Off Contests. It's a great activity for them to start working on while trying to keep busy at home. All information on the contest can be found on [the Education Committee page](#).

Regional Meetings Announced

Please let us know if your RCD's regional meeting has been postponed or has transitioned to a virtual meeting! Email Kiko at kiko-barr@carcd.org or Emily at emily-sutherland@carcd.org.

- Southern Baja Region (April 22) will be hosted by Palo Verde RCD in Blythe
- Sacramento Valley Region (April 28) will be hosted by Yuba County RCD and Sutter County RCD

- Central Coast Region (April 30) will be hosted by Coastal San Luis RCD in San Luis Obispo
- San Joaquin Valley Region (May 8) will be hosted by Tulare County RCD in the Visalia/Exeter area
- Bay-Delta Region (May 1, 9:30am - 12:30pm) will be hosted by the Napa County RCD on Zoom

COVID-19 Resources & Updates

Hosting a Public Meeting on Zoom

Streamline, a website development company for special districts, developed a step-by-step guide on hosting a Zoom meeting, and will have a webinar with a mock remote "public meeting" so attendees can experience what it's like to attend a Zoom Webinar as a member of the public. The webinar will be on Thursday, April 16 on 10am. They will cover:

- How to raise your hand or unmute to comment, if you've called in via phone
- How the Host can manage public comment using Q&A
- How board members can participate (on video or not)
- How to share your agenda packet and meeting rules
- The differences between Zoom Meeting and Zoom Webinar

[Register for the webinar here.](#) [Download the Zoom Webinar to hold public meetings guide.](#)

Field Protocol from San Mateo RCD

San Mateo RCD has shared their document: [Field Protocol During the COVID-19 Emergency](#). Topics covered include: general guidelines, "essential functions," and Best Management Practices.

Contra Costa RCD's Zoom Guide

Thank you to Ben Weise at the Contra Costa RCD for sharing a guide to get everyone set up for Zoom Meeting. [Find the word doc here.](#)

CAFF & AFT Farmer Relief Funds

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers has announced a new emergency fund to directly support family farmers to help them make it through this crisis. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000, with half of the funds reserved for farmers of color and those from immigrant communities. [Follow this link to the fund page.](#)

The American Farmland Trust's Farmer Relief Fund will award farmers with cash grants of up to \$1,000 each to help them weather the current storm of market disruptions caused by the coronavirus crisis. Initially, eligible applicants will include any small and mid-size direct-market producers. These are defined as producers with annual gross revenue of between \$10,000 and \$1 million from sales at farmers markets and/or direct sales to restaurants, caterers,

schools, stores, or makers who use farm products as inputs. AFT envisions an initial application round extending until April 23, with payments disbursed beginning May 1. [Follow this link to the fund page.](#)

Cattleman's Association FAQ

The Cattleman's Association's Frequently Asked Questions gives information about food safety, worker safety, financial relief, and sales. [Find the FAQ here.](#)

CAFF Webinars for Farmers

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers has been hosting webinars for producers. Find a recording of the webinar [Farming During COVID: On-Farm Food Safety here](#); find last week's webinar [Farming During COVID: Marketing here](#). Next week's webinar will be on Wednesday, April 15 from 4pm - 5:30pm on Farmer Relief, with topics ranging from the stimulus bill to government loans to grants from a variety of sources. [Click here to register.](#)

NACD's COVID-19 Survey for Tree Planting

The National Association of Conservation Districts is interested in learning about your experiences in carrying out programs during this national emergency. If your RCD has a tree planting program, they would appreciate you filling out [this short survey](#).

Climate Readiness and COVID-19

Join the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative for their virtual workshop on April 16 from 1pm - 3:15pm. They will discuss how COVID-19 is impacting the world, particularly the potential interplay between the economic impacts of COVID-19 and the need for public and private sector climate action, resilience building, and adaptation funding. They will also discuss the state's priorities for climate moving forward and hear from community leaders about how they continued to fight for climate and reach underserved communities during a pandemic. [Register using this link.](#)

COVID-19 & Conservation/Outdoor Recreation

These notes are from a very thoughtful organization, the Avarna Group, on COVID-19 & Conservation/Outdoor Recreation. They cover incorporating equity and inclusion in your work, including how to support employees and marginalized communities. [Find the notes here.](#)

Meeting Essential in the COVID-10 Era: Playdough!



Nancy Wahl-Scheurich joined the CARCD team late last month. Here is a short post on how childcare has become part of her work day since the Shelter-in-Place order went out.

It's humbling to land a dream job in the middle of a pandemic, but that's what happened to me when I joined CARCD in March as a Project Coordinator supporting our Monarch Conservation and other programs. After a long career in the private sector including having founded two companies focused on making positive environmental impacts, I was looking for a way to apply all my experience and passion for the planet to a job with enough flexibility to allow me time to enjoy my grandchildren. I found it at CARCD!

Who knew that "enjoying my grandchildren" would turn into being THE daycare provider for my two-year-old granddaughter whose mom is an "essential worker" and required to work during the lockdown. I've joined the ranks of so many of us navigating meetings and work at home with kids underfoot. My standard meeting prep now includes setting out the playdough—and hoping it will keep her happy for the duration of the meeting. So far so good.... enough. The first time I tried it for a half-hour meeting, she was quiet and happy for 25 minutes, but spent the last five minutes throwing all the little playdough tools and tiny bits of playdough all over my office. It was worth it, as the meeting went great! The next time she again played quietly with her playdough, but at some point switched to decorating the wall with an entire pack of Post-it Notes. Oh well!

If it takes your mind off the stress of COVID-19, please share a "working from home with kids" story. We're all in this together! You can contact me at nancy-wahlscheurich@carcd.org.

Advocacy

Please Reach Out to State Assembly Members and Senators

In light of the potential impact on RCDs from the requirements of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and not being included as recipients of the benefits, we need to let our elected officials know about

how RCDs are different from other public agencies! CARCD and our legislative lobbyists Pacific Policy Group are doing this at the State Capitol, however there is so much going on, it's hard to hold the attention of the members for long. We need you to reach out to either the local staff in the assembly and senate offices or their capitol offices.

[The talking points are available here.](#) While CARCD has lobbied the State to include RCDs in the federal CARES Act relief funding, this is an opportunity to raise the issue broadly of RCDs needing more stable sources of funding.

Please:

1. Read the talking points
2. Let Karen know what questions you have at karen-buhr@carcd.org and
3. Let Karen know when you reach out so we can keep track of the conversations

Division 9 Town Halls

CARCD will be making legislative asks in the 2020 season regarding (1) \$10m over two years for RCD capacity building funds and (2) revisions to Division 9. We have scheduled three virtual town halls to get input from the RCD network on what they want to see for the Division 9 revisions. All meetings will have the same content, but we are scheduling three in order to give all folks a chance to give feedback. CARCD board members, Executive Director Karen Buhr, and our legislative lobbyist Mark Fenstermaker will be present. [Talking points can be found here](#) and [draft bill language](#) can be found here.

The remaining town halls are on: Monday, April 20, 2 - 4pm, & Tuesday, April 21, 5 - 7pm.

Call-in information:

<https://zoom.us/j/944887471>

Meeting ID: 944 887 471

+1 669 900 6833

RCD News

East Stanislaus RCD Interview in AgNet West

The East Stanislaus RCD's Executive Director Trina Walley was featured by AgNet West in [an article](#) and [radio segment!](#) She spoke to them about her participation in NRCS's On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials under the [Conservation Innovation Grant program.](#)

Napa County RCD Virtual City Nature Challenge

The American Canyon Community and Parks Foundation is partnering with Napa County RCD and the California Academy of Sciences to participate in iNaturalist's 2020 [City Nature Challenge.](#) This virtual event taking place from April 24 - 27, 2020 encourages people to observe nature using the iNaturalist app on their phones. More information to come, but you can start by downloading the iNaturalist app from the iTunes or Android store. For questions please email info@acparks.org. [Find the RCD's Facebook event page here;](#) [information about the iNaturalist app can be found here.](#)

Napa County RCD's Sheep & Grapes Workshop

Napa County RCD presents "Sheep & Grapes," a free, two-part online workshop about the production, soil health, and climate benefits of integrating sheep into the vineyard. Hear from Wine Country farmers, as well as university and extension specialists. Due to current public health concerns, this workshop will be held online. Please register for each day separately. [Click here for the flier.](#)

Day 1: April 17, 2020, 8am - 11am

Please register at the following link: [Zoom Registration](#)

- Learn about benefits of sheep grazing on soil health and vineyard floor management, and how sheep are managed around the grape production cycle.
- Learn about sheep health, physiology, and management.
- Learn about a new project that seeks to understand how sheep-vineyard systems may be utilized to increase soil health and soil organic carbon while providing multiple production benefits.

Day 2: April 24, 2020, 8am - 11am

Please register at the following link: [Zoom Registration](#)

- Learn how vineyard managers in California's Wine Country have used sheep in their vineyards.
- Learn how shepherds and ranchers provide grazing services to vineyards.

If your RCD has job openings, community events, or announcements that you would like to share with the RCD network and beyond, please e-mail me at kiko-barr@carcd.org with the details so that we can include them in an upcoming Weekly Digest and in a monthly blog post at the end of the month.

Conservation Announcements

Comment for DOC's SGMA Watershed Coordinator Grant

A new 2020 Sustainable Groundwater Management Watershed Coordinator Grant Program is being launched at the Department of Conservation. Grants are being offered for watershed coordinators in parts of the state impacted by implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Public comments will be accepted until 11:59 pm on April 30. [The draft solicitation can be found here; click here for the program page.](#)

Comments for DWR's Integrated Regional Water Management Project

The Department of Water Resources has opened the public comment period for the Integrated Regional Water Management Project's Recommended Funding Lists in the areas of the Colorado River, Lahontan, San Francisco, and Santa Ana. Approximately \$61 million in grant funding is being made available for implementation projects with approximately \$19 million for projects that provide direct benefits to Disadvantaged Communities. These funding

recommendations are subject to public review until 5pm on Thursday, April 23. [Follow this link for the announcement.](#)

UCCE Oak Health Workshop

UC Cooperative Extensions in Humboldt and Del Norte are hosting a virtual workshop on Oak Health in Northern California to help with oak woodland management. Oak enthusiasts, landowners, natural resource managers, and foresters are invited to join for a series of virtual talks and a live Q&A session discussing the challenges faced by California's native oak trees and oak woodlands. The team will present the latest information on a variety of oak-related topics ranging from oak woodland conservation, sudden oak death, oaks and fire, to a new pest of valley oak and blue oak. Recorded presentations from several oak specialists will be made available online April 14. On April 21 at 10am, they will host a live moderated Q&A session on Zoom. Register for the free event by Monday, April 13 [by using this link.](#)

Water Board Loosens Regulations for On-Farm Composting

After more than five years of negotiations, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a historic decision to allow for much-needed composting on California farms. As a result of this decision, farmers are now legally allowed to:

- Make compost for their own use—not exceeding 25,000 cubic yards of feedstocks and compost on the farm at any one time
- Bring on feedstocks from off the farm, including manure
- Sell or give away up to 5,000 cubic yards of finished compost
- Implement a set of best management practices in lieu of costly infrastructure
- Avoid separate registration for making compost

[Read the full post here.](#)

LinkedIn Group for Forestry Professionals

The National Association of Conservation Districts wants to ensure forestry contacts are aware of their LinkedIn group for conservation district professionals doing forestry work. If you are working in forestry for your RCD, this is a great way to tap into a network of professionals. To find the group, search "conservation district forestry professionals" in LinkedIn or use [click here to access the group.](#)

Public Policy Institute of California Headwaters Management Webinar

Public Policy Institute of California is hosting a virtual presentation and panel discussion about headwater health and management. California's headwater forests have experienced their own health crisis in recent years, which has left them increasingly vulnerable to major wildfires and droughts that threaten the benefits they provide. Improved management can make these forests more resilient and avoid major wildfire-related disasters. But this will require a substantial lift from an array of private and public entities. PPIC research associate Henry McCann will outline findings from a new report on the benefits and beneficiaries of healthy headwater forests, and a panel of experts will discuss ways to put this approach into practice. The webinar is Thursday, April 30 from 12pm - 1:30pm. [Please register in advance here.](#)

Funding Opportunities

US EPA San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund (April 20)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 is soliciting applications to improve water quality and restore aquatic habitat (i.e. wetlands) in San Francisco Bay and its watersheds. A broad range of entities, as described in Section III.A, are eligible to submit applications under this announcement for projects within the nine Bay Area counties (Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco). Applications are due April 20. [Click here for more information.](#)

Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Grant (EXTENDED - April 20)

The California State Coastal Conservancy announces the availability of grants for programs that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore California's spectacular coast. The Explore the Coast grant program seeks to provide coastal experiences for people and communities who face challenges or barriers to accessing or enjoying the coast ("ETC Priority Communities"). ETC Priority Communities may include but are not limited to lower-income individuals and households, people with disabilities, people of color, immigrant communities, foster youth, and others. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

Wildlife Conservation Society's Climate Adaptation Fund (April 22)

The Wildlife Conservation Society's Climate Adaptation Fund provides a total of \$2.5 million in grant awards between \$50,000 and \$250,000 for one to two-year projects that implement science-driven, on-the-ground actions that assist wildlife and ecosystems to adapt to climate change at a landscape scale. Pre-proposals due April 22. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. Note: this is not to be confused with the Wildlife Conservation Board's Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, whose pre-proposal is due April 13. [Click here for the program page.](#)

NFWF California Forests and Watersheds Infrastructure Resilience Program (April 22)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S. Forest Service, have announced funding for the California Forests and Watersheds Infrastructure Resilience Program. This funding program will remove targeted aquatic organism passage barriers and fund for meadow restoration projects. Priority will be given to projects which address anadromous and native fish benefits on the Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Six Rivers National Forest, Lassen National Forest, Mendocino National Forest and Los Padres National Forest. There will also be up to \$1 million in funding for meadows restoration projects in areas identified in the Restoration Strategy. Full proposals are due April 22. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

CDFA Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects (April 23)

The Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects showcase California farmers' and ranchers' implementation of Healthy Soils Program soil health practices. Demonstration projects enable awardees to help support widespread adoption of soil health management practices throughout the state. CDFA will host three workshops with information on the application process in Willows, Fresno, and Salinas (with webinar access). The Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects applications are due by 5pm on Thursday, April 23, 2020. [Click here for more information.](#)

Coastal Conservancy Prop 1 Grants (EXTENDED - April 27)

Proposition 1 grants fund multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects. Priority project types include: water sustainability improvements, anadromous fish habitat enhancement, wetland restoration and urban greening. They are currently soliciting projects that restore wetlands and/or enhance anadromous fish habitat along the North Coast. Projects must be located in a coastal watershed between the Golden Gate and the Oregon border. The deadline for applications has been extended from the original deadline of April 1 to the new date of April 27. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

PG&E Watershed Lands Funding (April 27)

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council has funding available for habitat restoration, trails improvement, and other enhancements of PG&E watershed lands. Concept applications are due April 27. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

BLM California Wildlife Resource Management (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Wildlife Resource Management Program funds programs that maintain, restore, and conserve species and their habitats in cooperation with the Federal and State wildlife agencies, and other partner organizations. The program helps ensure self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife on public lands for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Forests and Woodlands Resource Management (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's Forest and Woodland Resource Management Program manages and conserves 58 million acres of forest and woodland in 12 western States and Alaska. A primary activity of the program is to maintain and improve the resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems to wildfire, insects, disease, and drought through density management using timber sales, Stewardship agreements, and Good Neighbor agreements. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Threatened and Endangered Species (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Threatened and Endangered Species Program works to conserve and recover federally-listed and sensitive animal and plant species and their habitat on public lands. The program also shares cooperative responsibility with other BLM programs and partners for conservation of non-listed rare species with a goal of avoiding the need to list them in the future. The BLM manages habitat for over 430 wildlife, fish, and plant species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act and at least 15 species identified as candidates for listing. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program Activities (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program uses a risk-based approach that supports the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy goals of restoring and maintaining fire resilient landscapes, creating fire adapted communities and responding to wildfire. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

Prop 84 Wildfire Resilience and Recovery Planning Grant (EXTENDED - April 30)

The California Strategic Growth Council, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, and the California Department of Conservation have opened the application period for Proposition 84 Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery

Planning Grants. A total of approximately \$720,000 is available for up to 3-5 grants between \$150,000 and \$250,000. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Joint Powers Authorities, Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, Council of Governments, or a combination. RCDs are not eligible to apply, but may want to partner with one of these organizations. The application deadline has been extended to 5pm on April 30. [The Notice of Funding can be found here; follow this link for more details.](#)

BLM CA Plant Conservation and Restoration Management (April 30)

The Bureau of Land Management's Plant Conservation and Restoration Management Grant promotes the Plant Conservation Program. Program goals include restoring or improving wildlife habitat, reducing threats to habitat or species, developing genetically appropriate native plant material for use in habitat restoration, increasing and improving pollinator habitat, and more. Applications are due by April 30. [Follow this link for the grant page; click here for the Notice of Funding.](#)

DOC Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (April 30)

The Department of Conservation's FY 2019-2020 Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) grant application period is now open. The program invests in agricultural land conservation with revenue from the California Climate Investments Fund, made available for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while providing additional benefits to California communities. Acquisition Grant pre-proposals are due Thursday, April 30 and Planning Grant pre-proposals (optional) due Wednesday, July 1. SALC staff will host a Pre-proposal Technical Assistance Workshop this spring to provide an overview of SALC, discuss recent changes, and provide assistance on preparing the pre-proposal. More information will be available in the upcoming weeks. [Click here for more information.](#)

CNRA Urban Greening Grant Program (Due Date TBA)

The California Natural Resources Agency is accepting proposals for the Urban Greening Grant Program. The program, funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, seeks projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide multiple benefits. \$28.5 million in awards will be funded by this program. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, estimated to begin Summer 2020. In light of COVID-19, the original solicitation deadline of May 1 and technical assistance workshops have been postponed. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

CDFW Fisheries Habitat Restoration Grant (EXTENDED - May 1)

CDFW is now accepting applications for the 2020 Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program, which funds projects that restore, enhance, or protect anadromous salmonid habitat in watersheds of California. The deadline for applications has been extended from the original date of April 14 to May 1. [Click here for more information.](#)

California State Parks Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program (May 1)

The California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways manages the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program, which provides funds for planning, assessment, and implementation projects to prevent the spread of mussel infestation. Applications are due by May 1. [Find more information here.](#)

NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants (May 8)

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is now accepting proposals for its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. Up to \$750,000 is available for one- to three-year grants. Proposed projects should augment existing

NRCS technical tools (planning, assessment/delivery) to better facilitate conservation on farms and ranches. In 2020, NRCS California is prioritizing proposals that improve the "technical toolbox" to address the following on-farm resource concerns: improve plant and forest health/productivity; improve air quality associated with agricultural operations; work with agriculture operations to protect surface and groundwater quality; improve soil health; and enhance habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species. Applications must be received by 5pm on May 8. [Click here for more details.](#)

Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants (May 10)

The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants fund museums, educational programs, and wildlife/environmental protection programs. Grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. The Foundation will consider requests to support museums, cultural, and performing arts programs; schools, hospitals, educational and skills training programs, programs for youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities; environmental and wildlife protection activities; and other community-based organizations and their programs. Organizations seeking support from the Foundation may submit a letter of request. For the Spring round of grants, the deadline is November 10. For the Autumn round of grants, the deadline is May 10. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

USDA Local Food Promotion Program (May 11)

Approximately \$13.5 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year 2020 is available for award through the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP). The goals of LFPP grants are to develop, coordinate and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect producer-to-consumer marketing to help increase access and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. LFPP offers both Planning and Implementation projects. Applications are due on May 11. [Click here to learn more.](#)

USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (May 11)

Approximately \$13.5 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year 2020 is available through the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP). The goals of FMPP grants are to develop, coordinate, and expand direct producer to consumer markets to help increase access to and availability and regionally produced agricultural products. FMPP offers both Capacity Building and Community Development, Training, and Technical Assistance projects. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

USDA Regional Food System Partnerships (May 11)

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service requests applications for the fiscal year 2020 Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) grant program. The Agricultural Marketing Service will competitively award grants to eligible applicants for projects that support partnerships to plan and develop local or regional food systems. It is anticipated that approximately \$10 million, less USDA administrative costs, will be available to fund applications under this solicitation. The final amount available is subject to Congressional action. RFSP is implemented through two project types: Planning and Design. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

NRCS's Conservation Innovation Grants On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (May 11)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has announced the availability of Conservation Innovation Grants On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (On-Farm Trials) to stimulate the adoption and evaluation of innovative conservation approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. Up to \$25 million is available for On-Farm Trials in 2020. NRCS anticipates that up to \$10 million of On-Farm Trials funding in 2020 will be awarded to entities

applying for the Soil Health Demonstration Trial component. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program's Alternative Funding Arrangements (May 18)

Through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program's (RCPP) Alternative Funding Arrangements (AFA), NRCS is authorized to fund up to 15 projects where partners will be given greater liberty to manage an RCPP project and the associated relationships with participating producers and landowners. RCPP projects range from a minimum of \$250,000 to a maximum of \$10 million. AFA project proposals will be accepted through May 18. The Farm Bill statute highlights some project types that may be particularly suited to AFAs: projects that use innovative approaches to leverage the federal investment in conservation; projects that deploy a pay-for-performance conservation approach; and projects that seek large-scale infrastructure investment that generate conservation benefits for agricultural producers and nonindustrial private forest owners. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Bureau of Reclamation's Sacramento River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Program (May 21)

The U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation's Sacramento River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Program seeks to improve anadromous fish production and survival to make progress towards the doubling goal of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act program. Applications are due on May 21. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits and state agencies; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

SARE Research and Education Program Grants (May 22)

The Western Sustainable Agriculture Education and Research's Research and Education Program Grants involve scientists, agricultural producers, and others using interdisciplinary approaches to advance sustainable agriculture at local and regional levels. With the collaboration of producers, projects must integrate rigorous research and education aiming to advance the three components of sustainable agriculture— environmental, economic, and social — and use innovative educational outreach to disseminate new knowledge to students, producers, and other agricultural stakeholders. It is expected that outcomes of funded projects will result in quantifiable benefits for producers, increase the preservation of the natural and social resources upon which agriculture relies, and be documented in scholarly journals and disseminated throughout teaching and educational outreach activities with students, producers, and other agricultural stakeholders. Research and Education projects are limited to \$350,000 for up to three years. The deadline for pre-proposal applications is May 22. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

US EPA National Environmental Education and Training Program (May 29)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Education and Training Program aims to deliver environmental education training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. in the development and delivery of environmental education and training programs and studies. Eligibility is restricted to higher education and non-profits. Please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity (May 31)

CAL FIRE's California Forest Stewardship Program will fund technical and financial assistance to forestland owners. Projects may include forest restoration activities for forestland already impacted by natural disturbance such as fire, insect, and disease, and forest management practices that promote forest resilience to severe wildfire, climate change, and other disturbances. CAL FIRE expects to award at least \$2.2M of Proposition 68 funding for

Forestry Assistance in the fiscal year 2019/2020 with a minimum grant amount of \$750,000. RCDs are called out explicitly as eligible entities. This application period is between April 1 and May 31. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

CDFA Biologically Integrated Farming Systems Program (May 31)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's Biologically Integrated Farming Systems Program provides funding for outreach of innovative, biologically integrated plant-based farming systems that reduce chemical insecticide inputs. Funded projects include farmer-to-farmer information exchange and on-farm demos of integrated pest management and other pest and nutrient management systems. Applications are due by 5pm on May 31. [Follow this link to learn more.](#)

NACD Technical Assistance Grants (June 1)

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has entered into an agreement with the National Association of Conservation Districts to provide funding to enhance conservation district technical assistance across the nation through the NACD Technical Assistance Grants. \$1,350,000 will be allocated as grants to hire local district/state agency/state association/RC&D/tribal employees to assist landowners in implementing Conservation Stewardship Program contracts. \$5,150,000 will be allocated as grants to hire local district/state agency/state association/RC&D/tribal employees to provide conservation operations planning assistance. NACD will be hosting a webinar on Thursday, April 14 at 11am PST, which requires registration by April 13. You can also reach out to NACD's Pacific Region Representative Ariel at ariel-rivers@nacdnet.org with any questions. [Find the grant page here.](#)

BLM Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Program (June 1)

The Bureau of Land Management's Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Program manages and guides fish and aquatic habitat conservation, riparian and wetland conservation, control of aquatic invasive species, aquatic organism passage, and monitoring riparian and in-stream habitat conditions and water quantity and quality conditions and trends. The application is due on June 1. [Click here for more information.](#)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Challenge (June 4) ^{*NEW**}**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Challenge funding opportunity aims to enhance and increase partnerships with agencies and organizations implementing highest priority recovery actions for federally listed endangered and threatened species, and in particular for genetically-sound breeding, rearing and reintroduction programs. Applications are due June 4, 2020. [Follow this link for the grants.gov page.](#)

Healthy Soils Program Incentives Program (June 26)

The Healthy Soils Program Incentives Program will accept applications on a rolling basis until 5pm on June 26, 2020 or until available funds are expended, whichever is earlier. California farmers and ranchers, as well as federal and California-recognized Native American Tribes are eligible to apply. CDFA will host three workshops with information on the application process in Willows, Fresno, and Salinas (with webinar access). [Click here for more information.](#)

NPS Land and Water Conservation Fund Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Round 4 (July 10)

The National Park Service State and Local Assistance Division announces the availability of \$40 million mainly appropriated in FY 2018 and 2019 for Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance grants for a nationally competitive grant program. Eligible U.S. state and local government agencies and federally recognized Indian tribes

are invited to submit proposals for matching grants to support projects that would acquire or develop public land for outdoor recreation purposes located within or serving Census-delineated "urbanized areas"—places with a population of 50,000 or more people that are densely settled. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

FWS North American Wetlands Conservation Act 2021-2 U.S. Standard Grants (July 10)

The Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service's U.S. Standard Grants Program is a competitive, matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States that further the goals of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. Projects must involve only long-term protection, restoration, enhancement and/or establishment of wetland and associated upland habitats to benefit migratory birds. Resource Conservation Districts are eligible. The grant coordinator Stacy Sanchez recommends the U.S. Small (max request \$100,000) to learn the process before applying for the more tedious U.S. Standard (\$1,000,000) grant program. Stacy says "I also recommend contacting the Migratory Bird Joint Venture in your area. They will be a key tool for developing partnerships and providing advice for your project. They also providing rankings on projects in their Joint Venture area for recommendations to the North American Wetlands Conservation Council to benefit your score." Applications are due July 10. [Click here for more information.](#)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Recovery Implementation Grant (September 4) **NEW******

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Recovery Implementation funding opportunity is intended for projects that will contribute to the recovery of FWS-managed endangered and threatened species in the United States. The funding is limited to projects carrying out actions described in a species' approved recovery document, for example: securing scientific information about endangered or threatened species, implementing restoration actions that will lead to delisting of a species, help prevent extinction of a species, or aid in the recovery of a species. Applications are due by September 4, 2020. However, you may submit applications throughout the year. [Follow this link for the grants.gov page.](#)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Candidate Conservation Action Funds (September 4) **NEW******

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Candidate Conservation funding opportunity is based on cooperative relationships with states, non-profit organizations, private landowners and those interested in habitat restoration or undertaking candidate and at-risk species research, surveys and monitoring, or educational outreach efforts. Work may be done via cooperative agreement and project grants. Applications are due by September 4, 2020. However, you may submit applications throughout the year. [Follow this link for the grants.gov page.](#)

USDA/USDOI Joint Fire Science Program (TBA)

The USDA and the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's Joint Fire Science Program funds research and studies pertaining to wildland fire and resource management, to enhance decision-making ability of fire, fuels, natural resource, and land managers and others to meet management objectives. The interagency Joint Fire Science Program intends to request proposals through one or more formal Funding Opportunity Announcements beginning approximately July 2020 and remaining open 60 days. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

One Tree Planted Funding (No Due Date)

One Tree Planted is a non-profit organization that provides funding for reforestation projects. They have partnered with several RCDs, and would like to continue partnering. If your RCD is seeking funding for a project, please fill out

the following information for One Tree Planted to evaluate. If you have specific questions, please call (800) 408-7850. [Follow this link for their website](#); [follow this link for the funding application form](#).

NFWF In-Lieu Fee Program (No Due Date)

Applications are currently being accepted for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program (applications currently being accepted) can be used to create, enhance, and restore wetland resources in the designated priority Service Area, which includes headwaters, tributaries, and floodplains of rivers that flow through the Sacramento basin. [Follow this link for the program page](#).

Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program (No Due Date)

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has announced the opening of their new Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program. The program focuses on increasing public access to recreational opportunities in order to promote a robust Delta economy. Other program priorities include recreation and tourism, historic and cultural preservation, and environmental education. They will be accepting concept proposals on a rolling basis. [Follow this link for the program webpage](#).



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Subject **Please Reach Out to State Assembly Members and Senators**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-13 10:08



- Talking points CARES.docx (~14 KB)



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Hello RCD Family,

I hope you are all happy, healthy and safe! It has been great to see us all coming together in this unprecedented time.

In light of the potential impact on RCDs from the requirements of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and not being included as recipients of the benefits, we need to let our elected officials know about the unique situation RCDs are in!

CARCD and our legislative lobbyists Pacific Policy Group are making the RCD's case at the State Capitol, however there is so much going on that it is hard to hold the attention of the members for long. We need you to reach out to either the local staff in the assembly and senate offices, or staff in their capitol offices.

While CARCD is lobbying the State to include RCDs in the federal CARES Act relief funding, this is also an opportunity to raise the issue broadly of RCDs needing more stable sources of funding.

Please

1. Read the talking points (attached)
2. Let me know what questions you have and
3. Let me know when you reach out so we can keep track of the conversations.

We are all in this together!

Thank you,

Karen Buhr

Subject **Gratitude**
From Kristen Murphy <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <kristen-murphy@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-16 15:57



- GratitudeScience2-770x1090.jpg (~186 KB)



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Dear RCD Friends,

I've been having a tricky time staying grounded, staying present, staying engaged, especially while looking at my computer more than ever before. However, I can say that I have been feeling grateful. Grateful that I am still working. Grateful for my space and that I have a home. Grateful to be in California, where we are flattening the curve and have a Governor that is taking care of us in a way that aligns with my values (and his passion for healthy soils!). Grateful that the Federal environmental rollbacks don't affect our State's work. Grateful for the internet's hive mind (sourdough anyone?). Grateful for the masks left on my doorstep from my neighbor. Grateful for my community of family and friends. Grateful to be part of and watch our RCD community support each other so thoroughly, all the time, but especially right now.

I was going to share [NASA Hubble Space Telescope's 30th birthday](#) with you all as a way to re-ground through thinking of the scale of the universe (it works for me), but gratitude is really what carries me through the day. Gratitude has been preached as a wellness remedy for the last couple of years, and I want to share that for me, it has been more than a trend to latch onto. Through the encouragement of my yoga teachers and mental health providers, I casually found myself internalizing and incorporating gratitude into my life. It is how I reroute myself when I arrive at a negative thought or pattern. Gratitude is what crosses my mind each time I am cooking, feeling the vibrations of cat purrs, feeling the warmth of the sun, washing my hands. It brings warmth to my heart and makes me feel a little bit lighter, a little bit more easy going. This is not to say that I'm not still terrified at what is happening across the world, upset at the loss of work and new destitution for some of my friends, and extremely uneasy about the massive uncertainty that underlies everything. I recognize those feelings, feel them, and then shift to being grateful to have feet that can feel the ground beneath me and that for at least right now, I can breathe.

All of our privileges and reasons for gratitude are different. But I am confident that we all have something to be grateful for. Probably a unique thing everyday. I started with a gratitude journal a few years ago and wrote down 5 different things each night before I went to bed. I don't do that anymore, but did find that a great starting point. I

would be on the lookout for things, experiences, sounds, anything I was grateful for throughout the day. Maybe take a chance and try it out. It felt a bit vulnerable to do something so "soft", even just in private for myself. But man does it feel good.

In case you are curious for more info:

- **Great UC Berkeley Articles:**
 - [How Gratitude Changes You and Your Brain](#)
 - [How Gratitude Can Help You Through Hard Times](#)
 - [The Science of Gratitude White Paper](#)
- [NYT Gratitude in the Face of Crisis \(current, specific to COVID\)](#)
- [UC Davis Gratitude Is Good Medicine](#) - includes list of measurable quantitative medical benefits of gratitude
- [American Psychological Association Journal: Gratitude, Emmons, 2019](#)
- [Super handy infographic on benefits here](#) (also attached because I don't want you to miss it!)

In case the NASA route is better for you, [check out this link and see what the Hubble took a picture of on your birthday!](#)

I'm around if you want to reach out to me. Either to feel grateful together, talk about barriers to getting there, or talk about the vastness of the universe!

Grateful for all of you,
Kristen

"Gratitude is the appreciation of what is valuable and meaningful to oneself; it is a general state of thankfulness and/or appreciation." - Randy Sansone & Lori Sansone, "Gratitude and Well Being"



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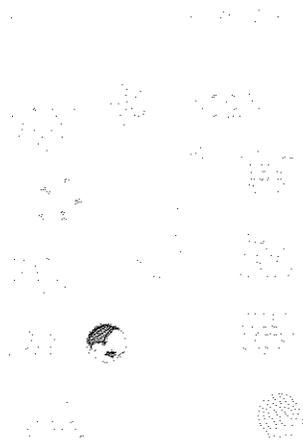


This email was sent to manager@teamrcd.org by kristen-murphy@carcd.org

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~186 KB

Subject **RFP for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grant Writer**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-20 13:53



- CARCD DEI grantwriter_RFP_May-June 2020.pdf (~133 KB)



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Dear RCDs and partners,

CARCD would appreciate your help in advertising a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a short-term grant writer as part of our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Transition Project. As many of you are aware, this project provides us with the learning and stage-setting space that will enable us to improve our own functioning and provide service to RCDs around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. As part of this project, we have the opportunity to engage a grant writer that can help us find long-term, sustained support for these efforts.

We are looking for a special blend of social justice-related and conservation/agricultural expertise in this grant writer. We need applicants who can begin work immediately in May so please send out to your networks and contacts now. Please share [the RFP which is linked here](#) and attached to this email.

As always, thank you for your support!

Karen Buhr

Executive Director

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Subject **RCDs Celebrating 50th Earth Day!**
From Marit Doshi <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <marit-doshi@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-22 11:45



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Dear RCDs,

Happy Earth Day! Today is the 50th anniversary of a commemoration and day of action for our shared Earth. It all got started at the national political level in a vivid example of bi-partisan passion for change.

Earth Day 2020 is unlike any other as we are still gripped by our global pandemic. Here at CARCD we've been inspired by how RCDs have quickly adapted, still focused on their mission to serve their agricultural and nature-loving communities. Here are some of the ways RCDs are celebrating Earth Day this year:

- **Contra Costa RCD's virtual Earth Week**— They will have FREE presentations every day at 3pm - 3:45pm from April 20 - 24. [Register here](#).
- **Napa RCD's Earth Day Virtual Festival**— Their platform will be live for two full weeks in celebration of Earth Day, making it a fourteen day party (April 15 - 30)! [Click here for the website](#).
- **Mendocino County RCD Earth Day Social Media Blitz**—please tune in to their [Facebook](#) from now until April 24 to Earth Day themed posts (and some wonderful photos of birds!).
- **Solano RCD's Digital Earth Week**— the RCD is partnering with Cleanup Solano and several other organizations in [a virtual Earth Week campaign](#) from April 19 - 25.
- **Trinity County RCD Earth Week Learning**— the RCD is participating in the National Environmental [Education Foundation's Environmental Education Week resources](#) through

their Facebook.

- And Jasmine Orozco (**Inland Empire RCD**) and Kelly Kazmirchuk (**RCD of the Santa Monica Mountains**) have called us all to participate in an Earth Day Social Media Campaign. Happening today! We will share short videos with our own stories about what the environment means to us, why we work in natural resource conservation, what about the outdoors brings us joy, and how we are continuing to provide services to our communities. See [the IERCD's Facebook](#) and the RCD SMM's Facebook for some great examples. Share your story and tag [@carcdorg](#) on Facebook!

We want to re-highlight all that outpouring of passion and support during this like-no-other Earth Day 2020. If there are other Earth Day (or Earth week!) offerings from RCDs, please let us know and we will post them on our social media accounts.

We also encourage you to share with your friends, family and networks the ideas of how to celebrate Earth Day online and in your own California backyard through [National Public Radio's KQED](#), [California Department of Conservation](#), and [California Department of Natural Resources](#).

Here at CARCD, we feel the need for a special sort of grounding in our shared Earth today. Stay safe, healthy, and grounded this Earth Day 2020!

Sincerely,

Marit Doshi

Senior Coordinator



California Association of
Resource Conservation Districts

Your partner in local conservation and sustainable agriculture

www.carcd.org

Email Us

Find your local RCD



This email was sent to manager@teamrkd.org by marit-doshi@carcd.org

Subject CARCD Weekly Digest, April 20 - 24
From Kiko Barr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <kiko-barr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-24 16:22



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you!

Warm regards,

The CARCD Team

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1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [COVID-19 Resources](#)
3. [Advocacy](#)
4. [RCD News](#)
5. [Conservation Announcements](#)
6. [Funding Announcements](#)

CARCD Updates

Resources for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Learning About Your Community

During this time of shelter-in-place and response to COVID-19, how can you keep learning about your district's communities when your ability to go out is severely restricted? We wanted to share a few resources CARCD has found useful. You can dive into learning about your communities' multi-source pollution burdens & vulnerabilities with [CalEnviroScreen 3.0](#) or access to healthy foods with the [Healthy Access Food Portal](#). We appreciate [DataUSA](#) for its accessible and powerful visualizations of place-specific data from a dozen+ federal data sources. We recommend a read-through of the 2019 Public Policy Institute of California's "[Californians and the Environment](#)" which details viewpoints around major CA environmental issues broken out by geography, race/ethnicity, and political party.

You can find these resources and more through the [RCD Resource Library EDI section](#). Do you have other resources that you use that might be useful in multiple parts of the state? Please send them to Marit at marit-doshi@carcd.org!

RFP for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grant Writer

CARCD would appreciate your help in advertising a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a short-term grant writer as part of our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Transition Project. As many of you are aware, this project provides us with the learning and stage-setting space that will enable us to improve our own functioning and provide service to RCDs around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. As part of this project, we have the opportunity to engage a grant writer that can help us find long-term, sustained support for these efforts. We are looking for a special blend of social justice-related and conservation/agricultural expertise in this grant writer. We need applicants who can begin work immediately in May so please send out to your networks and contacts now. Please share [the RFP linked here](#).

Regional Meetings Go Virtual

Please see details for the regions which have decided to go virtual for their spring meeting.

- **Sacramento Valley Region** — Tuesday, April 28 from 9am - 12pm on Zoom. [Find the agenda here](#); [more details here](#)
- **Bay-Delta Region** — Friday, May 1 from 9am - 12pm on Zoom. [Find the agenda here](#); [more details here](#)
- **San Joaquin Region** — Friday, May 8. Details TBD. Contact Mira Dick with questions at mira.dick@ca.usda.gov

More on Gratitude

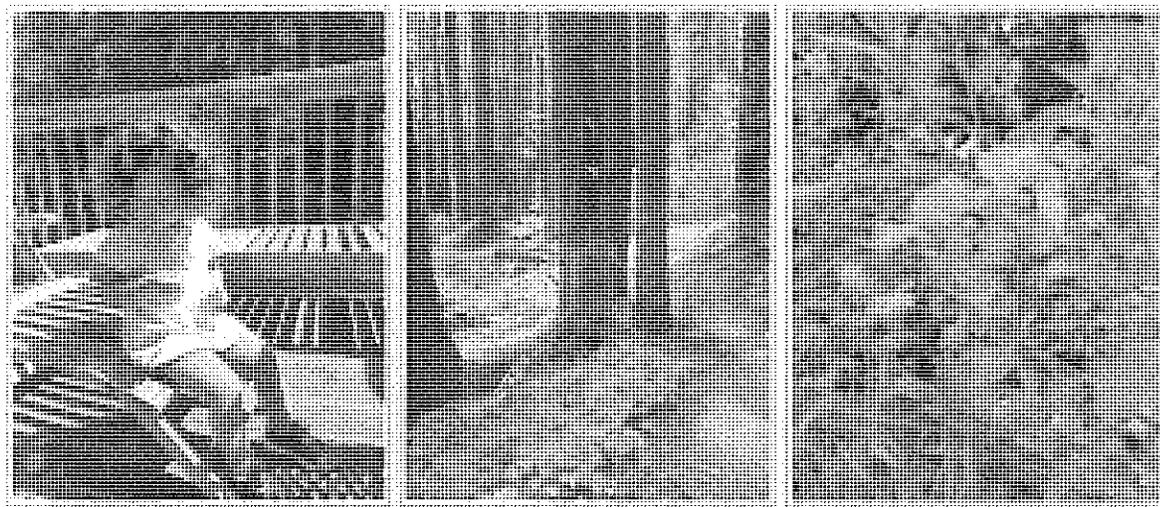
Hello, this is Nancy Wahl-Scheurich! Last week, Kristen Murphy shared her own experience with practicing gratitude and provided a wealth of information on the science of gratitude. I too, reap the benefits of acknowledgement of the many things I'm grateful for each day, and I was really happy that Kristen provided so many resources for anybody wanting to learn more.

Try as I might, I've not been able to get into the habit of writing in a journal, but I've found another way to document some of the things that I'm grateful for each day, and for me at least, it really works! As I'm going through my day, I simply snap pictures on my phone of the places and people around me that I will never take for granted, especially

during this time of COVID.

Living in Santa Cruz, we're blessed with the ability to easily and safely get out in nature (except when enhanced lockdown measures are in place). Whether it's walking along the coast or on the trails in our redwood forests, I always take a few pictures, and each time I do, it's my own kind of journaling. And when I'm home, a quick snapshot of my darling granddaughter or our family at the dinner table, or a picture of the camelias blooming in my yard go in there, too!

I don't take the pictures with the intent of sharing or posting them – I usually just keep them for me. But here's my journal from last weekend. If you want to give gratitude practice a try, then photo-journaling might be a good way to start! If you want to reach out about gratitude, photo journaling, or anything else, don't hesitate to contact me at nancy-wahlscheurich@carcd.org.



COVID-19 Resources & Updates

This new section of the weekly will feature new tools, resources, and updates to help RCDs adapt and respond to the new landscape brought by the current public health crisis. Resources will be added [to the COVID-19 Resources Page](#) on CARCD's website.

New Farmer Eligibility for Federal Funds

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers announced that this week the Senate passed the latest aid package, which is now on its way to the House for a vote. This means that the Payroll Protection Program as well as the Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) could reopen as early as this Friday. [Read more here](#).

Three wins for farmers:

1. While the previous funds excluded farmers, this bill will allow agricultural operations with fewer than 500 employees to qualify for the EIDL, which offers emergency grants of up to \$15,000.
2. It also will replenish the now-depleted Paycheck Protection Program, which provides forgivable loans to small businesses (including farmers) to keep their workers on the payroll.
3. Targeted PPP funding will be set-aside for community development financial institutions and smaller banks, intended to increase access to smaller, minority and more vulnerable communities.

Webinars on Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

Farmers and ranchers will soon be eligible for Economic Injury Disaster Loans, in anticipation of the \$484 billion aid relief bill passing the House and being signed into law this week. The EIDL program provides an emergency grant of up to \$10,000 for small businesses suffering a loss of revenue because of COVID-19. In the webinar, Farm Commons will discuss the specifics of eligibility and how to submit an application through the Small Business Administration. Issues with how the program has performed over the past few weeks will also be in the discussion.

- Monday, April 27, 1pm - [Register using this link](#)
- Wednesday, April 29, 1pm - [Register using this link](#)

New Farmers Market Guidelines

This week, CDFA released its latest guidelines for farmers markets to keep communities safe during the COVID-19 crisis. [Read the update here.](#)

YouTube Channel for Farm Community Engagement

Due to current circumstances with COVID-19 in-person engagement with farmers and community members has not been possible. Vicky Espinoza, a researcher with UC Merced has created CaliWaterAg to continue informing and engaging farmers and communities in the San Joaquin Valley. Recent uploads include some tutorials on how to download and use Zoom in both English and Spanish with the intention that community members can better transition to virtual meetings as a form of communication, participation, and engagement. [Find the channel here.](#)

Advocacy

Please Reach Out to State Assembly Members and Senators

In light of the potential impact on RCDs from the requirements of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and not being included as recipients of the benefits, we need to let our elected officials know about how RCDs are different from other public agencies! CARCD and our legislative lobbyists Pacific Policy Group are doing this at the State Capitol, however there is so much going on, it's hard to hold the attention of the members for long. We need you to reach out to either the local staff in the assembly and senate offices or their capitol offices.

[The talking points are available here.](#) While CARCD has lobbied the State to include RCDs in the federal CARES Act relief funding, this is an opportunity to raise the issue broadly of RCDs needing more stable sources of funding.

Please:

1. Read the talking points
2. Let Karen know what questions you have at karen-buhr@carcd.org and
3. Let Karen know when you reach out so we can keep track of the conversations

RCD News

Earth Day at Home Videos

Three RCDs shared their videos about why they love Earth Day and how they are celebrating. Check them out! They will brighten your day.

- [RCD of Greater San Diego County](#)
- [RCD of the Santa Monica Mountains](#)
- [Inland Empire RCD](#)

RCD of San Diego Virtual Healthy Soils Technical Assistance

In partnership with UC Cooperative Extension, the RCD of RCD of the Greater San Diego County is hosting virtual Healthy Soils Program application technical assistance. Zoom calls are held every Thursday, 3pm to 4pm. [Please share the flier linked here](#); [registration can be found here](#).

SmartSheets Workshop with Megan McCluer

Based on need expressed by many RCDs, Megan McCluer with the Mendocino County RCD will be hosting a workshop on SmartSheet on Thursday, May 7 from 9am - 10am. This workshop is open to all RCDs! Please share with whomever you think will be interested. Please direct any questions or requests about the workshop to Megan at megan.mccluer@mcrcd.org.

Join Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/94439004236>

Meeting ID: 944 3900 4236

Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/94439004236>

Trinity County RCD Awarded Farm and Ranch Cleanup Grant

Trinity County RCD has received a CalRecycle Farm and Ranch Cleanup Grant which will be used to clean up and fence a property in Hayfork. The goal for the property is to be a community agricultural education center and gather place. Congratulations!

Trinity County RCD Welcomes BearCorps Fellow

The Trinity County RCD will be hosting a BearCorps member this fall, who will work on a diverse set of projects and focus on the Weaverville Community Forest. As announced earlier, Marin RCD and Placer County RCD will both be welcoming BearCorps members in the fall as well. BearCorps, an AmeriCorps Program, sends recent college graduates into farm and forest communities to work on regenerative agriculture and forest/fire resilience, promoting community resilience, education, volunteerism, and community service. The deadline for priority applications is April 27. [Find the recruitment flier here](#); [more information can be found here](#).

Alameda County RCD Hiring for Two Positions

Alameda County RCD is hiring for two positions:

Resource Conservationist II - Biologist

Under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer, the Biologist will lead project planning, development, implementation, research and monitoring, with a focus on practices that support species preservation and conservation of natural resources on working lands and natural habitat. The position involves both field and administrative work. Candidates must be comfortable working in remote locations and interacting with a diverse array of partners and clients. This position requires the ability to analyze and solve complex problems related to biology, natural resources, conservation, watershed management, agriculture, grazing lands management and related focus areas. The ideal candidate will have the ability to lead field-based monitoring, conduct outreach efforts, ensure environmental compliance, and manage an array of contracts and grants. [Find the job description here.](#)

Project Assistant – Technical Assistance

The Project Assistant will assist RCD project managers in project planning, implementation and monitoring, with a focus on practices that support carbon sequestration in working lands such as compost addition, riparian restoration, cover cropping and wildlife hedgerows. The position includes both field and office work. Candidates must be comfortable working in remote locations and interacting with a diverse array of partners and clients. The ideal candidate will have the ability to support field-based monitoring and conduct outreach efforts, as well as experience or interest in conservation on working lands. [Find the job description here.](#)

If your RCD has job openings, community events, or announcements that you would like to share with the RCD network and beyond, please e-mail me at kiko-barr@carcd.org with the details so that we can include them in an upcoming Weekly Digest and in a monthly blog post at the end of the month.

Conservation Announcements

Sustainable Conservation Webinars

Sustainable Conservation is hosting a live webinar series called "Check In and Connect." The first will be on April 28 at 2pm on "California Water 101." During this webinar, attendees will learn about Sustainable Conservation's Groundwater Recharge Assessment Tool (GRAT), an innovative cloud-based tool designed to help water agencies and growers optimize groundwater recharge in their basins. Following a GRAT demo, they will explain how to assess a farm's on-farm recharge feasibility. [Register using this link.](#)

California Fish and Wildlife Journal Special Issues

The California Fish and Wildlife Journal will be doing two new special issues this year. The first is "California Endangered Species Act: Successes and Challenges" for those who are researching CESA-listed species or have examples of successes or challenges related to CESA. The second is "Effects of Human-Wildlife Interactions on California's Natural Resources: Conflict and Coexistence," spear-headed by the Department's Human Dimensions unit. They are looking for contributions from researchers. [Please click here for more information.](#)

Public Policy Institute of California on Water

The Public Policy Institute of California has published two relevant blog posts on the state of water in California.

[Water Availability for San Joaquin Valley Farms: A Balancing Act](#) — California's largest farming region has wide variability in access to surface water. They mapped surface water availability per acre of irrigated agriculture in the valley and examined how the mix of supply affects solutions to end groundwater overdraft.

[Allocating Floodwaters to Replenish Groundwater Basins](#) — To balance supply and demand in overdrafted basins, groundwater agencies are banking on recharging underground supplies with floodwaters from winter and spring storms. But what if there isn't enough water to go around?

NACD Celebrating Pollinators in Week of April 26

To honor and thank pollinators for the food that we enjoy every day, the National Association of Conservation Districts is celebrating Stewardship Week from April 26 - May 3 with the theme "Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?" to foster education and awareness. Established 65 years ago, Stewardship Week helps to remind us all of the power each person has to conserve natural resources and improve the world. The resources will be great to share on social media, and directly relate to [the NACD Poster Contest](#) theme, which is also "Where Would We BEE Without Pollinators?" For more information, please see [NACD's Stewardship Week webpage](#).

Center for Watershed Protection TMDL Webinar

The Center for Watershed Protection is hosting a webinar on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation and Planning on Wednesday, April 29 from 10am - 11:30am. Many communities have or are currently developing local TMDLs that address local impairments (e.g., for bacteria, biological standards, dissolved oxygen, local pollutants). This webcast will explore the issue of TMDLs at the differing watershed scales and how analytical tools are emerging to integrate, and coordinate management practices implemented at the local and regional levels. [Click here to register](#).

CAFF Climate Smart Farming Webinar

The Community Alliance with Family Farmer's practical, farmer-to-farmer field days are moving from the field to the web, starting with a free webinar on cover crop management for spring, including tips and perspectives from both experts and growers. CAFF's webinar on "Cover Cropping in Orchards: Spring Management" will be on Thursday, April 30 from 9 - 10:30am. [Register using this link](#).

Forestry Resources

The Forest Management Task Force shared some great forestry resources from their meeting. The agenda and webinar can be found on [the Forest Management Task Force webpage](#).

- "[Getting to Carbon Neutral](#)" - George Peridas, PhD, Staff Scientist, Lawrence Livermore National Labs and UC Berkeley
- "[Innovative Wood Use for Carbon-Beneficial Forest Management in CA](#)" – Daniel Sanchez, PhD, University of California Berkeley
- "[California's Forest Seed Bank, Adapting to and Planning for a Changing Climate](#)" – Anthony Lukacic, CAL FIRE- L.A. Moran Reforestation Center
- "[Climate Based Innovative Wood Use for Carbon-Beneficial Forest Management in CA Seed Transfer Guidelines](#)" – Jessica Wright, Pacific Southwest Research Station, USFS
- "[Investment Opportunities for Increasing Forest and Fire Management Capacity in California](#)" – Allison Jolley, The Watershed Research and Training Center

Webinars on Best Practices for Federal Grants

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research will host a series of webinars beginning on April 29, providing information on best practices for federal grant applications and administrations.

Federal Grants in 2020 - What's New and What's Proposed for the Uniform Guidance

Wednesday, April 29, 2020 10am - 11:30am

This presentation describes changes in federal grant uniform guidance requirements for 2020, including key federal regulations that impact grants, issues that place grants at risk, updates across the full grants lifecycle, and other resources to stay current. [Register using this link.](#)

Grant Writing Under the Uniform Guidance

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 10am - 11:30am

Learn key grant-writing tips such as absolute priorities, selection criteria, proposal budgets, and other suggested language that may be useful to include in grant applications. [Register using this link.](#)

Evaluation and Logic Models

Wednesday, June 24, 2020 10am - 11:30am

This session provides an overview of the logic model, several templates, and suggested formats for measurable objectives to demonstrate performance and attainment of goals. [Register using this link.](#)

USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. This new USDA program will take several actions to assist farmers, ranchers, and consumers in response to the COVID-19 national emergency. [Read the announcement here.](#)

The Elkhorn Slough Coastal Training Program Webinars

The Elkhorn Slough Coastal Training Program will be hosting two webinars.

"How to Plan and Facilitate an Engaging Virtual Meeting"

Participants will be able to identify strategies for planning, preparing, and facilitating virtual meetings.

Thursday, April 30, 10am – 11:15am

Cost: \$30. [Link to register.](#)

"15 Strategies for Communicating Science and Data to Non-Scientists"

Participants will be able to identify strategies for engaging an audience and designing more effective PowerPoint slides.

Thursday, May 7, 10am – 11:15am

Cost: \$30. [Link to register.](#)

Funding Opportunities

Prop 84 Wildfire Resilience and Recovery Planning Grant (EXTENDED - April 30)

The California Strategic Growth Council, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, and the California Department of Conservation have opened the application period for Proposition 84 Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery Planning Grants. A total of approximately \$720,000 is available for up to 3-5 grants between \$150,000 and \$250,000. Eligible applicants include cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Joint Powers Authorities, Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, Council of Governments, or a combination. RCDs are not eligible to apply, but may want to partner with one of these organizations. The application deadline has been extended to 5pm on April 30. [The Notice of Funding can be found here; follow this link for more details.](#)

BLM CA Plant Conservation and Restoration Management (April 30)

The Bureau of Land Management's Plant Conservation and Restoration Management Grant promotes the Plant Conservation Program. Program goals include restoring or improving wildlife habitat, reducing threats to habitat or species, developing genetically appropriate native plant material for use in habitat restoration, increasing and improving pollinator habitat, and more. Applications are due by April 30. [Follow this link for the grant page; click here for the Notice of Funding.](#)

CNRA Urban Greening Grant Program (Due Date TBA)

The California Natural Resources Agency is accepting proposals for the Urban Greening Grant Program. The program, funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, seeks projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide multiple benefits. \$28.5 million in awards will be funded by this program. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, estimated to begin Summer 2020. In light of COVID-19, the original solicitation deadline of May 1 and technical assistance workshops have been postponed. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

CDFW Fisheries Habitat Restoration Grant (EXTENDED - May 1)

CDFW is now accepting applications for the 2020 Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program, which funds projects that restore, enhance, or protect anadromous salmonid habitat in watersheds of California. The deadline for applications has been extended from the original date of April 14 to May 1. [Click here for more information.](#)

California State Parks Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program (May 1)

The California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways manages the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program, which provides funds for planning, assessment, and implementation projects to prevent the spread of mussel infestation. Applications are due by May 1. [Find more information here.](#)

Wildlife Conservation Board's Forest Conservation Program (May 7)

The Wildlife Conservation Board has released their proposal solicitation notice for their Forest Conservation Program. Proposed projects may include planning, implementation, or acquisition projects within the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountains in California. Priorities include meadow restoration, post-fire habitat recovery, and aspen stand restoration as well as acquisitions that protect meadows, migration corridors, or habitat connectivity. All applicants must complete the online pre-application by 5pm on May 7, 2020. [Click here for the program page.](#)

NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants (May 8)

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is now accepting proposals for its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. Up to \$750,000 is available for one- to three-year grants. Proposed projects should augment existing NRCS technical tools (planning, assessment/delivery) to better facilitate conservation on farms and ranches. In 2020, NRCS California is prioritizing proposals that improve the "technical toolbox" to address the following on-farm resource concerns: improve plant and forest health/productivity; improve air quality associated with agricultural operations; work with agriculture operations to protect surface and groundwater quality; improve soil health; and enhance habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species. Applications must be received by 5pm on May 8. [Click here for more details.](#)

Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants (May 10)

The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants fund museums, educational programs, and wildlife/environmental protection programs. Grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. The Foundation will consider requests to support museums, cultural, and performing arts programs; schools, hospitals, educational and skills training programs, programs for youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities; environmental and wildlife protection activities; and other community-based organizations and their programs. Organizations seeking support from the Foundation may submit a letter of request. For the Spring round of grants, the deadline is November 10. For the Autumn round of grants, the deadline is May 10. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

USDA Local Food Promotion Program (May 11)

Approximately \$13.5 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year 2020 is available for award through the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP). The goals of LFPP grants are to develop, coordinate and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect producer-to-consumer marketing to help increase access and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. LFPP offers both Planning and Implementation projects. Applications are due on May 11. [Click here to learn more.](#)

USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (May 11)

Approximately \$13.5 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year 2020 is available through the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP). The goals of FMPP grants are to develop, coordinate, and expand direct producer to consumer markets to help increase access to and availability and regionally produced agricultural products. FMPP offers both Capacity Building and Community Development, Training, and Technical Assistance projects. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

USDA Regional Food System Partnerships (May 11)

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service requests applications for the fiscal year 2020 Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) grant program. The Agricultural Marketing Service will competitively award grants to eligible applicants for projects that support partnerships to plan and develop local or regional food systems. It is anticipated that approximately \$10 million, less USDA administrative costs, will be available to fund applications under this solicitation. The final amount available is subject to Congressional action. RFSP is implemented through two project types: Planning and Design. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

NRCS's Conservation Innovation Grants On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (May 11)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has announced the availability of Conservation Innovation Grants On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (On-Farm Trials) to stimulate the adoption and evaluation of innovative

conservation approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. Up to \$25 million is available for On-Farm Trials in 2020. NRCS anticipates that up to \$10 million of On-Farm Trials funding in 2020 will be awarded to entities applying for the Soil Health Demonstration Trial component. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program's Alternative Funding Arrangements (May 18)

Through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program's (RCPP) Alternative Funding Arrangements (AFA), NRCS is authorized to fund up to 15 projects where partners will be given greater liberty to manage an RCPP project and the associated relationships with participating producers and landowners. RCPP projects range from a minimum of \$250,000 to a maximum of \$10 million. AFA project proposals will be accepted through May 18. The Farm Bill statute highlights some project types that may be particularly suited to AFAs: projects that use innovative approaches to leverage the federal investment in conservation; projects that deploy a pay-for-performance conservation approach; and projects that seek large-scale infrastructure investment that generate conservation benefits for agricultural producers and nonindustrial private forest owners. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Bureau of Reclamation's Sacramento River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Program (May 21)

The U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation's Sacramento River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Program seeks to improve anadromous fish production and survival to make progress towards the doubling goal of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act program. Applications are due on May 21. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits and state agencies; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

SARE Research and Education Program Grants (May 22)

The Western Sustainable Agriculture Education and Research's Research and Education Program Grants involve scientists, agricultural producers, and others using interdisciplinary approaches to advance sustainable agriculture at local and regional levels. With the collaboration of producers, projects must integrate rigorous research and education aiming to advance the three components of sustainable agriculture— environmental, economic, and social — and use innovative educational outreach to disseminate new knowledge to students, producers, and other agricultural stakeholders. Research and Education projects are limited to \$350,000 for up to three years. The deadline for pre-proposal applications is May 22. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

US EPA National Environmental Education and Training Program (May 29)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Education and Training Program aims to deliver environmental education training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. in the development and delivery of environmental education and training programs and studies. Eligibility is restricted to higher education and non-profits. Please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

DOC Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (EXTENDED - May 29)

The Department of Conservation's FY 2019-2020 Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) grant application period is now open. The program invests in agricultural land conservation with revenue from the California Climate Investments Fund, made available for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while providing additional benefits to California communities. The Acquisition Grant pre-proposals deadline has been

extended until May 29, 2020. Planning Grant pre-proposal deadline (optional) remains Wednesday, July 1. SALC staff will host a Pre-proposal Technical Assistance Workshop this spring to provide an overview of SALC, discuss recent changes, and provide assistance on preparing the pre-proposal. More information will be available in the upcoming weeks. [Click here for more information.](#)

CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity (May 31)

CAL FIRE's California Forest Stewardship Program will fund technical and financial assistance to forestland owners. Projects may include forest restoration activities for forestland already impacted by natural disturbance such as fire, insect, and disease, and forest management practices that promote forest resilience to severe wildfire, climate change, and other disturbances. CAL FIRE expects to award at least \$2.2M of Proposition 68 funding for Forestry Assistance in the fiscal year 2019/2020 with a minimum grant amount of \$750,000. RCDs are called out explicitly as eligible entities. This application period is between April 1 and May 31. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

CDFA Biologically Integrated Farming Systems Program (EXTENDED - June 30)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's Biologically Integrated Farming Systems Program provides funding for outreach of innovative, biologically integrated plant-based farming systems that reduce chemical insecticide inputs. Funded projects include farmer-to-farmer information exchange and on-farm demos of integrated pest management and other pest and nutrient management systems. Applications are due by 5pm on May 31. [Follow this link to learn more.](#)

NACD Technical Assistance Grants (June 1)

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has entered into an agreement with the National Association of Conservation Districts to provide funding to enhance conservation district technical assistance across the nation through the NACD Technical Assistance Grants. \$1,350,000 will be allocated as grants to hire local district/state agency/state association/RC&D/tribal employees to assist landowners in implementing Conservation Stewardship Program contracts. \$5,150,000 will be allocated as grants to hire local district/state agency/state association/RC&D/tribal employees to provide conservation operations planning assistance. You can also reach out to NACD's Pacific Region Representative Ariel at ariel-rivers@nacdn.org with any questions. [Find the grant page here.](#)

BLM Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Program (June 1)

The Bureau of Land Management's Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Program manages and guides fish and aquatic habitat conservation, riparian and wetland conservation, control of aquatic invasive species, aquatic organism passage, and monitoring riparian and in-stream habitat conditions and water quantity and quality conditions and trends. The application is due on June 1. [Click here for more information.](#)

U.S. FWS Service Recovery Challenge (June 4)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Challenge funding opportunity aims to enhance and increase partnerships with agencies and organizations implementing highest priority recovery actions for federally listed endangered and threatened species, and in particular for genetically-sound breeding, rearing and reintroduction programs. Applications are due June 4, 2020. [Follow this link for the grants.gov page.](#)

California Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse Grants (June 18) **NEW******

The 2020 California Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse Grants application period will open on May 15, 2020 and end on June 18, 2020. There will be two live webinars to prepare applicants at 10am on Tuesday May 19 and 1pm on Thursday May 21. [Register for the workshops at this link](#); [find the grant page here](#).

CDFA Healthy Soils Program Incentives Program (June 26)

The Healthy Soils Program Incentives Program will accept applications on a rolling basis until 5pm on June 26, 2020 or until available funds are expended, whichever is earlier. California farmers and ranchers, as well as federal and California-recognized Native American Tribes are eligible to apply. CDFA will host three workshops with information on the application process in Willows, Fresno, and Salinas (with webinar access). [Click here for more information](#).

NPS Land and Water Conservation Fund Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Round 4 (July 10)

The National Park Service State and Local Assistance Division announces the availability of \$40 million mainly appropriated in FY 2018 and 2019 for Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance grants for a nationally competitive grant program. Eligible U.S. state and local government agencies and federally recognized Indian tribes are invited to submit proposals for matching grants to support projects that would acquire or develop public land for outdoor recreation purposes located within or serving Census-delineated "urbanized areas"—places with a population of 50,000 or more people that are densely settled. [Follow this link for more information](#).

U.S. FWS North American Wetlands Conservation Act U.S. Standard Grants (July 10)

The Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service's U.S. Standard Grants Program is a competitive, matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States that further the goals of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. Projects must involve only long-term protection, restoration, enhancement and/or establishment of wetland and associated upland habitats to benefit migratory birds. Resource Conservation Districts are eligible. The grant coordinator Stacy Sanchez recommends the U.S. Small (max request \$100,000) to learn the process before applying for the more tedious U.S. Standard (\$1,000,000) grant program. Stacy says "I also recommend contacting the Migratory Bird Joint Venture in your area. They will be a key tool for developing partnerships and providing advice for your project. They also providing rankings on projects in their Joint Venture area for recommendations to the North American Wetlands Conservation Council to benefit your score." Applications are due July 10. [Click here for more information](#).

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Recovery Implementation Grant (September 4)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Recovery Implementation funding opportunity is intended for projects that will contribute to the recovery of FWS-managed endangered and threatened species in the United States. The funding is limited to projects carrying out actions described in a species' approved recovery document, for example: securing scientific information about endangered or threatened species, implementing restoration actions that will lead to delisting of a species, help prevent extinction of a species, or aid in the recovery of a species. Applications are due by September 4, 2020. However, you may submit applications throughout the year. [Follow this link for the grants.gov page](#).

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Candidate Conservation Action Funds (September 4)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Candidate Conservation funding opportunity is based on cooperative relationships with states, non-profit organizations, private landowners and those interested in habitat restoration or undertaking candidate and at-risk species research, surveys and monitoring, or educational outreach efforts. Work

may be done via cooperative agreement and project grants. Applications are due by September 4, 2020. However, you may submit applications throughout the year. [Follow this link for the grants.gov page.](#)

Western SARE Professional Development Program Grants (November 12)

****NEW****

The Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education's Professional Development Grants focus on training agricultural professionals to help them spread knowledge about sustainable agriculture concepts and practices. Awards are limited to \$100,000. Grants can run for up to three years, with the final year to be focused on project evaluation. Applications are due on November 12. [Find more information here.](#)

USDA/USDOI Joint Fire Science Program (TBA)

The USDA and the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's Joint Fire Science Program funds research and studies pertaining to wildland fire and resource management, to enhance decision-making ability of fire, fuels, natural resource, and land managers and others to meet management objectives. The interagency Joint Fire Science Program intends to request proposals through one or more formal Funding Opportunity Announcements beginning approximately July 2020 and remaining open 60 days. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

One Tree Planted Funding (No Due Date)

One Tree Planted is a non-profit organization that provides funding for reforestation projects. They have partnered with several RCDs, and would like to continue partnering. If your RCD is seeking funding for a project, please fill out the following information for One Tree Planted to evaluate. If you have specific questions, please call (800) 408-7850. [Follow this link for their website;](#) [follow this link for the funding application form.](#)

NFWF In-Lieu Fee Program (No Due Date)

Applications are currently being accepted for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program. Funding can be used to create, enhance, and restore wetland resources in the designated priority Service Area, which includes headwaters, tributaries, and floodplains of rivers that flow through the Sacramento basin. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program (No Due Date)

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has announced the opening of their new Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program. The program focuses on increasing public access to recreational opportunities in order to promote a robust Delta economy. Other program priorities include recreation and tourism, historic and cultural preservation, and environmental education. They will be accepting concept proposals on a rolling basis. [Follow this link for the program webpage.](#)



**California Association of
Resource Conservation Districts**

Your partner in local conservation and sustainable agriculture

www.carcd.org

Subject **Important CSDA Survey for COVID-19 Relief**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-04-30 10:14



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Hello everyone,

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) has a new, comprehensive survey out to measure the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis that they will use to make the case to the Administration, Legislature, and Congress to include special districts in financial relief considerations. They thanked RCDs for filling out a shorter survey that they sent in the beginning of April, and said that this new survey will build on those responses.

The new survey went out late Monday, however they are very light on responses from RCDs. CSDA will be speaking to legislators about impacts by district type and it would be incredibly helpful for RCDs to fill out the survey so that they can advocate for RCD's needs specifically. We know that many RCDs are very concerned about the financial impacts of COVID-19, and this is one way for our voices to be heard.

Note from CSDA: the information your district provides is safe, and no information identifying your district will be shared without your district's explicit permission.

[Click this link to access this survey.](#)

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact Alyssa Silhi, Legislative Representative, at alyssas@cdda.net or 916-505-4978.

Thank you!

Karen Buhr

Executive Director

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts



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Email Us
Find your local RCD



This email was sent to manager@teamrccd.org by karen-buhr@carcd.org

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts • 801 K Street, MS 14-15, Sacramento, California 95814, United States • [\(916\) 457-7904](tel:(916)457-7904)

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Subject **ARCD Weekly Digest, March 23 - 27**
From Kiko Barr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <kiko-barr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-27 14:04



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you!

Warm regards,

The CARCD Team

In This Issue:

1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [Funding Opportunities](#)
3. [Advocacy](#)
4. [RCD News](#)
5. [Conservation Announcements](#)
6. [Job Announcements](#)

CARCD Updates

Resources for RCDs During COVID-19 Crisis

We have compiled some resources that will be useful to RCDs amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Please don't hesitate to reach out to CARCD if you have any questions.

- All District Managers are invited to a weekly COVID-19 discussion at 9am on Mondays. If you are a DM/ED and did not receive the invite through the DM listserv, please contact kiko-barr@carcd.org for call-in information.
- The Governor has launched [a website for COVID-19 information](#).
- The Department of Homeland Security has provided more guidance on essential services [in this packet](#) and [on their website](#).
- The California Special Districts Association has [a COVID-19 Resources page](#) which is frequently updated.
- The California Department of Food and Agriculture has [a COVID-19 resources page](#) with updates pertaining to agriculture and CDFA programs.
- The National Association of Conservation Districts has [a COVID-19 resources page](#).

Resources & Opportunities for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Approaches to Integration in Your RCD

There is no checklist for effective equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) integration. There is no set pathway. Don't let that overwhelm you or hurry you into action! Many mission-oriented groups have offered up their learnings about initial approaches. Here is [one frank blog about FSG's process](#) and [thought-and-action-provoking considerations from the Greater Good Studio](#). [This post from the Bridgespan Group](#) focuses on the role of leaders. In their great [Tools for Engagement series](#), National Audubon Society and partners offer up a diversity-focused module to guide conservation actors and groups. Are there more useful approaches or toolkits you have found to guide your EDI efforts? Please share them with us by sending to marit-doshi@carcd.org. These resources and more can be found in our [RCD Resource Library](#).

Regional Meetings Announced

Several regional meetings have been announced. Please let us know when your region has announced a meeting so we can help spread the word.

- [Southern Baja Region](#) (April 22) will be hosted by Palo Verde RCD in Blythe
- [Sacramento Valley Region](#) (April 28) will be hosted by Yuba County RCD and Sutter County RCD with the location TBA
- [Central Coast Region](#) (April 30) will be hosted by Coastal San Luis RCD in San Luis Obispo
- [San Joaquin Valley Region](#) (May 8) will be hosted by Tulare County RCD in the Visalia/Exeter area

- Bay-Delta Region (tentative for late May) will be hosted by the Napa County RCD and with details TBA

Funding Opportunities

USDA Food Safety Outreach Competitive Grants Program (April 7)

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Food Safety Outreach Program's goal is to develop and implement food safety training, education, extension, outreach and technical assistance projects that address the needs of owners and operators of small to mid-sized farms, beginning farmers, socially-disadvantaged farmers, small processors, or small fresh fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

The North Face Explore Fund (April 8) ****NEW****

The North Face's Explore Fund Grant program creates access and drives equity in the outdoors by funding hundreds of nonprofit organizations around two themes: Enabling Exploration and Loving Wild Places. They partner with the National Park Foundation to fund programs in national parks and on federally managed lands. A total of \$500,000 is available for funding through their open grant process. Applicants may apply for up to \$25,000 in grant funding and a minimum of \$5,000. Applications are accepted in three categories: Creating a Community of New Explorers, Protecting Wild Places, and Move Mountains Grant. Apply by April 8. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Click here for the program page.](#)

Urban Flood Protection Grant Program (EXTENDED - April 8)

The California Natural Resources Agency has extended the deadline for proposals for the Urban Flood Protection Grant Program until April 8, 2020. \$87.5 million in awards will be funded by this program in an anticipated two funding cycles. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, estimated to begin mid-June 2020. Projects must be completed by March 2024. [Find the grant page here.](#)

NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (April 10)

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently accepting applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). ACEP offers two conservation easement options: Agricultural Land Easements and Wetland Reserve Easements. Agricultural Land Easements funds are provided to cost-share the purchase of conservation easements that permanently protect farming and ranching on privately owned lands. Wetland Reserve Easements assists farmers, ranchers and other private landowners with restoring and protecting degraded wetlands on marginal, flood-prone cropland and rangeland. ACEP applications may be submitted at any time to NRCS. However, applications for current funding must be submitted on or before April 10. [Click here for more information.](#)

US EPA San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund (April 20)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 is soliciting applications to improve water quality and restore aquatic habitat (i.e. wetlands) in San Francisco Bay and its watersheds. A broad range of entities, as described in Section III.A, are eligible to submit applications under this

announcement for projects within the nine Bay Area counties (Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco). Applications are due April 20. [Click here for more information.](#)

Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Grant (EXTENDED - April 20)

The California State Coastal Conservancy announces the availability of grants for programs that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore California's spectacular coast. The Explore the Coast grant program seeks to provide coastal experiences for people and communities who face challenges or barriers to accessing or enjoying the coast ("ETC Priority Communities"). ETC Priority Communities may include but are not limited to lower-income individuals and households, people with disabilities, people of color, immigrant communities, foster youth, and others. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

Wildlife Conservation Society's Climate Adaptation Fund (April 22) **NEW******

The Wildlife Conservation Society's Climate Adaptation Fund provides a total of \$2.5 million in grant awards between \$50,000 and \$250,000 for one to two-year projects that implement science-driven, on-the-ground actions that assist wildlife and ecosystems to adapt to climate change at a landscape scale. Pre-proposals due April 22. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Click here for the program page.](#)

NFWF California Forests and Watersheds Infrastructure Resilience Program (April 22) **NEW******

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S. Forest Service, have announced funding for the California Forests and Watersheds Infrastructure Resilience Program. This funding program will remove targeted aquatic organism passage barriers and fund for meadow restoration projects. Priority will be given to projects which address anadromous and native fish benefits on the Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Six Rivers National Forest, Lassen National Forest, Mendocino National Forest and Los Padres National Forest. There will also be up to \$1 million in funding for meadows restoration projects in areas identified in the Restoration Strategy. Full proposals are due April 22. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

CDFA Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects (April 23)

The Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects showcase California farmers' and ranchers' implementation of Healthy Soils Program soil health practices. Demonstration projects enable awardees to help support widespread adoption of soil health management practices throughout the state. CDFA will host three workshops with information on the application process in Willows, Fresno, and Salinas (with webinar access). The Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects applications are due by 5pm on Thursday, April 23, 2020. [Click here for more information.](#)

Coastal Conservancy Prop 1 Grants (EXTENDED - April 27)

Proposition 1 grants fund multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects. Priority project types include: water sustainability improvements, anadromous fish habitat enhancement, wetland restoration and urban greening. They are currently soliciting projects that restore wetlands and/or enhance anadromous fish habitat along the North Coast. Projects must be located in a coastal watershed between the Golden Gate and the Oregon border. The deadline for applications has been extended from the original deadline of April 1 to the new date of April 27. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

PG&E Watershed Lands Funding (April 27)

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council has funding available for habitat restoration, trails improvement, and other enhancements of PG&E watershed lands. Concept applications are due April 27. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

BLM California Wildlife Resource Management (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Wildlife Resource Management Program funds programs that maintain, restore, and conserve species and their habitats in cooperation with the Federal and State wildlife agencies, and other partner organizations. The program helps ensure self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife on public lands for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Forests and Woodlands Resource Management (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's Forest and Woodland Resource Management Program manages and conserves 58 million acres of forest and woodland in 12 western States and Alaska. A primary activity of the program is to maintain and improve the resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems to wildfire, insects, disease, and drought through density management using timber sales, Stewardship agreements, and Good Neighbor agreements. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Threatened and Endangered Species (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Threatened and Endangered Species Program works to conserve and recover federally-listed and sensitive animal and plant species and their habitat on public lands. The program also shares cooperative responsibility with other BLM programs and partners for conservation of non-listed rare species with a goal of avoiding the need to list them in the future. The BLM manages habitat for over 430 wildlife, fish, and plant species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act and at least 15 species identified as candidates for listing. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program Activities (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program uses a risk-based approach that supports the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy goals of restoring and maintaining fire resilient landscapes, creating fire adapted communities and responding to wildfire. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM CA Plant Conservation and Restoration Management (April 30)

The Bureau of Land Management's Plant Conservation and Restoration Management Grant promotes the Plant Conservation Program. Program goals include restoring or improving wildlife habitat, reducing threats to habitat or

species, developing genetically appropriate native plant material for use in habitat restoration, increasing and improving pollinator habitat, and more. Applications are due by April 30. [Follow this link for the grant page](#); [click here for the Notice of Funding](#).

DOC Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (April 30)

The Department of Conservation's FY 2019-2020 Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (SALC) grant application period is now open. The program invests in agricultural land conservation with revenue from the California Climate Investments Fund, made available for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while providing additional benefits to California communities. Acquisition Grant pre-proposals are due Thursday, April 30 and Planning Grant pre-proposals (optional) due Wednesday, July 1. SALC staff will host a Pre-proposal Technical Assistance Workshop this spring to provide an overview of SALC, discuss recent changes, and provide assistance on preparing the pre-proposal. More information will be available in the upcoming weeks. [Click here for more information](#).

CAL FIRE Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant (April 30)

Through funding provided from Proposition 68, CAL FIRE, under its Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity, expects to award at least \$2.2 million for Forestry Assistance in the 2019/2020 fiscal year for projects that propose to provide financial and technical assistance to multiple small private, nonindustrial forest landowners to provide ecological restoration of forests. Three public workshops will be offered. Proposals can be submitted from March 31 - April 30, 2020. [Click here for the grant page](#).

CNRA Urban Greening Grant Program (Due Date TBA)

The California Natural Resources Agency is accepting proposals for the Urban Greening Grant Program. The program, funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, seeks projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide multiple benefits. \$28.5 million in awards will be funded by this program. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, estimated to begin Summer 2020. In light of COVID-19, the original solicitation deadline of May 1 and technical assistance workshops have been postponed. [Click here for the grant page](#).

CDFW Fisheries Habitat Restoration Grant (EXTENDED - May 1)

CDFW is now accepting applications for the 2020 Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program, which funds projects that restore, enhance, or protect anadromous salmonid habitat in watersheds of California. The deadline for applications has been extended from the original date of April 14 to May 1. [Click here for more information](#).

California State Parks Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program (May 1)

The California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways manages the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program, which provides funds for planning, assessment, and implementation projects to prevent the spread of mussel infestation. Applications are due by May 1. [Find more information here](#).

NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants (May 8)

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is now accepting proposals for its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. Up to \$750,000 is available for one- to three-year grants. Proposed projects should augment existing NRCS technical tools (planning, assessment/delivery) to better facilitate conservation on farms and ranches. In 2020, NRCS California is prioritizing proposals that improve the "technical toolbox" to address the following on-farm resource concerns: improve plant and forest health/productivity; improve air quality associated with agricultural operations; work with agriculture operations to protect surface and groundwater quality; improve soil health; and enhance habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species. Applications must be received by 5pm on May 8. [Click here for more details.](#)

Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants (May 10) ****NEW****

The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grants fund museums, educational programs, and wildlife/environmental protection programs. Grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. The Foundation will consider requests to support museums, cultural, and performing arts programs; schools, hospitals, educational and skills training programs, programs for youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities; environmental and wildlife protection activities; and other community-based organizations and their programs. Organizations seeking support from the Foundation may submit a letter of request. For the Spring round of grants, the deadline is November 10. For the Autumn round of grants, the deadline is May 10. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

USDA Local Food Promotion Program (May 11)

Approximately \$13.5 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year 2020 is available for award through the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP). The goals of LFPP grants are to develop, coordinate and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect producer to consumer marketing to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. LFPP offers both Planning and Implementation projects. Applications are due on May 11. [Click here to learn more.](#)

USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (May 11)

Approximately \$13.5 million in competitive grant funds in fiscal year 2020 is available through the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP). The goals of FMPP grants are to develop, coordinate, and expand direct producer to consumer markets to help increase access to and availability and regionally produced agricultural products. FMPP offers both Capacity Building and Community Development, Training, and Technical Assistance projects. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

USDA Regional Food System Partnerships (May 11)

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service requests applications for the fiscal year 2020 Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) grant program. The Agricultural Marketing Service will competitively award grants to eligible applicants for projects that support partnerships to plan and develop local or regional food systems. It is anticipated that approximately \$10 million, less USDA administrative costs, will be available to fund applications under this solicitation. The final amount available is subject to Congressional action. RFSP is implemented through two project types: Planning and Design. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

NRCS's Conservation Innovation Grants On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (May 11)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has announced the availability of Conservation Innovation Grants On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials (On-Farm Trials) to stimulate the adoption and evaluation of innovative

conservation approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. Up to \$25 million is available for On-Farm Trials in 2020. NRCS anticipates that up to \$10 million of On-Farm Trials funding in 2020 will be awarded to entities applying for the Soil Health Demonstration Trial component. Applications are due on May 11. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program's Alternative Funding Arrangements (May 18)

Through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program's (RCPP) Alternative Funding Arrangements (AFA), NRCS is authorized to fund up to 15 projects where partners will be given greater liberty to manage an RCPP project and the associated relationships with participating producers and landowners. RCPP projects range from a minimum of \$250,000 to a maximum of \$10 million. AFA project proposals will be accepted through May 18. The Farm Bill statute highlights some project types that may be particularly suited to AFAs: projects that use innovative approaches to leverage the federal investment in conservation; projects that deploy a pay-for-performance conservation approach; and projects that seek large-scale infrastructure investment that generate conservation benefits for agricultural producers and nonindustrial private forest owners. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Bureau of Reclamation's Sacramento River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Program (May 21) **NEW******

The U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation's Sacramento River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Program seeks to improve anadromous fish production and survival to make progress towards the doubling goal of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act program. Applications are due on May 21. Eligibility is restricted to non-profits and state agencies; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

SARE Research and Education Program Grants (May 22)

The Western Sustainable Agriculture Education and Research's Research and Education Program Grants involve scientists, agricultural producers, and others using interdisciplinary approaches to advance sustainable agriculture at local and regional levels. With the collaboration of producers, projects must integrate rigorous research and education aiming to advance the three components of sustainable agriculture- environmental, economic, and social- and use innovative educational outreach to disseminate new knowledge to students, producers, and other agricultural stakeholders. It is expected that outcomes of funded projects will result in quantifiable benefits for producers, increase the preservation of the natural and social resources upon which agriculture relies, and be documented in scholarly journals and disseminated throughout teaching and educational outreach activities with students, producers, and other agricultural stakeholders. Research and Education projects are limited to \$350,000 for up to three years. The deadline for pre-proposal applications is May 22. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

US EPA National Environmental Education and Training Program (May 29)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Education and Training Program aims to deliver environmental education training and long-term support to education professionals across the U.S. in the development and delivery of environmental education and training programs and studies. Eligibility is restricted to higher education and non-profits. Please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity (May 31) **NEW******

CAL FIRE's California Forest Stewardship Program will fund technical and financial assistance to forestland owners. Projects may include forest restoration activities for forestland already impacted by natural disturbance such as fire, insect, and disease, and forest management practices that promote forest resilience to severe wildfire, climate change, and other disturbances. CAL FIRE expects to award at least \$2.2M of Proposition 68 funding for Forestry Assistance in the fiscal year 2019/2020 with a minimum grant amount of \$750,000. RCDs are called out explicitly as eligible entities. This application period is between April 1 and May 31. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

CDFA Biologically Integrated Farming Systems Program (May 31)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's Biologically Integrated Farming Systems Program provides funding for outreach of innovative, biologically integrated plant-based farming systems that reduce chemical insecticide inputs. Funded projects include farmer-to-farmer information exchange and on-farm demos of integrated pest management and other pest and nutrient management systems. Applications are due by 5pm on May 31. [Follow this link to learn more.](#)

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The Healthy Soils Program Incentives Program will accept applications on a rolling basis until 5pm on June 26, 2020 or until available funds are expended, whichever is earlier. California farmers and ranchers, as well as federal and California-recognized Native American Tribes are eligible to apply. CDFA will host three workshops with information on the application process in Willows, Fresno, and Salinas (with webinar access). [Click here for more information.](#)

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FWS North American Wetlands Conservation Act 2021-2 U.S. Standard Grants (July 10)

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One Tree Planted is a non-profit organization that provides funding for reforestation projects. They have partnered with several RCDs, and would like to continue partnering. If your RCD is seeking funding for a project, please fill out the following information for One Tree Planted to evaluate. If you have specific questions, please call (800) 408-7850. [Follow this link for their website;](#) [follow this link for the funding application form.](#)

NFWF In-Lieu Fee Program (No Due Date)

Applications are currently being accepted for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program (applications currently being accepted) can be used to create, enhance, and restore wetland resources in the designated priority Service Area, which includes headwaters, tributaries, and floodplains of rivers that flow through the Sacramento basin. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program (No Due Date)

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has announced the opening of their new Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program. The program focuses on increasing public access to recreational opportunities in order to promote a robust Delta economy. Other program priorities include recreation and tourism, historic and cultural preservation, and environmental education. They will be accepting concept proposals on a rolling basis. [Follow this link for the program webpage.](#)

Advocacy

Division 9 Town Halls

CARCD will be making legislative asks in the 2020 season regarding (1) \$10m over two years for RCD capacity building funds and (2) revisions to Division 9. We have scheduled three virtual town halls to get input from the RCD network on what they want to see for the Division 9 revisions. All meetings will have the same content, but we are

scheduling three in order to give all folks a chance to give feedback. CARCD board members, Executive Director Karen Buhr, and our legislative lobbyist Mark Fenstermaker will be present. [Talking points can be found here](#) and [draft bill language](#) can be found here.

The remaining town halls are on: Monday, April 20, 2 - 4pm, & Tuesday, April 21, 5 - 7pm.

Call-in information:

Meeting ID: 944 887 471

<https://zoom.us/j/944887471>

+1 669 900 6833

Public Comment for DOC Working Lands and Riparian Corridor Grants

The Department of Conservation has announced the opening of the public comment period on the Solicitation and Application for the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Grants. \$8,500,000 in bond funding is available solely for resource conservation districts through this solicitation for watershed restoration projects and conservation projects on agricultural lands. Eligible projects include riparian corridor, oak woodland, native grassland, and aspen forest restoration and enhancement on California's farm and ranch land. Comments will be accepted until 11:59 p.m. on April 01, 2020. Many RCDs are submitting their own comments, but CARCD will be submitting comment for this program. Please contact Kristen with any comments you would like to include in CARCD's letter at kristen-murphy@carcd.org. Applications will open on May 1 and close on July 15. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

Inland Empire Match for RCD Advocacy in the Capitol

CARCD contracts with Pacific Policy Group (PPG) to: advocate for funding directly to RCDs; make agency partners aware of RCDs to bring in contracts and make it easier for you to do your work; and solve problems that keep you from being able to do your job. CARCD pays for a large portion of the contract directly out of our budget, but we also need RCDs to contribute in order for our partnership with PPG to be sustainable. Over the course of the next year, PPG is going to do a large push for baseline funding for the RCDs and we need your help! By increasing your RCD's Membership Dues amount or making an additional contribution to CARCD, we are able to free up space in our budget to give more funding to PPG. The Inland Empire RCD has offered to match \$20,000 of additional funds contributed to CARCD this fiscal year. We have already received over \$13,000, but we still have just over \$6,500 unmatched. Please consider a contribution of any amount by June 30, 2020 and Inland Empire RCD will match it! [Additional information about the amazing work that PPG does on behalf of RCDs can be found here.](#)

RCD News

Updated: Napa County RCD's Sudden Oak Death Blitz

The Napa County RCD has updated their volunteer event "Sudden Oak Death Blitz" on April 11 from 10am to 11:30am at the Ag. Commissioner's Office Building front porch (1710 Soscol Avenue). To maintain public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, the event will be held as an outdoor event with no group meeting. Coordinator Bill Pramuk will be onsite to supervise, answer questions, and ask everyone to respect "social distancing". No more than

nine people at a time can be present. Participants may sign up online at www.sodbllitz.org where they can view a brief Powerpoint presentation and a 15-minute training video. [Click here for more details.](#)

Trinity County RCD Spring Nature Hike

Explore wildflowers, wildlife and watersheds on the Trinity County RCD's Spring Nature Hike on Saturday, April 18 from 9am to 2pm meeting at the East Weaver Campground. Free lunch provided to those who sign up. Space is limited so RSVP by April 10 by contacting Elizabeth at Trinity County RCD at esandoval@trcrd.net. The trail is approximately 2 miles with uneven and steep terrain at times so come with appropriate footwear and a reusable water bottle. This hike is led by Pat Frost, natural history instructor, and Dr. Susannah Fulton, botany professor at Shasta College, as well as other natural resource professionals and enthusiasts. [Click here for the announcement.](#)

Cancelled: San Mateo RCD's Open Edible Gardens Tour

The San Mateo RCD has cancelled their Open Edible Gardens Tour in San Mateo County on April 4. They are exploring options to hold a virtual tour.

Updated: Coastal San Luis RCD's CDFG Healthy Soils Program Tour

Coastal San Luis RCD's CDFG Healthy Soils Program Tour on April 2 will now be held as a virtual tour. Stay tuned for a link to the Virtual Field Tour in mid-April. The tour will feature the following presenters:

- Jake Smith, Gopher Glen Organic Apple Farmer - Orchard Management
- Charlotte Decock, Cal Poly Soil Ecologist - Healthy Soils Program
- Lindsay Ringer, Coastal San Luis RCD Conservation Manager - Soil Sampling and Soil Design

Contact Lindsay at lringer@coastalrcd.org with questions.

Gold Ridge RCD Awarded CDFW Prop 68 Funding

The Gold Ridge RCD was awarded \$551,220 by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Prop 68 program for their "Atascadero Creek Sedimentation Analysis and Fish Passage Restoration 65 Percent Design Project."

Congratulations! If your RCD has been awarded funding, then we would love to share it with the community. [See the full list of awardees here.](#)

If your RCD has job openings, community events, or announcements that you would like to share with the RCD network and beyond, please e-mail me at kiko-barr@carcd.org with the details so that we can include them in an upcoming Weekly Digest and in a monthly blog post at the end of the month.

Conservation Announcements

Survey for RCDs with Forest/Fire Programs on Impacts of COVID-19

The Watershed Research and Training Center is working to understand how the COVID-19 shelter-in-place and social distancing orders are impacting organizations performing forest and fire work in California. The survey aims to collect organization-level information on needs, concerns, and questions during this unprecedented time. The Watershed Center, along with their partners including CARCD, will use the survey responses to shape a strategy to address needs, and communicate those needs to state and federal agency leadership. Please take a few minutes to take the survey: [Forest/Fire and Organizational Needs During COVID-19 Survey](#).

Updated: U.S. Forest Service Shared Stewardship Training

The U.S. Forest Service worked with American Forests to transition their in-person training to a brief series of online webinars. Contact Jason Ko at Jason.ko@usda.gov or Brittany Dyer at bdyer@americanforests.org with any questions. [Find the flier here](#).

- Tuesday, March 31 10:00 - 4:00: Shared Stewardship Overview and Tools
- Wednesday, April 1 2:00 - 4:00: S2 Rx Fire and Fuels Work

Call-in information:

Meeting ID: 529 184 297

<https://zoom.us/j/529184297>

Call in: 1-669-900-6833

AFT's Farmer Relief Fund

Please share information about the American Farmland Trust's Farmer Relief Fund with producers in your district. The fund will award farmers with cash grants of up to \$1,000 each to help them weather the current storm of market disruptions caused by the coronavirus crisis. Initially, eligible applicants will include any small and mid-size direct-market producers. These are defined as producers with annual gross revenue of between \$10,000 and \$1 million from sales at farmers markets and/or direct sales to restaurants, caterers, schools, stores, or makers who use farm products as inputs. The application will be simple and easy to complete but will request sufficient detail to ensure AFT is awarding producers that have the greatest need. AFT envisions an initial application round extending until April 23, with payments disbursed beginning May 1. [Follow this link to the fund page](#).

Resources Agency Green Infrastructure Grant

The California Natural Resources Agency announced \$18.5 million in funding for 13 projects under its Green Infrastructure grant program funded by Proposition 68. In 2018, California voters passed the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68), which directed \$18.5 million to the Natural Resources Agency for competitive grants for multi-benefit green infrastructure investments in or benefiting disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged communities. [Follow this link for the awardee list](#).

Updated: CNGA Field Day at Hedgerow Farms

The California Native Grassland Association Field Day at Hedgerow Farms (21905 County Road 88, Winters CA 95694) has been rescheduled for Friday, June 12 at 8am. They are optimistic about having Field Day this year and will reschedule again if necessary. Registration is open. [Click here for the event page](#).

Job Announcements

Ventura County Hiring Restoration Ecologist

Ventura County RCD is seeking a versatile restoration professional to fill the position of Restoration Ecologist. The ideal candidate will have worked on diverse multi-beneficial ecological restoration and conservation projects in the natural communities of the South Coast Ecoregion. Successful candidates will be able to demonstrate: experience planning and implementing restoration projects, a history of fieldwork, especially biological surveying and monitoring, and the ability to identify and distinguish native and non-native flora and fauna. This position was announced on March 11 and will be open until filled. [Click here for the position description.](#)

RCD of Santa Monica Mountains Seeking Restoration and Landscape Design Conservation Biologist

The RCD of the Santa Monica Mountains is looking for an experienced, enthusiastic, self-motivated biologist to assist with field research and restoration work while generating and leading new projects to study and enhance the habitat and natural resources of the Santa Monica Mountains. They offer a proven record of successful grant applications and project support, mentoring by a well-recognized researcher, flexible schedule, and a great work environment. The starting date is negotiable but preference given to applicants who can start by May 1, 2020. [Click here for the position description.](#)



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This email was sent to manager@teamrcd.org by kiko-barr@carcd.org

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United States • (916) 457-7904

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MemberClicks

Subject **Message from State Conservationist Carlos Suarez**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-26 13:09



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear California Conservation Partners—

Since you are all a valued part of the delivery of conservation services to our customers, I wanted to let you know our operational plans around the state and assure you we are available via phone or email to continue our services.

Starting Monday, March 23, 2020, Service Centers in California will continue to be open for business by phone appointment only and field work will continue as we are able, with appropriate social distancing. While a very small number of conservation technical staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with our producers by phone, and using online tools whenever possible.

All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. In the event a Service Center staff is not available, producers can receive assistance from the closest alternate Service Center by phone.

Producers can find Service Center phone numbers at farmers.gov/service-center-locator.

Farm Production and Conservation agencies continue to look at the flexibilities to deliver programs on behalf of producers, just as they have in past situations, such as natural disasters. Farmers and ranchers are resilient and NRCS will continue to deliver the conservation programs that keep American agriculture in business today and long into the future.

Online services are available to customers with an e-Auth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and payments. Online NRCS services are available to customers through the Conservation Client Gateway. Customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance, and electronically sign documents. Customers who do not already have an e-Auth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

For the most current updates on available services and Service Center status visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.

We will also be posting information on our website at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov>

Carlos Suarez

State Conservationist

USDA-NRCS, California



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This email was sent to manager@teamrcd.org by karen-buhr@carcd.org

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United States • (916) 457-7904

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MemberClicks

Subject **Division 9 Town Halls - We Want Your Input!**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrkd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-24 17:07



- AB 2303 Draft Language - Introduction - v1.docx (~31 KB)
- Division 9 Talking Points for RCDs.pdf (~62 KB)



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Hello RCD Family,

I hope everyone is well and staying safe.

Last week, we announced that we are making some legislative asks regarding (1) \$10m over two years for RCD capacity building funds and (2) revisions to Division 9. I have attached talking points and draft bill language for the those asks to this email.

We have scheduled three virtual town halls to get input from the RCD network on what they want to see for the Division 9 revisions. All meetings will have the same content, but we are scheduling three in order to give all folks a chance to give feedback. CARCD board members, Executive Director Karen, and our legislative lobbyist Mark Fenstermaker will be present.

Zoom call-in information is at the bottom. The town halls are on:

- Thursday, March 26th, 3 - 5pm
- Monday, April 20th, 2 - 4pm
- Tuesday, April 21st, 5 - 7pm

We want to hear from you! We hope you will join us for at least one meeting.

Karen

Call-in Information

<https://zoom.us/j/944887471>

Meeting ID: **944 887 471**

One tap mobile:

+16699006833,,944887471# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/944887471>



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United States • (916) [457-7904](tel:457-7904)

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MemberClicks

Subject **CARCD Weekly Digest, March 16 - 20**
From Kiko Barr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <kiko-barr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-20 17:51



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you!

Warm regards,

The CARCD Team

In This Issue:

1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [Funding Opportunities](#)
3. [Advocacy](#)
4. [RCD News](#)
5. [Conservation Announcements](#)
6. [Job Announcements](#)

CARCD Updates

Resources for RCDs During COVID-19 Crisis

We have compiled some resources that will be useful to RCDs amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Please don't hesitate to reach out to CARCD if you have any questions.

- The Governor has launched [a website for COVID-19 information](#).
- The Department of Homeland Security has provided more guidance on essential services [in this packet](#) and [on their website](#).
- The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) will be hosting a webinar Wednesday, March 25, from 1pm - 2:30pm next week on Human Resources issues surrounding COVID-19 crisis. It is free for CSDA members and \$95 for non-members. [Click here for the registration page](#).
- CSDA has [a COVID-19 Resources page](#) which is frequently updated.

Bond Funding and Freezes for COVID-19

CARCD's legislative consultants reached out to the California Natural Resources Agency about bond fund availability and a potential bond freeze. We have been assured by Bryan Cash at the Resources Agency that there are no plans for shutting down or diverting bond funds. There is potential for a slow-down because of the shelter-in-place requirements for Sacramento County, but disbursement remains a priority.

Regional Meetings Announced

Several regional meetings have been announced. Please let us know when your region has announced their meeting so we can help spread the word.

- [Modoc Plateau Region](#) (April 7) will be hosted by Fall River RCD in McArthur
- [Southern Baja Region](#) (April 22) will be hosted by Palo Verde RCD in Blythe
- [Sacramento Valley Region](#) (April 28) will be hosted by Yuba County RCD and Sutter County RCD with the location TBA
- [Central Coast Region](#) (April 30) will be hosted by Coastal San Luis RCD in San Luis Obispo
- [San Joaquin Valley Region](#) (May 8) will be hosted by Tulare County RCD in the Visalia/Exeter area
- Bay-Delta Region (tentative for late May) will be hosted by the Napa County RCD and with details TBA

Funding Opportunities

CDFA Dairy Methane Reduction Programs (March 27)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture is now accepting grant applications for Alternative Manure Management Program (AMMP) administered by its Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation (OEFI) and funded by California Climate Investments (CCI). Applications are due Friday, March 27, 2020 by 5pm. CDFA offers two grant opportunities under AMMP:

- Incentives Program: The program provides financial assistance for the implementation of non-digester manure management practices in California, which will result in reduced greenhouse gas emissions. [Follow this link for more information.](#)
- Demonstration Projects: "Advancing Practices Farmer-to-Farmer" will fund projects that demonstrate the implementation of alternative manure management practices on California dairy and livestock operations. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Grant (March 30)

The California State Coastal Conservancy announces the availability of grants for programs that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore California's spectacular coast. The Explore the Coast grant program seeks to provide coastal experiences for people and communities who face challenges or barriers to accessing or enjoying the coast ("ETC Priority Communities"). ETC Priority Communities may include but are not limited to lower-income individuals and households, people with disabilities, people of color, immigrant communities, foster youth, and others. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

Coastal Conservancy Prop 1 Grants (April 1)

Proposition 1 grants fund multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects. Priority project types include: water sustainability improvements, anadromous fish habitat enhancement, wetland restoration and urban greening. They are currently soliciting projects that restore wetlands and/or enhance anadromous fish habitat along the North Coast. Projects must be located in a coastal watershed between the Golden Gate and the Oregon border. The deadline for applications is midnight on April 1, 2020. [Follow this link for the grant page.](#)

USDA Food Safety Outreach Competitive Grants Program (April 7)

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Food Safety Outreach Program's goal is to develop and implement food safety training, education, extension, outreach and technical assistance projects that address the needs of owners and operators of small to mid-sized farms, beginning farmers, socially-disadvantaged farmers, small processors, or small fresh fruit and vegetable merchant wholesalers. Grant applications will be solicited directly from those in local communities to include those from community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, food hubs, farm cooperatives, extension, and other local groups. [Follow this link for more details.](#)

Urban Flood Protection Grant Program (EXTENDED - April 8)

The California Natural Resources Agency will be accepting proposals for the Urban Flood Protection Grant Program until April 8, 2020. \$87.5 million in awards will be funded by this program in an anticipated two funding cycles. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, estimated to begin mid-June 2020. Projects must be completed by March 2024. [Find the grant page here.](#)

NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (April 10)

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently accepting applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). ACEP offers two conservation easement options: Agricultural Land Easements and Wetland Reserve Easements. Agricultural Land Easements funds are provided to cost-share the purchase of conservation easements that permanently protect farming and ranching on privately owned lands. Wetland Reserve Easements assists farmers, ranchers and other private landowners with restoring and protecting degraded wetlands on marginal, flood-prone cropland and rangeland. ACEP applications may be submitted at any time to NRCS. However, applications for current funding must be submitted on or before April 10. [Click here for more information.](#)

CDFW Fisheries Habitat Restoration Grant (April 14)

CDFW is now accepting applications for the 2020 Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program, which funds projects that restore, enhance, or protect anadromous salmonid habitat in watersheds of California. The deadline for applications is April 14, by 3pm. CDFW will host a series of application workshops throughout March. [Click here for more information.](#)

US EPA San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund (April 20)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 is soliciting applications to improve water quality and restore aquatic habitat (i.e. wetlands) in San Francisco Bay and its watersheds. A broad range of entities, as described in Section III.A, are eligible to submit applications under this announcement for projects within the nine Bay Area counties (Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo, and San Francisco). Applications are due April 20. [Click here for more information.](#)

CDFFA Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects (April 23)

The Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects showcase California farmers' and ranchers' implementation of Healthy Soils Program soil health practices. Demonstration projects enable awardees to help support widespread adoption of soil health management practices throughout the state. CDFFA will host three workshops with information on the application process in Willows, Fresno, and Salinas (with webinar access). The Healthy Soils Program Demonstration Projects applications are due by 5pm on Thursday, April 23, 2020. [Click here for more information.](#)

PG&E Watershed Lands Funding (April 27)

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council has funding available for habitat restoration, trails improvement, and other enhancements of PG&E watershed lands. Concept applications are due April 27. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

BLM California Wildlife Resource Management (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Wildlife Resource Management Program funds programs that maintain, restore, and conserve species and their habitats in cooperation with the Federal and State wildlife agencies, and other partner organizations. The program helps ensure self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife on public lands for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Forests and Woodlands Resource Management (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's Forest and Woodland Resource Management Program manages and conserves 58 million acres of forest and woodland in 12 western States and Alaska. A primary activity of the program is to maintain and improve the resilience of forest and woodland ecosystems to wildfire, insects, disease, and drought through density management using timber sales, Stewardship agreements, and Good Neighbor agreements. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Threatened and Endangered Species (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Threatened and Endangered Species Program works to conserve and recover federally-listed and sensitive animal and plant species and their habitat on public lands. The program also shares cooperative responsibility with other BLM programs and partners for conservation of non-listed rare species with a goal of avoiding the need to list them in the future. The BLM manages habitat for over 430 wildlife, fish, and plant species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act and at least 15 species identified as candidates for listing. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

BLM California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program Activities (April 28)

The Bureau of Land Management's California Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program uses a risk-based approach that supports the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy goals of restoring and maintaining fire resilient landscapes, creating fire adapted communities and responding to wildfire. Applications are due April 28. [Click here for more information.](#)

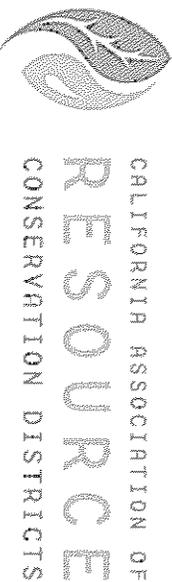
BLM CA Plant Conservation and Restoration Management (April 30)

The Bureau of Land Management's Plant Conservation and Restoration Management Grant promotes the Plant Conservation Program. Program goals include restoring or improving wildlife habitat, reducing threats to habitat or species, developing genetically appropriate native plant material for use in habitat restoration, increasing and improving pollinator habitat, and more. Applications are due by April 30. [Follow this link for the grant page; click here for the Notice of Funding.](#)

DOC Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program (April 30)



Subject Division 9 Announcement
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teammrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-19 15:25



Hello RCD Family,

I hope you are all safe and healthy!

I want to update you on an exciting development in the RCD world.

We have heard you on the need for capacity funding, opportunities for projects with the State, and advance payments. To address some of these issues, we are making some legislative asks in the 2020 season in order to:

- 1) Seek capacity building funds for RCDs in the amount of \$10m to be spent over 2 years.
- 2) Make changes to Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code to support the funding ask above and to modernize the language. One proposed change will allow RCDs to enter into interagency agreements with the State in addition to the current contracting. Interagency agreements allow for advance payment of funds associated with a given project, and more flexibility around deliverables. This will make working with the State much easier and more

straightforward. Also, a watershed support center will be created at Department of Conservation (DOC). Other changes will clarify and modernize the RCD relationship to DOC. Please see the attached talking points for more details.

As you know from our newsletters and regional meeting updates, there has been a year's worth of discussion around Division 9 involving the RCD community and partners. In this legislative cycle we will focus on some of the critical issues we have been hearing from you and our State partners.

We want to hear from you! Please let us know what you think!

We have scheduled 3 virtual town halls (call-in info will be sent out):

- Thursday, March 26th, 3 - 5pm
- Monday, April 20th, 2 - 4pm
- Tuesday, April 21st, 5 - 7pm

The bill language is attached. Also, feel free to contact me, Pacific Policy Group (Mark Fenstermaker at mark@pacificpolicygroup.com), any CARCD Board member, or your regional representative to the Board.

Looking forward to hearing your thoughts!

Karen



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Your partner in local conservation and sustainable agriculture
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Find your local RCD

This email was sent to manager@teamrcd.org by karen_buhr@carcd.org

Subject **[Funding Opportunity] WCB funding opportunity announcement**
 From Kristen Murphy <Funding_Opportunities@carcd.memberclicks.net>
 Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
 To <manager@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <kristen-murphy@carcd.org>
 Date 2020-03-16 16:30



- CARP_2020_PreApplication_FINAL.docx (~32 KB)

Happy Monday RCDs!

WCB is super pleased with all the RCD work and projects we have with them. They reached out to ensure that RCDs are funded through this solicitation and are open to any individual, joint, or block grant project that fits their goals. The funding pool is \$2 million for planning and technical assistance grants. Pre-proposal is due in 3 weeks, April 7th (attached).

CARCD is happy to put together a joint proposal if there is interest, as well as support any other RCD collaboration or individual district that applies.

Ideas on my mind:

1. Carbon farm plans for district that do not have any or less than 5.
2. Practice designs for existing carbon farm plans
3. Integration of ag into local Climate Action Plans

There are a multitude of other project ideas! Take a look at the [solicitation notice here](#). For those interested in exploring collaboration and gathering more information, I will host two calls later this week.

Thursday March 19th, 2pm-3pm

Friday March 20th, 10am-11am

Call: (712) 7704598

Code: 617 079

Stay safe,

Kristen Murphy

Project Manager

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD)

801 K Street, MS 14-15, Sacramento, CA 95814

Cell: (916) 520-9404



[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

Your local partners in conservation and agriculture.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Malchow, Kurt@Wildlife** <Kurt.Malchow@wildlife.ca.gov>

Date: Mon, Mar 16, 2020 at 9:51 AM

Subject: WCB funding opportunity announcement

To: Kristen Murphy <kristen-murphy@carcd.org>

Hi Kristen,

Hope you had a nice weekend, despite all the pandemic-based madness.

Please send along the announcement below to the RCD's, and of course let us know if the CARCD has any applicable projects coming up – thanks!

The Wildlife Conservation Board's 2020 Proposal Solicitation Notice (PSN) for its Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program is now available. Please read the 2020 PSN carefully for details on the application process, eligibility, and other information. All applicants must complete the online Pre-Application **by 5:00 PM Pacific Standard Time on April 7, 2020**. WCB will then invite select applicants to submit full proposals. For further questions, please contact WCB's Climate Adaptation and Resilience Program at climatewcb@wildlife.ca.gov.

Please share this announcement with others who might be interested.

This e-List is for funding opportunity announcements from the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, RCDs, and our partners. You can unsubscribe at any time by logging into the RCD Member Portal and adjusting your contact preferences. For assistance please contact emily-sutherland@carcd.org.

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United States • (916) 457-7904

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Subject **COVID-19 Information for RCDs**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-03-16 16:24



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear RCDs,

Hi RCD Family,

We are all a little overwhelmed right now as we work to know what to do to keep our families, communities, and RCDs safe and healthy! CARCD is in this with you.

Please be aware of two resources that the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) has put out. They have a great resources page and a webinar coming up (please see below).

We are thinking about putting a webinar together this week for RCDs. It may simply be a forum to share, it may be a CSDA expert providing some advice. It would be great to get input from all of you about what would be useful to you and your RCD to guide our thought process.

Please keep safe and healthy and enjoy some quality time with your families.

Karen

CSDA Tools:

1. **Resource Page:** CSDA has created [a webpage with resources on COVID-19](#), including a white paper on Brown Act Compliance.
2. **Webinar:** This Wednesday, March 18 at 1pm, CSDA will host [a webinar regarding "Brown Act Compliance During a Pandemic"](#). It is free to CSDA members or fairly low cost to non-members.



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Subject **Call TODAY at 5pm on COVID-19 - Governor's Office Update to Special Districts**

From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>

Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Replv-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>

Date 2020-03-12 15:57



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear RCDs,

The California Special Districts Association just released an announcement that the Governor's Office of Emergency Services will provide an update to special districts on COVID-19 response, TODAY at 5pm.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services is encouraging all special district general managers to participate in a briefing at 5:00 PM TODAY, Thursday March 12, 2020 to review the Governor's most recent Executive Order, signed last night, which further enhances State and local government's ability to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic and included direction for the cancellation of large gatherings of more than 250 people, social distancing for all other gatherings, and Brown Act accommodations, among other provisions.

WHO: Governor's Office of Emergency Services will hold a briefing on Mass Gathering Guidance and Governor Newsom's Executive Order for special district general managers.

WHEN: TODAY, Thursday March 12, 2020 at 5:00 PM. The briefing will only last a half hour, so please call in on time.

CALL-IN INFO: 866-624-3884, Passcode: 3455187

Thank you and please let us know if you have any questions.

Karen Buhr



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Subject **David Gottlieb Memorial Announcement**
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-02-25 15:03



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Dear Colleagues,

It is with sadness that I inform you that David Gottlieb passed away on January 15th, 2020. He was a board member for the RCD of Santa Monica Mountains for 30 years, and served as a board member for CARCD as well. We want to thank him and his family for their service to the RCD community. David and his energy and creativity will be missed.

[You can read David's obituary here.](#) He is survived by his sons Gabe and Jamie, daughter-in-law Sarah, grandsons Elliot and Graham, and partner Abigail Bok. He will be remembered with a memorial on March 7th at 11am in Topanga. Please RSVP to dgrsvp@gmx.com for location details.

Sincerely,

Karen Buhr
Executive Director



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Subject **Notes from the Field // February**
From CARCD <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <info@carcd.org>
Date 2020-02-19 14:42



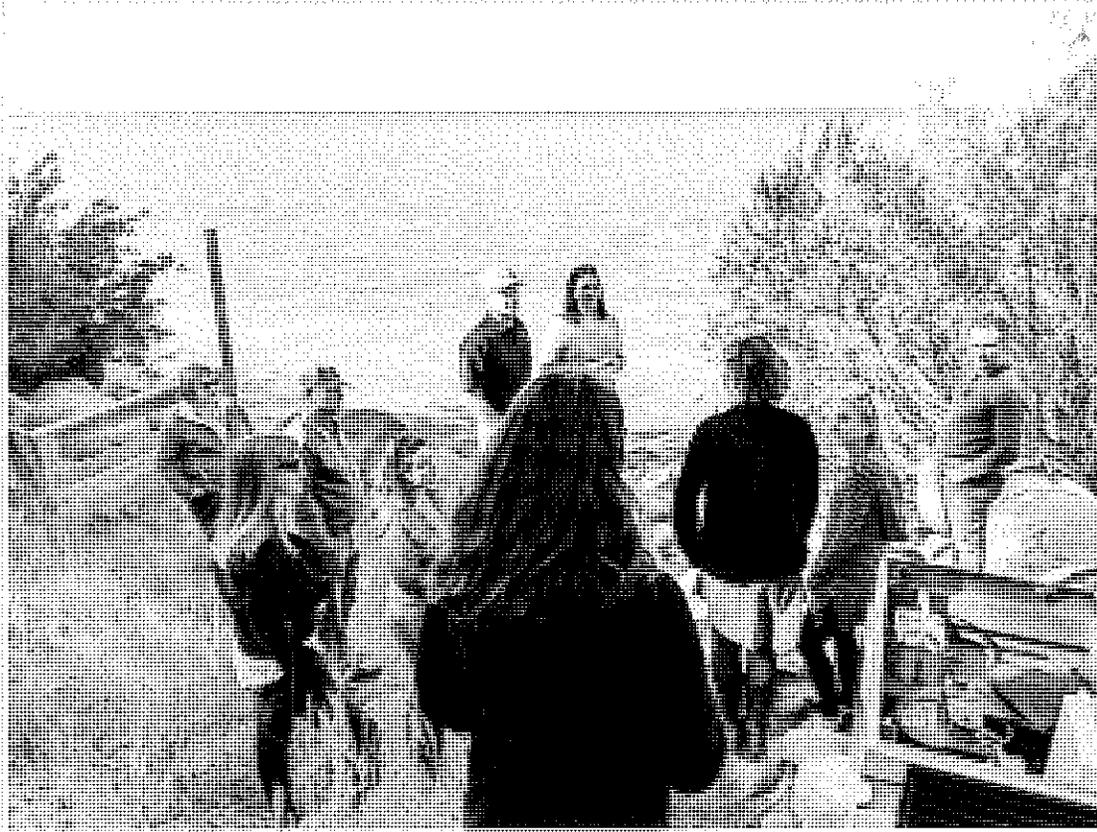
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Notes from the Field // February 2020

In This Issue:

1. [Featured: Managing stormwater for cleaner watersheds and safer communities](#)
2. [Get to Know the Yolo County RCD](#)
3. [Conservation Updates](#)
4. [Partner Spotlight: the California Natural Resources Agency](#)
5. [Upcoming RCD Events](#)

Managing stormwater for cleaner watersheds and safer communities



When drought and water shortages are the norm like they are in California, rainstorms can be welcome events that fill reservoirs, provide water for agriculture, and increase streamflows. On the flip side, when stormwater is not properly managed, it can cause problems for homeowners and pollute watersheds. Several Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) provide stormwater-related services to homeowners and to their larger communities.

In an undeveloped setting, the majority of stormwater soaks into the ground. In developed areas where many surfaces are impervious, stormwater is channeled into storm drains or directly into creeks and other tributaries. According to [the RCD of Santa Cruz's stormwater page](#), when there is a high volume of stormwater reaching the streams "these waterbodies often experience eroded

banks, incised channels, loss of habitat and aquatic life, and increased flooding and property damage. In addition, stormwater carries a broad mix of toxic chemicals, bacteria, sediments, fertilizers, oil and grease." Thus, one of the goals of a successful stormwater management plan is to "Slow it. Sink it. Spread it." Essentially, a property is designed to allow water to be captured on the landscape rather than routed into storm drains. The RCD of Santa Cruz [has a guide for homeowners](#) to help them manage stormwater and provides assistance for implementing practices.

[Read more](#)

GET TO KNOW AN RCD



The [Yolo County RCD](#) has a range of programs and projects, which include writing a carbon farm plan for a 7,400-acre cattle ranch, collaborating with Cache Creek Conservancy to actively restore 44 acres of critical riparian habitat along Cache Creek, native grassland and riparian planning and management for the East Regional and Storz Pond stormwater detention facilities, and, most recently, restoring wetlands in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

[Read more](#)

Conservation Updates

Marin RCD collaborates for coho salmon and steelhead restoration

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife awarded the [Marin RCD](#) a nearly \$350,000 grant to work with ranchers to plan coho salmon and steelhead trout habitat restoration projects along Walker Creek. The Marin Independent Journal quoted Greg Andrew, a biologist for the Municipal Water District: "The work by the conservation district along with the fish releases has great potential to increase the population of both coho and steelhead by providing habitat in flood plains where they can seek refuge from high flows, feed and grow through the winter and go out into Tomales Bay as, hopefully, fat and happy smolts."

[Read more](#)

Middle schoolers discover the Suisun Marsh with the Solano RCD

The [Solano RCD](#) was featured in the news! The RCD reached nearly 2,000 sixth and seventh-graders in January with their [Suisun Marsh Watershed Education Program](#). Students rotate through several stations focused on techniques that environmental scientists utilize every day: observing birds and wildlife, taking soil samples, and analyzing water samples.

[Read more](#)

RCDs are hiring!

Work with RCDs! Find full job descriptions linked on our [Careers](#) page.

- RCD of Greater San Diego County - Field Trip Leader and Forestry Specialist
- Tahoe RCD - Environmental Technician I & II for Restoration/Forestry Program and Aquatic Invasive Species Program
- Trinity County RCD - Grants Coordinator
- Solano RCD - Program Educator

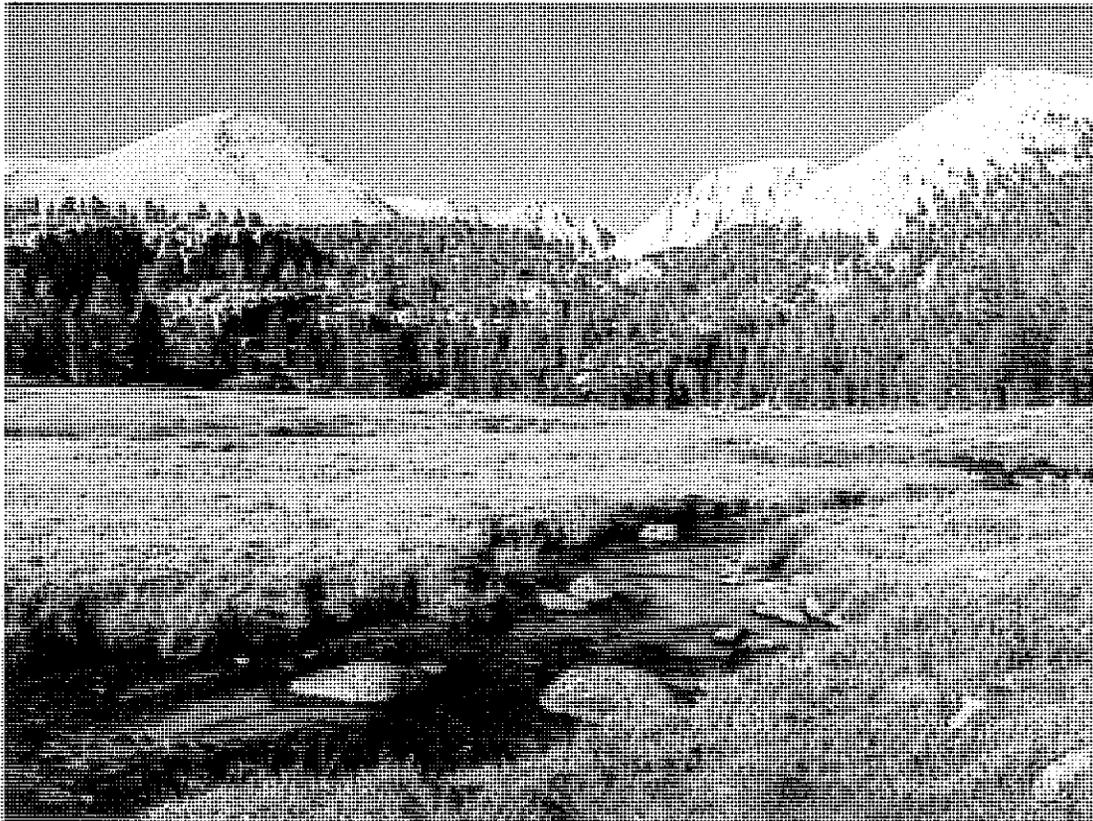
[Visit our Careers page](#)

What were RCDs up to in January?

California is home to 95 unique RCDs operating in ten regions throughout the state. RCDs are California's boots-on-the-ground, providing everything from technical assistance to design and installation of conservation projects to community education— and more. Each month, we work to compile a small sampling of the incredible work that the districts are doing in and on behalf of their communities.

[Read more](#)

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



The [California Natural Resources Agency](#) houses 25 entities, including the Department of Conservation and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection,

through which they enact their mission to "restore, protect and manage the state's natural, historical and cultural resources for current and future generations using creative approaches and solutions based on science, collaboration and respect for all the communities and interests involved."

[Read more](#)

Upcoming RCD Events

Contra Costa RCD's Volunteer Planting

February 29, 2020

The Contra Costa RCD, the California Department of Water Resources, Friends of the Marsh Creek Watershed, and Reclamation District 2137 will be hosting a volunteer planting day at the Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration on February 29 from 9am until 12pm. Volunteers will plant native tule plugs in this historic 1100-acre tidal marsh/wetlands restoration in Oakley, California. Online registration ends at 3pm on February 28—and don't forget to download the waiver when you register. [Click here for the Eventbrite link.](#)

San Joaquin County RCD Cover Crop Course

March 5, 2020

Join NRCS and the San Joaquin County RCD for a cover crop short course on March 5, from 9:30am to 12pm at the Lockeford Plant Materials Center (210001 N. Elliott Rd., Lockeford). Experts will cover the economic analysis of cover crop use, cover crop implementation, seed selection, cover crops for nitrogen, and more. [Click here for the flier.](#)

Yolo County RCD Planting at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

March 5 & 26, 2020

The Yolo County RCD will be hosting two plantings at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area on Thursday, March 5, from 9am to 12pm and Thursday, March 26, 9am to 12pm. Join them and the Putah Creek Council as they plant several miles of habitat to help support biodiversity and animal escape during flood events on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. Volunteers will get to see areas of the wildlife refuge typically off limits to the public. For more details email Joanne Heraty at heraty@yolorcd.org. Space is limited so please sign up in advance. This is a free event open to the public. [Click here to register for March 5;](#) [click here to register for March 26.](#)

RCD of Mendocino County's Navarro River Watershed Events

March 5 & 6, 2020

Community Meeting — Restoring Stream Flows and Increasing Water Supply: Strategies for Farms, People, and Fish in the Navarro River Watershed

The RCD of Mendocino County's community meeting will be on Thursday, March 5, from 6pm to 9pm at River's Bend Retreat Center. The potluck supper will be from 6pm to 7pm, with presentations beginning promptly at 7pm. Updates and strategies regarding water supply reliability and storage, fisheries restoration, soil and water conservation, flow enhancement, and volunteer monitoring will be shared by the RCD, the Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, Mendocino Redwood Company, and Shippensburg University.

Navarro Watershed Restoration Projects Tour

The tour of the Navarro Watershed Restoration projects will be on Friday, March 6, from 9am to noon beginning at the Anderson Valley High School parking lot. They will visit off-stream water storage, large wood, rainwater catchment, and stormwater projects. To RSVP for the tour, call 462-3664, ext. 103 or email

Linda.macelwee@mrcrd.org.

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD's Planned Grazing Workshop

March 6-8, 2020

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD's three-day workshop for ranchers & land managers—Planned Grazing: How to Grow Soil, Grassland Health, & Profit—will be on Friday through Sunday, March 6-8, 2020, from 9am to 5pm in California Valley (south of Hwy 58). Learn how to develop and implement a successful grazing plan. This powerful step-by-step grazing planning process developed by Allan Savory is good for your grass, livestock, wildlife, soil, monitoring, and especially your wallet. Reach out to Erin White at erin.uslrcrd@gmail.com with any questions. [Use this link to register.](#)

3rd Annual Vineyard Soil Health Symposium

March 13, 2020

This year's 3rd Annual Soil Health Symposium, hosted by the Sonoma RCD, the Gold Ridge RCD, and the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission, will focus on vineyard tillage management. Join them on Friday, March 13, from 9am to 12pm at the Sonoma County Farm Bureau. They will be hosting Dr. Patty Skinkis, Professor & Viticulture Extension Specialist at Oregon State University, as the featured speaker. If you have any questions please contact Keith Abeles, Soil and Water Specialist at 707-569-1448 ext 112 or kabeles@sonomarcd.org. [Click here for the event page.](#)

San Mateo RCD's Year Round Edible Garden Workshop

March 14, 2020

San Mateo RCD is partnering with the UC Master Gardener Program to host the "Year Round Edible Garden" event. The workshop will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020 from 10am to 12pm at the UC Master Gardener Program Gardening Education Center (2495 S. Delaware St. San Mateo CA 94403). California's mild Mediterranean climate allows us to easily grow vegetables year-round. This class will help you focus on the wonderful fresh garden vegetables that you can enjoy by using the planting calendars for San Mateo and San Francisco counties available for download from the Master Gardener website. Join master gardener Carol O'Donnell for this free class that will teach you how to sequence your planting schedule and choose seasonal edibles. A hands-on exercise will teach you

how to make low tunnels for season extension. To sign up, contact Kasey Butler at kasey@sanmateoRCD.org or [use this link to register](#). Follow [this link for the Facebook event page](#).

Alameda County RCD Grassland Butterfly Symposium

April 17, 2020

The Alameda County RCD, in partnership with the San Francisco Chapter of the Wildlife Society, has announced the Grassland Butterfly Symposium. This two-day workshop consists of one day of presentations by experts on the Callippe silverspot, Bay checkerspot, and monarch butterflies as well as talks from ranchers, biologists and land managers. The second day is a half-day field trip to visit host plants and learn how to survey for the species. The workshop is on April 17 at the Robert Livermore Community Center (4444 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550). The half day field trip (morning and evening options) on April 18 will be held near Sunol. Registration is limited to 50 participants; they expect the workshop will sell out. [Follow this link for the symposium page](#).

Solano County Earth Day Cleanup

April 18, 2020

Cleanup Solano and Solano RCD will be hosting a Solano County Earth Day Cleanup on April 18, 9am to 12pm at several locations throughout the county. Celebrate Earth Day with your community by helping keep it clean! [Click here for more information](#).

Riverside-Corona RCD's Rattlesnake Avoidance Training for Dogs

May 17, 2020

For the 3rd year, Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center, managed by the Riverside-Corona RCD, will host a rattlesnake avoidance training for dogs. In fewer than 30 minutes, your dog can learn to recognize the sound, sight and smell of a rattlesnake. All training will be conducted by SnakeWorx at Sycamore Interpretive Center (11875 Indian Truck Trail, Corona) and the price is \$85 per dog. Please call the center to reserve your time slot at (951) 277-0219. Appointments will be on Sunday, May 17 beginning at 10am and ending at 3pm. [Follow this link for the Facebook event](#).



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Subject **CARCD Weekly Digest, January 10 - 14**
From Kiko Barr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <kiko-barr@carcd.org>
Date 2020-02-14 11:28



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
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Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you and Happy Friday!

Warm regards,

The CARCD Team

In This Issue:

1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [Funding Opportunities](#)
3. [RCD News](#)
4. [Conservation Announcements](#)
5. [Job Announcements](#)

CARCD Updates

Call for Speak-Off Topics

Help us find a topic for the 2020 High School Speak-Off Competition! A good topic is one that challenges students to research a conservation topic in-depth, is relevant to the current state of affairs, and connects back to their local Resource Conservation District. This will be our 75th conference, and we will be focusing on California's long conservation history and how we can build California's momentum as a conservation leader, so feel free to use that as inspiration. Please send your ideas to Kiko at kiko-barr@carcd.org by Tuesday, February 18. Thank you!

Past Topics:

- 2019: "Why do we need to act to save the monarch butterfly? What can RCDs do to help?"
- 2018: "How Can RCD Programs Help Landowners Reduce the Threat of Fires?"
- 2017: "How Can RCDs Better Involve Their Communities in Conservation?"
- 2016: "Based on History, What is your Conservation Dream and How Can RCDs be involved?"
- 2015: "How Can RCDs Become More Involved with Conservation Education?"
- 2014: "How Can RCDs Help Address the Increasing Fuel Load in California's Wild Lands and the Potential for Catastrophic Wildfire?"

Funding Opportunities

Campbell Foundation Grants (Due February 14)

The Campbell Foundation's Pacific Initiative funds scientifically-based and strategically focused programs related to water quality, land-sea connections, and protection of special places. They accept funding requests from RCDs.

[Click here for their application guidelines.](#)

Rose Foundation California Watershed Protection Fund (Due February 15)

The Rose Foundation California Watershed Protection Fund supports projects designed to benefit the water quality of California's watersheds and their ecosystems. Projects do not necessarily need to have an explicit water quality focus to be eligible, but need to be able to address the impacts as they relate to water quality. Funded projects include cover crops, environmental education, water quality testing, to integrated pest management. Letters of inquiry are due February 15. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

NFWF and USFS SoCal Wildfires Restoration Program (due February 17)

The Angeles National Forest, Los Padres National Forest, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation have announced the next round of funding availability for landscape scale restoration efforts on U.S. Forest Service lands through the Southern California Forests and Watersheds – Wildfires Restoration Grant Program. Approximately \$8 million will be available in this grant cycle to be directed toward fire restoration and recovery stemming from the following past fires: on the ANF, the Copper, Powerhouse, and Sayre fires, and on the LPNF, the Jesusita, Piru, and

Zaca fires. Preliminary proposal submissions are due Monday, February 17, 2020. [Click here for the program's RFP page.](#)

NFWF Resilient Community Grants (Due February 18)

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Resilient Community Grants support community disaster preparedness and adaptation through conservation demonstration projects and capacity building. Through preparedness and by taking advantage of natural and nature-based features like wetlands, resilient shorelines, urban tree canopies, natural forests and healthy upstream watersheds, communities can accrue quality of life benefits today. In addition, these projects enhance fish and wildlife resources and avoid or reduce risk to life, and costly and devastating impacts from events such as sea-level risk, floods, droughts, fires and more. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

Wells Fargo Robert F. Schumann Foundation Grants (Due February 28)

Wells Fargo Robert F. Schumann Foundation Grants support programs in education and environmental sustainability, particularly those focused on open-space habitats and animals, especially birds and ornithology studies. Eligibility is restricted to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations; please contact CARCD if you would like us to act as a fiscal sponsor for your RCD. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

CARCD's Monarch Block Grant (Due February 28)

In alignment with Wildlife Conservation Board's (WCB) [Monarch and Pollinator Rescue Program PSN](#), CARCD's competitive block grant program for RCDs will fund three different project types:

- Restoration or enhancement of overwintering monarch butterfly habitat on private and public lands. Projects in this category can have a budget of up to \$75,000.
- Restoration or enhancement of monarch butterfly and other pollinator breeding and migration habitat on private and public lands. Projects in this category can have a budget of up to \$45,000.
- Technical assistance for the purpose of recovering and sustaining populations of monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Projects in this category can have a budget of up to \$20,000.

[Click here to download the application for the Monarch Block Grant Program.](#) Additional application materials and much more can be found on [the Monarch section of CARCD's member portal](#). If you are interested in applying for funding, please prepare your application materials (Application, Budget, Maps, and Landowner Access Agreement, if applicable) as soon as possible and submit them **no later than Friday, February 28, 2020** to sara-letton@carcd.org.

Access Fund Climbing Conservation Grants (Due March 1)

Access Fund Climbing Conservation Grants support projects that preserve or enhance climbing access and conserve the climbing environment throughout the United States. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S. Grants (Due March 1)

The Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S. Grants encompasses two main objectives for ATV riders: promoting safe and responsible riding and preserving access. Funds can be used by organizations for trail development and maintenance projects, safety and education initiatives, lobbying and other projects to increase and maintain land access. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

USDA Rural Business Development Grants (Due March 13)

USDA Rural Business Development Grants provide funding for business training, technical assistance, and other rural small business resources. Local public agencies are not explicitly stated in the list of open-ended eligible "rural public entities", but they have worked with RCDs in the past. [Click here for local contacts](#). [Follow this link for their toolkit](#). [Find the grant webpage here](#).

Urban Flood Protection Grant Program (Due March 25)

The California Natural Resources Agency will be accepting proposals for the Urban Flood Protection Grant Program until March 25, 2020. \$87.5 million in awards will be funded by this program in an anticipated two funding cycles. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, estimated to begin mid-June 2020. Projects must be completed by March 2024. Starting February 11, until March 4, the agency will host technical assistance workshops in Sacramento, Fremont, Norwalk, Redding, San Diego, Imperial, Fresno, and by webcast. [Find the grant page here](#).

CDFA Dairy Methane Reduction Programs (March 27)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture is now accepting grant applications for Alternative Manure Management Program (AMMP) administered by its Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation (OEFI) and funded by California Climate Investments (CCI). Applications are due Friday, March 27, 2020 by 5pm. CDFA offers two grant opportunities under AMMP:

- Incentives Program: The program provides financial assistance for the implementation of non-digester manure management practices in California, which will result in reduced greenhouse gas emissions. [Follow this link for more information](#).
- Demonstration Projects: "Advancing Practices Farmer-to-Farmer" will fund projects that demonstrate the implementation of alternative manure management practices on California dairy and livestock operations. [Follow this link for more information](#).

To assist with the application process for these programs, CDFA will conduct three workshops, with remote access for each: Modesto (February 18), Petaluma (February 19), and Fresno (February 20).

Coastal Conservancy's Explore the Coast Grant (Due March 30)

The California State Coastal Conservancy announces the availability of grants for programs that facilitate and enhance the public's opportunities to explore California's spectacular coast. The Explore the Coast grant program seeks to provide coastal experiences for people and communities who face challenges or barriers to accessing or enjoying the coast ("ETC Priority Communities"). ETC Priority Communities may include but are not limited to lower-income individuals and households, people with disabilities, people of color, immigrant communities, foster youth, and others. There will be an informational webinar on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 11am. [Follow this link for the grant page](#).

Coastal Conservancy Prop 1 Grants (April 1)

Proposition 1 grants fund multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects. Priority project types include: water sustainability improvements, anadromous fish habitat enhancement, wetland restoration and urban greening. They are currently soliciting projects that restore wetlands and/or enhance anadromous fish habitat along the North Coast. Projects must be located in a coastal watershed between the Golden Gate and the Oregon border. The deadline for applications is midnight on April 1, 2020. There will be an information webinar on February 20 at 10am. [Follow this link for the grant page](#).

PG&E Watershed Lands Funding (Due April 27)

Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council has funding available for habitat restoration, trails improvement, and other enhancements of PG&E watershed lands. Concept applications are due April 27. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

CAL FIRE Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant (Due April 30)

NEW

Through funding provided from Proposition 68, CAL FIRE, under its Wildfire Resiliency and Forestry Assistance Grant Opportunity, expects to award at least \$2.2 million for Forestry Assistance in the 2019/2020 fiscal year for projects that propose to provide financial and technical assistance to multiple small private, nonindustrial forest landowners to provide ecological restoration of forests. Three public workshops will be offered. Public comment will be accepted until February 29. Proposals can be submitted from March 21 - April 30, 2020. [Click here for the grant page.](#)

NPS Land and Water Conservation Fund Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Round 4 (Due July 10)

The National Park Service State and Local Assistance Division announces the availability of \$40 million mainly appropriated in FY 2018 and 2019 for Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance grants for a nationally competitive grant program. Eligible U.S. state and local government agencies and federally recognized Indian tribes are invited to submit proposals for matching grants to support projects that would acquire or develop public land for outdoor recreation purposes located within or serving Census-delineated "urbanized areas"—places with a population of 50,000 or more people that are densely settled. [Follow this link for more information.](#)

One Tree Planted Funding (No Due Date)

One Tree Planted is a non-profit organization that provides funding for reforestation projects. They have partnered with several RCDs, and would like to continue partnering. If your RCD is seeking funding for a project, please fill out the following information for One Tree Planted to evaluate. If you have specific questions, please call (800) 408-7850. [Follow this link for their website;](#) [follow this link for the funding application form.](#)

NFWF In-Lieu Fee Program (No Due Date)

Applications are currently being accepted for the the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Sacramento District California In-Lieu Fee Program (applications currently being accepted) can be used to create, enhance, and restore wetland resources in the designated priority Service Area, which including headwaters, tributaries, and floodplains of rivers that flow through the Sacramento basin. [Follow this link for the program page.](#)

Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program (No Due Date)

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has announced the opening of their new Community and Economic Enhancement Grant Program. The program focuses on increasing public access to recreational opportunities in order to promote a robust Delta economy. Other program priorities include recreation and tourism, historic and cultural preservation, and environmental education. They will be accepting concept proposals on a rolling basis. [Follow this link for the program webpage.](#)

RCD News

San Mateo RCD and RCD of Santa Cruz Awarded \$5.3M for Forest Health

The San Mateo RCD and RCD of Santa Cruz published a press release detailing a \$5.3 million award from CAL FIRE for their collaborative regional effort to improve the health of local forests, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and mitigate climate change. The funds will be used to reduce potential wildfire fuel loads over 968 acres of forest, and to reforest 80 acres of private and public lands across the Santa Cruz Mountains. [Read the press release here!](#) They were also [covered by the Half Moon Bay Review](#).

In total, six RCDs were collectively awarded over \$17.5M to fund forest health, watershed health, and fire resilience through California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Forest Health Program. [Follow this link for the full list of recipients.](#)

Butte County RCD Reforestation in Local Paper

Butte County RCD was featured in the local paper for their tree-planting efforts in the Camp Fire burn scar. "The district facilitated the plantings at landowners' properties in Paradise and Magalia, aiming to restore the forest with native trees adapted to higher temperatures and resilient to fires." [Read more here.](#)

Trinity County RCD's Great Backyard Bird Count

The Trinity County RCD, Trinity River Restoration Program, and Shasta College Foundation will be hosting a local Great Backyard Bird Count expedition on February 15, 2020. This fun, all-ages, no experience necessary event is great way to get outdoors this winter, and it's free! They will be there rain or shine, but snow cancels event. From new enthusiasts to old pros, everyone is invited to join them on Saturday, February 15 from 11am to 1pm at the Weaver Basin Wetlands (end of Industrial Park Way in Weaverville). For questions about the local event contact Elizabeth: (530) 623-6004 or esandoval@trccd.net. [Follow this link for the flier.](#)

Solano County Earth Day Cleanup

Cleanup Solano and Solano RCD will be hosting a Solano County Earth Day Cleanup on April 18, 9am to 12pm at several locations throughout the county. Celebrate Earth Day with your community by helping keep it clean! [Click here for more information.](#)

Yolo County RCD Planting at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

The Yolo County RCD will be hosting two plantings at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area on Thursday, March 5, from 9am to 12pm and Thursday, March 26, 9am to 12pm. Join them and the Putah Creek Council as they plant several miles of habitat to help support biodiversity and animal escape during flood events on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. Volunteers will get to see areas of the wildlife refuge typically off limits to the public. For more details email Joanne Heraty at heraty@yolorcd.org. Space is limited so please sign up in advance. This is a free event open to the public. [Click here to register for March 5](#); [click here to register for March 26](#).

NACD Urban Conservation Grants

Congratulations to Inland Empire RCD and Riverside-Corona RCD who were awarded funding through the National Association of Conservation District's 2020 Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant! [Click here for the list of grant recipients.](#)

- Inland Empire RCD will "will develop new farmers market opportunities in an underserved community as a way to engage with local residents and encourage urban agriculture. Local

farmers will be offered opportunities to participate in these markets and will be supported through GAP trainings, New Farmer Trainings and other technical assistance."

- Riverside-Corona RCD will "provide planning and interpretive assistance, plus outreach for the Northside Heritage Meadows Project, which will serve emerging farmers, community gardeners and disadvantaged residents. The project will include interpretive signage, publications, conservation assistance, and community engagement in the development of a seven-acre urban agriculture, greening and community garden project."

Napa County RCD Rainwater Harvesting Workshop

Rainwater Harvesting and Rain Gardens workshop will take place on Wednesday, February 26 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Napa Main Library's Community Meeting Room (580 Coombs Street, Napa). The City of Napa and the Napa County RCD are sponsoring this free Water-Wise Workshop as part of the Napa Library's H2O Superhero Program. Jesse Savou, founder/owner of BlueBarrel Rainwater Catchment Systems, will show how to actively collect and store rainwater for later irrigation use. Holly Johnson of GSM Landscape Architects will present the passive rainwater harvesting option, specialized gardens that reduce runoff and pollution while creating habitat for native species. [Click here for the event link.](#)

If your RCD has job openings, community events, or announcements that you would like to share with the RCD network and beyond, please e-mail me at kiko-barr@carcd.org with the details so that we can include them in an upcoming Weekly Digest and in a monthly blog post at the end of the month.

Conservation Announcements

UC Davis Soil Carbon Methodologies Survey

The UC Davis California Soil Resource Lab is writing to request participation in a survey regarding soil carbon/soil health metrics and methodologies. The survey aims to document what metrics and methodologies soil health technicians are currently using on the ground to assess changes in soil carbon and soil health. Your participation will help inform a report that summarizes the monitoring work that is already being done and provides recommendations for the path forward. [Find the survey here.](#)

Sierra Nevada Tree Mortality Data Network Workshop

The University of California Cooperative Extension's Sierra Nevada Tree Mortality Data Network Workshop will be on March 10 from 9:30am to 5pm at the US Forest Service Wildfire Training Center (McClellan, CA). Join them for a workshop to discuss recent and ongoing results and analyses of Sierra Nevada tree mortality. The desired outcomes of the workshop are to:

- Share latest results on live and dead trees, tree fall rates, fuels, regeneration, and post-mortality management
- Discuss frameworks for incorporating data into forest management planning

- Identify management challenges and opportunities and address the main question of "What now?"

[Register with this link; click here for more details.](#)

BearCorps for Farms and Forests

BearCorps is an AmeriCorps Program which will send recent college graduates into farm and forest communities to work on regenerative agriculture and forest/fire resilience, promoting community resilience, education, volunteerism, and community service. Partner applications have opened, and are available until Friday, March 6. Regarding the application, once they "accept" the terms of the application, users will be able to scan the whole application by clicking the back and next buttons. The site will save the application if it is completed using one device, and will prompt users to "edit existing application." Contact Karen at karenkramerlaw@gmail.com for any questions. Match is required for the program, but there is potential to work with them to lower the amount. [Read more here.](#)

Central Coast Rangeland Coalition Spring Meeting

Save the date for the Central Coast Rangeland Coalition Spring Meeting and Workshop on April 16. The theme will be "Managing Habitat Ponds on Central Coast Rangelands— Resilience, Regulatory Updates, and Feasibility". Registration is not yet open, but will be posted on [the Coalition's event page.](#)

CNGA 13th Annual Field Day

The California Native Grasslands Association will be hosting their 13th Annual Field Day at Hedgerow Farms (Winters, CA) on Friday, April 17, 2020 from 8:45am to 4pm. Join them for a day of field tours, expert talks, networking, and beautiful scenery. Expert speakers will discuss current research and best practices. If you have questions, contact Diana Jeffery at admin@cnga.org or (530) 902-6009. [Find the flyer here; register with this link.](#)

NACD Webinar – Water Savings in Urban Outdoor Irrigation

"Evaluating the Potential for Water Savings in Urban Outdoor Irrigation" is the topic for the NACD Urban and Community Conservation webinar set for 9am to 10am PST on February 20, 2020. The Alliance for Water Efficiency has been conducting a number of studies over the past four years to look at the best practices and outcomes for reducing urban outdoor water use since it is the largest single area of drinking water use in the urban sector. An Alliance for Water Efficiency representative will present the results of three studies that have been released to date (Peak Demand Management, Landscape Transformation, and Drought Restrictions), which will provide valuable information for conservation districts as they work with homeowners, land users and communities across the country. There is no cost to participate, but space is limited. Contact deb-bogar@nacdnet.org with any questions. [Follow this link to register.](#)

Job Announcements

RCD of Greater San Diego County Hiring for Two Positions

RCD of Greater San Diego County is hiring a Field Trip Leader at Wild Willow Farm. This position is part-time and would entail leading educational farm activities to groups of children. [Click here for the full job description.](#) Please email Ann Baldrige at ann.baldrige@rcdsandiego.org with a resume and cover letter.

The RCD is searching for a Forestry Specialist to join their team. This individual would assist with fire programs and grants, help to develop a regional fire priority plan, collaborate with partners to develop funds, and more. [Click here to read the full job description](#). Please email Chandra Richards at chandra.richards@rcdsandiego.org with a resume and cover letter.

TomKat Ranch Summer Internships

TomKat Ranch's Regenerative Ranching Summer Internship (June - August) is a paid educational opportunity that provides broad exposure and experience for individuals interested in regenerative food systems. This program is designed to offer knowledge, experience, and connections to the next generation of regenerative food system professionals. Applications will be accepted through March 13, 2020. [Click here for the application form](#).

Xerces Pollinator Habitat Specialist

Supervised by Xerces' Pollinator Conservation Specialist and Bee Better Certified Lead, this position will collaborate closely with farm managers, as well as key staff at some of the largest food companies in the world to provide conservation advice, planning and implementation assistance on farms that serve the organic and natural food industry. [Click here for the job description](#).

Trinity County RCD Seeking Grants Coordinator

The Grants Coordinator, in collaboration with other District staff, will coordinate grant writing, management, and administration. This position will be involved in all aspects of grant procedures including agreements, contracts, and compliance from concept to completion. The ideal candidate is a team player with a diverse skill set who can work effectively in a collaborative environment and is self-directed. This is a full-time supervisory position with flexible scheduling, paid leave, and medical benefits. The first review will take place February 10, 2020, and posting will remain open until filled. [Find the job description here](#).

Solano RCD Seeking Program Educator

Under the direction of the Education Program Director, the Program Educator will provide classroom and/or field trip instruction for the Suisun Marsh Watershed Program, the School Water Education Program (SWEP), the High School Biomonitoring Program and/or the Watershed Explorers Program. Additional opportunities, including new programs and community outreach, may be available. The educator will lead groups of 10-15 students through several environmental education or restoration activities at various locations. The educator should have a background working with children, knowledge of the local flora and fauna, and appropriate enthusiasm and class management skills to lead and excite students ages 8-18 in nature-based settings. This position is approximately 25-50% of full time equivalent hours when field trips are in season (September-May). [Follow this link for Solano RCD's job opportunities page](#).



California Association of
Resource Conservation Districts
Your partner in local conservation and sustainable agriculture
www.carcd.org

Email Us
Find your local RCD



This email was sent to manager@teamrcd.org by kiko-barr@carcd.org

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United States • [\(916\) 457-7904](tel:(916)457-7904)

[Remove My Email or Manage Preferences](#) • [Privacy Policy](#)

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Subject **Summary of CSDA March 12 General Managers Briefing with CalOES and CDPH**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-03-16 15:34



SUMMARY OF CSDA MARCH 12 GENERAL MANAGERS BRIEFING WITH CalOES AND CDPH

As part of the California Special Districts Association's (CSDA) continued collaboration with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), officials from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and CalOES held a special briefing specifically for special district General Managers via conference call to clarify the mass gathering guidance and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 issued March 12.

MASS GATHERING GUIDANCE

Officials believe the state is entering a new phase where there has been increased transmission of COVID-19 and believe it is essential the public implement social distancing as an effective means to slow the spread of disease, ease the burden to our healthcare infrastructure, and provide needed time to increase capacity.

An official with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) provided additional guidance for gatherings, clarifying:

- A "gathering" is any event that brings people together in a single room or a single place at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, conference room, cafeteria, or any indoor or outdoor space.
- To protect public health and slow the transmission rate of COVID-19, gatherings across the state of California should be cancelled, for at least the remainder of March.
- At the end of March, the CDPH will review the guidance based on the state of the COVID-19 epidemic.

What should be cancelled?

This guidance applies to **nonessential, professional, social, and community gatherings** regardless of the sponsor. While this guidance applies to gatherings that would occur in a school facility, it does not apply to school classrooms at this time.

- **Cancel gatherings of 250+.** Large gatherings of 250 people or more of any kind should be cancelled, this includes concerts, conferences, and sporting events.
- **Postpone or cancel non-essential gatherings of <250.** Smaller events (events under 250 people) should be postponed or cancelled as well and may proceed only if they are essential – that is, if the activity is essential and could not be postponed or achieved without gathering.
- **Social distancing for gatherings of <250 and an essential activity.** If the event is less than 250 people and deemed an essential activity, it must allow for sufficient space for people to be separated by six feet. This applies to indoor and outdoor venues.
- **<10 AND social distancing for gatherings of at-risk individuals.** Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk of severe disease, including 1) seniors 65 years of age or older, 2) and/or individuals with underlying health conditions, 3) or within settings like assisted living facilities or other support groups for people with health conditions should be limited to no more than 10 people and provide for six feet social distancing spacing.
- **Outdoor gatherings follow the same protocols listed above.** If it is an essential activity and possible to separate participants by at least six feet those events can take place.

[**Note:** After this call occurred, on March 15 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provided updated guidance recommending organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States for the next 8 weeks.]

CDPH recommends event organizers work with their local health department to determine whether an event should be postponed or cancelled if there are any questions.

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20

The Governor's executive order follows the March 4 declaration of a State of Emergency, which included a series of provisions that were intended to provide relief and help mitigate the effects of COVID-19. The March 12 executive order is an expansion of that declaration, and the previously announced provisions remain in effect.

The March 12 executive order contained some provisions typical of past declarations, including:

- Waiver of the one-week waiting period for unemployment insurance, disability insurance, and the expansion of the scope of work for the California Emergency Medical Services Authority, among others.
- One provision suspends certain requirements on laboratories to allow for testing related to COVID-19.

Of particular interest to special districts were the provisions related to the Brown Act, the eleventh operative clause in the text of the executive order. Current law places stringent requirements on the use of teleconferencing in local government – among other things, locations for each teleconferencing board member or trustee had to be properly noticed and in accordance with strict timelines. **This executive order waives or relaxes several of those requirements while still seeking to strike a**



**California Special
Districts Association**

Districts Stranger Together

March 2020

CSDA continues to enhance its website to provide features designed to help you thrive in your role at your agency. In order for you and the others at your agency to fully access these features, we must have a unique email address for each public official and staff member on your roster.

A unique email address will allow members to:

- Register for workshops, webinars, and conferences
- Make peer-to-peer connections with other districts through online communities
- Download free publications and other resources
- Post open jobs (and resumes) in the Career Center
- Customize communication preferences
- And more!

Attached is the roster we have on file. Please update it where needed and return to CSDA via mail, fax 916.520.2470 or email updates@csda.net.

We are proud to count your district as a CSDA member.

Best regards,

Cassandra Strawn
Member Services Director

Subject **CSDA eNews 4/7/20: Taking Action for Federal COVID-19 Relief and Protecting Local Property Tax Revenue**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-04-07 11:03



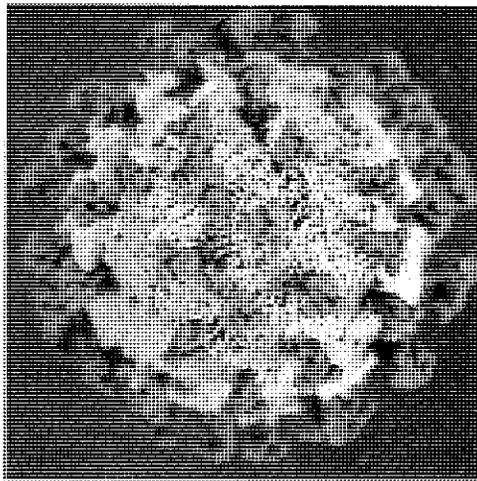
Webinar: The Role of Retirees in the COVID-19 Response

[Register for Event](#)

Thursday, April 9, 2020
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
 Free CSDA Member | \$95 Non-member

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

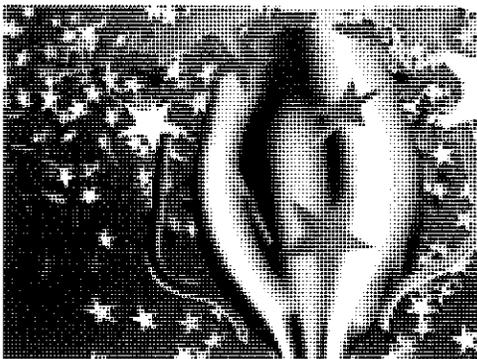
April 7, 2020



Taking Action for Federal COVID-19 Relief and Protecting Local Property Tax Revenue

Congress is currently working out a fourth legislative package to provide additional COVID-19 relief for government agencies at the local, state and federal levels and CSDA is calling upon all special districts to join in requesting for special district inclusion. A sample letter is now available at csda.net/take-action along with an overview of CSDA's ongoing advocacy efforts related to COVID-19, such as CSDA's participation in a coalition effort to retain the April 10 property tax deadline.

[READ MORE](#)



2020 CSDA Award Nominations Open - Deadline May 29

Each year CSDA presents various awards during the CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase. There are several different categories to enter your district, chapter, and/or an individual. All nominations must be received by May 29, 2020. Take this opportunity to nominate deserving

Individuals, projects, and programs in your own district or other? [LEARN MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

What Does the COVID-19 Pandemic Mean for Public Pensions and How Can Retirees Help?

Given the \$67 billion in CalPERS pension fund losses since January and the recent changes to the restriction surrounding retired annuitants' hours as a result of Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Orders, many CalPERS members have questions about what's next. Special districts can seek answers to their questions at two upcoming webinars focused on the most pressing pension questions in midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

April 8: [CalPERS Preparedness & Resiliency for Employer Partners](#)

April 9: [The Role of Retirees in the COVID-19 Response](#)

[Read More](#)

MEMBER RESOURCES

Making Connections in CSDA's Online Communities Webinar

Want to learn more about [CSDA Communities](#)? Join our free webinar: [Making Connections in CSDA's Online Communities on Friday, April 10 at 10:00 a.m.](#)

Find solutions and resources, discuss ideas, and build relationships – all through CSDA's online communities. Here's how! We'll take you through connecting to your peers in the Open Forum, subscribing to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Community, notification settings, and so much more.

Don't delay - register today!

[Register Now](#)

LEARN

New On-Demand Webinar Available in COVID-19 Resources Community

The "Collaborating Remotely" on-demand webinar is now available in the [Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources Community](#)! This on-demand webinar will have attendees learn strategies, explore tools, and examine best practices for collaborating with your co-workers even when you are not co-located. To access this free course join the Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources Community via the CSDA website once logged in. This is also available to non-members but contact CSDA to get a login at membership@csda.net if you do not have one already.

[COVID Community](#)



UPDATES

FPPC Extends Form 700 Deadline Due to COVID-19

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) extended the deadline associated with Form 700 filings. The news release reads in part: "Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Fair Political Practices Commission is allowing a 60-day extension until June 1, 2020 for those required to file a 2019 annual Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700)." [Read the full release here.](#)

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – Strategic Planning Consulting Services

RFP – General Counsel Legal Services

ILG WEBINAR

Staying Connected – Tips and Tactics for Effective External Communication Despite Social Distance

As local officials and staff work through this evolving public health crisis, it remains critical to share important updates, guidance and mandates with your communities. Join the Institute of Local Government

CAREER CENTER

Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's [Career Center](#):

[Maintenance and Construction Supervisor – Zone 7 Water Agency](#)

[Procurement and Contracts Supervisor – Zone 7 Water Agency](#)

RFP – Auditing Services

RFP – CEQA Review and Determination

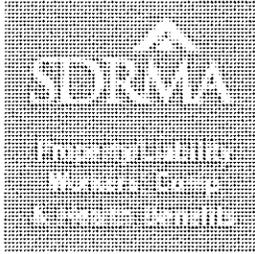
for this *free* webinar **today, April 7, 2:00 p.m.**, to learn strategies for consistently and authentically communicating with your community as we adapt to the "new normal."

[General Manager](#) – Santa Ynez Community Services District

[Learn More](#)

[Register](#)

[Read More](#)



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1112 I Street, Suite 200
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Phone - 877.924.2732
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Subject **CSDA eNews 4/14/20: Complete Survey! Short-Term Financing Available to Bridge Revenue Gaps**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-04-14 11:03



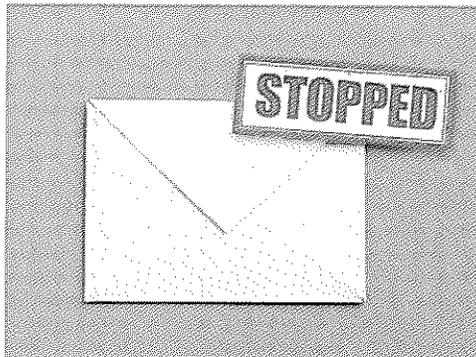
Webinar: Resources & Connections for General Managers

[Register for Event](#)

Friday, April 24, 2020
 10:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Free Webinar

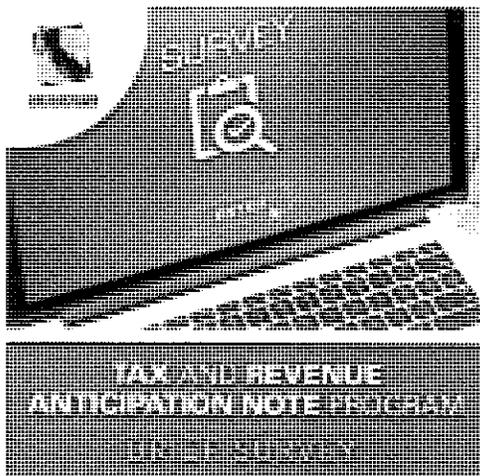
CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

April 14, 2020



Two-Year Email Retention Legislation Pulled by Author

Assembly Member Todd Gloria's office has verified CSDA that Assembly Bill 2003, related to email retention, will not be brought forward in 2020. AB 2003 would have required all public agencies to maintain for two years all emails sent and received related to the public's business. This costly mandate would not have resulted in the increased transparency Assembly Member Gloria was vowing to create. [READ MORE](#)



Complete Survey! Short-Term Financing Available to Bridge Revenue Gaps

The CSDA Finance Corporation team has launched a new program to assist districts that are experiencing a loss or delay in revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All special districts are eligible to apply.

Complete a brief survey by April 30 and someone from the CSDA Finance Corporation team will followup with you to provide enrollment information. [LEARN MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION**Official FEMA Deadline Approaches and Governor Newsom continues COVID-19 Briefings**

The April 17 deadline for agencies to file their FEMA Request for Public Assistance (RPA) forms has been extended. FEMA will accept notification from agencies up to 30 days past the end of the current incident date.

[Read More](#)

Pension Webinars Address COVID-19 Concerns

Last week, CalPERS and CSDA held successive webinars related to COVID-19 and the latest updates for special districts related to public employee pensions and retired annuitants. The CSDA webinar is now available on-demand.

[Read More](#)

MEMBER RESOURCES**CalTRUST Market Update Webinar - Free Registration Now Open**

Please join us on **Thursday, April 16 at 1:30 p.m. PST** to hear BlackRock's Tom Musmanno and Ron Hill provide an update on current market conditions and answer your questions. Attendees can receive .5 continuing education hours for participating.

[Register](#)

Let CSDA Help Transform Your District's Surplus Assets and Inventory from a Burden to an Opportunity

CSDA has partnered with the online government surplus action site, [GovDeals.com](#). Check out this [short video](#) to learn more.

[Watch Now](#)

LEARN**Financial Management for Special Districts goes VIRTUAL!**

Please join CSDA in the virtual Financial Management for Special Districts workshop on April 22-23 to understand the full scope of financial information affecting special districts today. Learn from financial reporting to budgeting short- and long-term needs. Due to the change to a virtual workshop, the cost has been reduced. If you were already registered for this workshop, CSDA will transition your registration to the new format and issue a refund for the difference. CSDA is excited to be able to offer one of our most popular workshops to you virtually.

Register today to attend this two-day workshop!

[Register Now!](#)

**Community Facilities Districts - A Robust Funding and Financing Tool for Local Governments**

WATCH THIS VIDEO from NIBS to learn more about Community Facilities Districts (CFDs) in California. CFDs are useful and flexible financial tools available to cities, counties, special districts, and school districts to fund a wide range of services.

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – ADA Compliant Website Redesign

RFP – Strategic Planning Consulting Services

SDLF**Scholarship Deadline April 15**

Need help funding our professional development offerings for your district staff? Take advantage of scholarships available through the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF). The next scholarship deadline is **Wednesday, April 15!** It's even easier to apply with our

CAREER CENTER

Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's [Career Center](#):

[Utility Services Manager](#) – Otay Water District

[Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary](#) – Coastside County Water District

RFP – General Counsel Legal Services

[new online application on SDLF.org!](#)

[General Manager - Fulton-El Camino Recreation and Park District](#)

RFP – Auditing Services

For questions, contact Amber Phelen at amberg@sdlf.org.

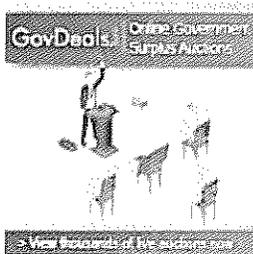
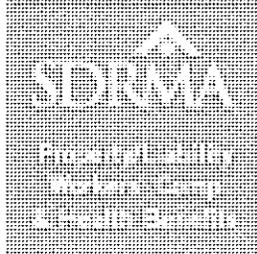
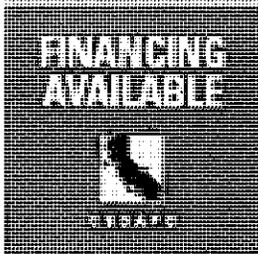
[Operations & Maintenance Technician II - Del Paso Manor Water District](#)

RFP – CEQA Review and Determination

[Learn More](#)

[Read More](#)

[Learn More](#)



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Subject **CSDA eNews 4/21/20: Pandemic Action Heats up at Federal and State Level, Plus District's Share Impacts**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-04-21 12:12



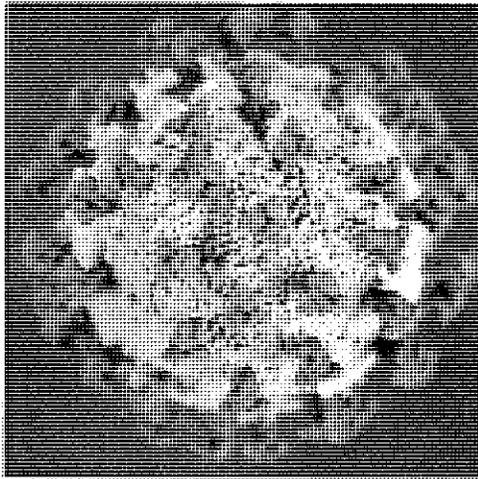
Webinar: Managing Employees Through a Pandemic

[Register for Event](#)

Thursday, April 30, 2020
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
 Free CSDA Member | \$95 Non-member

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

April 2020



COVID-19 Action Heats up at Federal and State Level, Plus District's Share Impacts

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect special districts and the communities they serve, CSDA's advocacy efforts grow stronger. In both Sacramento and Washington D.C., with over one hundred special districts, submitting CSDA's letter regarding relief. Get updated below on our latest news regarding the timely federal relief package. The legislative hearings were held in Sacramento and the results from CSDA's advocacy strategy. [READ MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

Property Tax Split Roll Among Few Initiatives Likely for November Ballot

In a rare challenge to Proposition 13 of 1978, backers of what is often dubbed "split roll" submitted 1.7 million signatures recently to place this measure on the November

MEMBER RESOURCES

Revised Date for Mandatory Transition to New Time of Use Periods for PG&E Commercial and Industrial Customers

Districts served by PG&E have the option to transition to new electricity rates before automatically transitioning in March 2021. If districts are transitioned at the optimal time

LEARN

Human Resources Bootcamp for Special Districts Workshop going Virtual

CSDA is excited to be able to offer one of our most popular workshops to you virtually for two half-day Zoom meetings, Human Resources Bootcamp for

2020 Statewide Ballot. Of those, proponents only need 997,139 valid signatures to qualify.

[Read More](#)

State Asks for Utility Shut-Off Moratorium Feedback

Two recent actions by the State of California have raised questions among water agencies about revenue losses. First, Governor Gavin Newsom's April 2 Executive Order N-42-20 (Order) prohibits water agencies from discontinuing service to residential and critical infrastructure sector small businesses.

[Read More](#)

before then, savings can be significant.

For any district that is looking at this, it is really important to factor in these changes in its analysis. The savings can be significant. If not, then CSDA Endorsed Affiliate Member Utility Cost Management LLC (UCM) can analyze detailed 15-minute interval data to identify which accounts will benefit from pre-emptive rate changes, and more importantly, precisely when the changes should be made to maximize these savings.

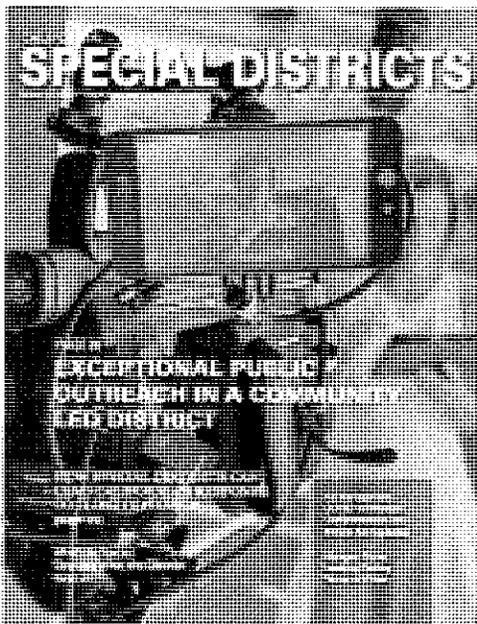
For more information, call UCM at (559) 261-9237, or email to cw@utilitycostmanagement.com.

[Read More](#)

Special Districts on **May 12 – 13, 2020**.

Attendees will have the same access to important information using this new format all while sheltering in place. Presenter Oliver Yee, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, will discuss four different segments of HR: hiring, performance evaluation, employee discipline, and legal trends. This workshop will cover cutting edge information that HR professionals at special districts need to know.

[Register Today!](#)



March-April Magazine is Here!

Check out the March-April issue of California Special Districts Magazine. It features an article from Little Hoover Commission Chairman David Nava "How Special Districts Can Lead California's Response to Climate Change" as well as award-winning articles by Bruce Fulmer "Seven Myths Holding Managers Back" and Mary Kelly "Leading During Times of Crisis." Other content includes:

- [How to Hire and Retain Top Talent](#)

[Read More](#)

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – ADA Compliant Website Redesign

RFP – Strategic Planning Consulting Services

RFP – General Counsel Legal Services

SDLF RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to the following:

Transparency Certificate of Excellence
Coastside Fire Protection District

Certified Special District Manager (CSDM) Renewal
Joel Bauer, West Side Cemetery

CAREER CENTER

Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's [Career Center](#):

[District Administrator – Coast Life Support District](#)

[Executive Assistant to the General Manager – Marin Municipal Water District](#)

[Hydro Operations Supervisor – Placer County Water Agency](#)

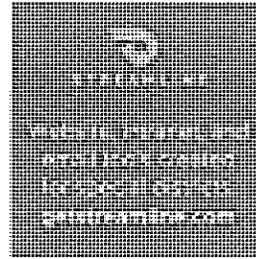
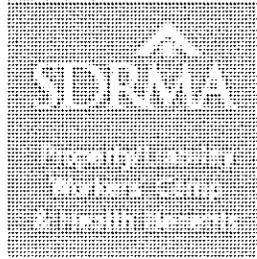
RFP – Auditing Services

[Learn More](#)

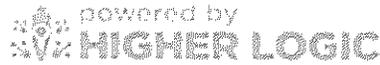
For questions, contact Amber Phelen at amberp@sdlf.org.

[Learn More](#)

[View More](#)



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balance between the public health and the public's interest in the conduct of their government and their right to access.

The briefing clarified the executive order requires that special districts comply with these two criteria when utilizing teleconferences:

1. Districts must provide advance notice of the meeting, including its location, in the same timeframe(s) and manner specified in current statute by the Brown Act; and
2. Districts must provide at least one physical location to remain open to the public for those who may not have the means to participate electronically, but staff need not be in the room.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Special district leaders and stakeholders had limited time to pose questions to the officials on the call:

Q. We are a large recreation and park district with a number of community centers. One question we have is about the small gatherings. Can indoor classes proceed without the six foot separation? Should we keep these facilities open or shut them down altogether?

Ideally, this would call for the reduction of the number of participants in order to maintain the six feet of separation consistent with the recommended guidelines for mass gatherings of less than 250 people.

The Centers for Disease Control offers some guidance about how to make settings where an abundance of children may be present more safe so that others can be made less likely to become sick. Current guidance recommends that actions be taken to ensure no activity participants or leaders are sick, that anyone feeling ill or symptomatic should be separated and sent home, and that there is access to sufficient handwashing facilities and hand sanitizing stations, among other recommendations.

Q. As a health care district, we have questions about our adult daycare center. We've received guidance from our licensing entity that we should continue operating as usual, and we're looking to reconcile that with recent guidance developments. We cannot realistically keep our patrons separated. The patrons don't live at the center full-time. Should we remain open, or close?

Officials recognize there are some extraordinary circumstances; questions like these are frequent, and can/will be addressed in follow-up communications. This population may be one identified as being at high-risk for complications. The guidance for high-risk settings like these is that gatherings of individuals should be no more than 10 people.

Q. Referring to the Brown Act-related provisions of the Governor's Executive Order, do the provisions speaking to the public's right to access negate the need for a physical location altogether?

The provisions call for at least one physical location, while easing restrictions on the use of teleconferencing. This physical location should also include bridged access to that teleconference line

– it could literally be a phone on a table in an empty room. Members of the board and trustees need not be present at the physical location.

Q. Our community services district operates a community center that we rent out to other parties who utilize the space for gatherings, including large gatherings of children. Is the expectation that we should disallow or cancel these rental agreements?

The administration is in the process of developing recommendations on this topic. However, officials recommend that children interacting with others is not to be specifically avoided, and that this is an opportunity to educate children about the current situation in order to promote understanding.

Q. As a cemetery, we have gatherings ranging from five to 250 different people. What is the specific guidance for us? We host visitors from various locations, and oftentimes we are unsure of the circumstances surrounding our users.

This is another area where the administration is looking to develop specific guidance.

Q. Going back to the Brown Act-related provisions of the executive order, just to be sure, are districts required to note the location of each teleconferencing board member/trustee?

No, but the other two requirements mentioned in the executive order still apply.

Q. Should we cancel our April, May, and June events? Should we be cancelling events over the next 30 days? Should we be cancelling everything?

Updates will be provided as the situation develops, with new/revised recommendations being issued periodically. For how long is uncertain, but this situation could likely continue into subsequent months.

Q. Does a quorum of the board need to be present at one location? Or can all members telecommute in?

All members can telecommute.

Q. We have what is basically a preschool class that is separate from the school district. Should we be cancelling these classes?

Upcoming guidance will seek to address this topic.

FOLLOW UP

Administration officials have coordinated with CSDA in order to best communicate our members' concerns. CSDA will continue to work through CalOES to receive operational clarification where the information is not already available. **If you have questions you'd like submitted please email CSDA Legislative Representative Alyssa Silhi.**

This is a rapidly changing situation and CSDA is monitoring developments closely. We will continue to keep you apprised as recommendations are updated and are posting regular updates to the CSDA

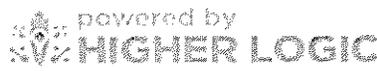
Advocacy News blog and to our COVID-19 Resources Page, with all information on this topic publicly available so that all districts can better prepare and provide for continuity of services.

[Download Summary](#)

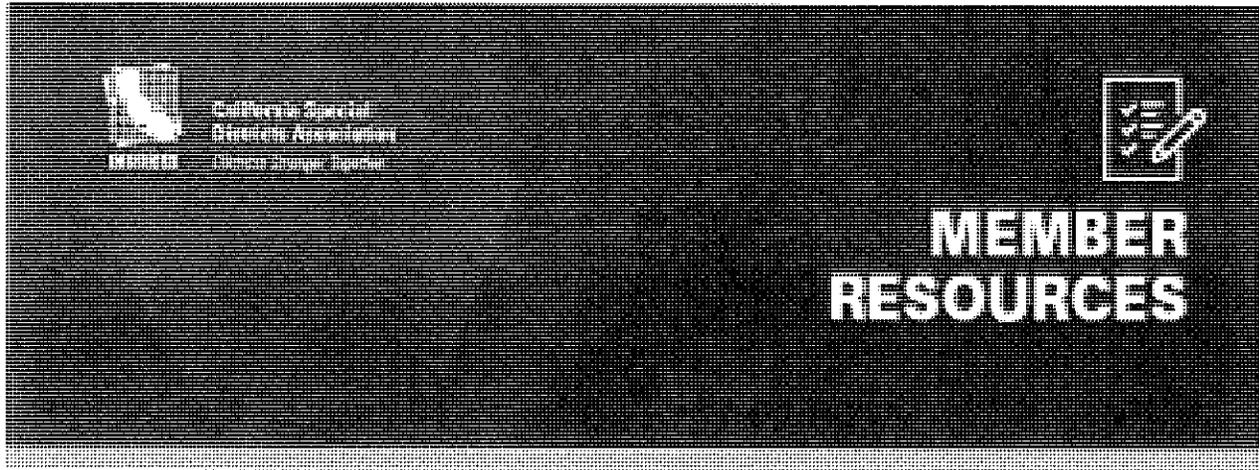


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Subject **Free Brown Act Webinar to CSDA Members**
From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>
Date 2020-03-13 12:05



Webinar: Brown Act Compliance During a Pandemic

FREE to CSDA Members

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Learn how to conduct an open and public meeting at a time when public health officials are recommending or requiring cancellation of public assemblies and social distancing. Find out how the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 temporarily suspends certain Brown Act provisions to allow special districts to make meetings accessible electronically. In this webinar, Alexandra Barnhill, an experienced municipal lawyer and General Counsel for several special districts, will walk you through what an agency can and cannot do under the revised laws. She will discuss complex questions about maintaining attorney/client privilege in closed sessions and recommend best practices to achieve transparency in these uncertain times.

Register Today!

Updated 3.13.2020 - Could Risk of COVID-19 Merit Adjustments to Special District Board Meetings?

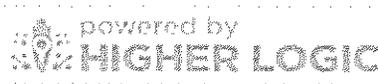
On March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20, which follows the March 4 declaration of a State of Emergency in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19. The provisions of the executive order apply during the period in which state or local public officials impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing, including limitations on public events.

[Full Article](#)



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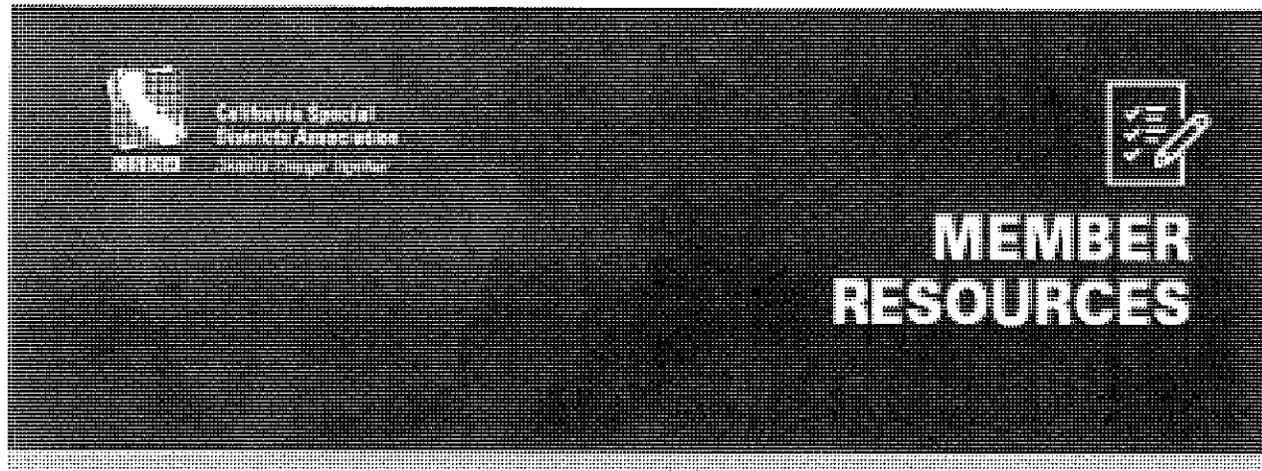
Subject **CSDA Update on COVID-19 & Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Brown Act Rules**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-03-12 12:45



COVID-19 Update & Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Brown Act Rules

Special District Leaders:

Today, Governor Newsom issued an executive order further enhancing State and Local Government's Ability to respond to COVID-19. Among other items, the order "Allows local or state legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically." The full executive order can be found [here](#). Item #11 in the executive order also addresses suspension of certain Brown Act rules.

Last night, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued an updated policy for public gatherings in response to COVID-19. CSDA is following this policy and encourages all special districts to thoroughly review the policy and consider its application to your district's operations and activities.

In times where the health and safety of our communities are at stake, it is important for public officials at all levels to inform ourselves of the best available facts and provide clear and accurate communication. We want to ensure that we are taking the appropriate steps and that our actions and communications do not lead to worse outcomes than necessary. This means following the guidance of health experts to demonstrate calm and thoughtful leadership.

Please read in full this new policy issued by CDPH, which answers questions such as:

- What will this achieve?

- How long will these limitations apply?
- What is social distancing and how is it achieved?
- What can be done to make a gathering safer if it is essential or small?

The CDPH policy also includes examples of essential events it does not apply to:

"The goal of this recommendation is to prevent people physically coming together unnecessarily, where people who have the infection can easily spread it to others. This guidance does not apply to activities such as attendance at regular school classes, work, or essential services."

The policy goes on to state, "*Certain activities are essential to the function of our state and must continue. Hence, this does not apply to essential public transportation, airport travel, or shopping at a store or mall.*"

What CSDA is doing:

CSDA has established a [COVID-19 Resources page](#), which includes links to pertinent state and federal resources where members can receive the most current information. Earlier this week, CSDA drafted a document outlining the parameters of the Brown Act with regard to special district board meetings. Governor Newsom's executive order today offers additional flexibility and CSDA will be revising this document to reflect that new development. CSDA is also in regular communication with state officials and actively discussing the steps that may need to be taken under potential future scenarios.

Status of CSDA Sponsored Events:

The upcoming SDRMA Spring Education Day scheduled for March 24, 2020 is cancelled as are in-person CSDA workshops through March. Currently, all other scheduled CSDA events and conferences are moving forward as planned, however, we will keep members advised of any further changes.

As conditions continue to evolve related to COVID-19, CSDA will continue to serve as a resource and a venue for members to communicate and coordinate with one another and with our state counterparts. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, or requests you may have in this regard.

When your communities face challenges, be it drought, fire, flood, economic, or health, it is our first responders and local leaders, like you, that we all depend on. Thank you for being a public servant to your community.



Subject **TODAY, 5PM: Governor's Office of Emergency Services to Provide Update to Special Districts on COVID-19 Response**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-03-12 15:16



TODAY, 5PM: Governor's Office of Emergency Services to Provide Update to Special Districts on COVID-19 Response

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services has asked CSDA to encourage all special district general managers to participate in a briefing at 5:00 PM TODAY, Wednesday March 12, 2020 to review the Governor's most recent Executive Order, signed last night, which further enhances State and local government's ability to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic and included direction for the cancellation of large gatherings of more than 250 people, social distancing for all other gatherings, and Brown Act accommodations, among other provisions.

WHO: Governor's Office of Emergency Services will hold a briefing on Mass Gathering Guidance and Governor Newsom's Executive Order for special district general managers.

WHEN: *TODAY, Wednesday March 12, 2020 at 5:00 PM. The briefing will only last a half hour, so please call in on time.*

CALL-IN INFO: 866-624-3884, Passcode: 3455187

NOTE: *This briefing is directed toward special district general managers. CalOES will be addressing many of the questions that have been sent to us, by you, during the briefing. CSDA highly encourages your participation or the participation of your designated representative.*



Subject **CSDA eNews 3/10/20: Could Risk of COVID-19 Merit Adjustments to Special District Board Meetings?**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-03-10 13:03



Webinar: Public Service Ethics – AB 1234

[Register for Event](#)

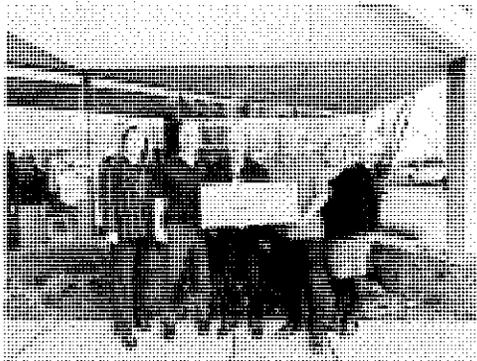
Wednesday, March 18, 2020

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Free SDRMA Member | \$65 CSDA Member | \$95 Non-member

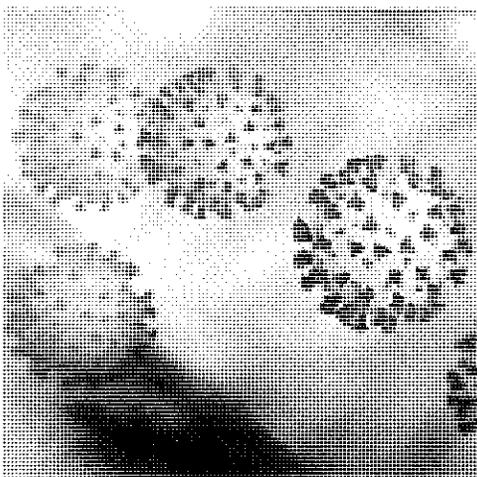
CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

March 18, 2020



CSDA Members Earn More Than \$50,000

Participants of CSDA's Commercial Card program recently received rebates totaling over \$50,000, with some agencies receiving more than \$4,000 cash back. Especially designed for CSDA members and administered by Umpqua Bank, the CSDA Commercial Card program provides online reporting tools, greater security over employee spending, and enhanced rebate opportunities. Contact Member Services at 877.924.2733 for more information. [LEARN MORE](#)



Could Risk of COVID-19 Merit Adjustments to Special District Board Meetings?

California's special districts are committed to ensuring that their business is conducted in open and public meetings where all persons are permitted to attend and participate. In the wake of concerns regarding the novel COVID-19 coronavirus, a recent thread on CSDA's Open Forum contemplated the options available under the Brown Act should health and safety conditions within a community require a special district to reconsider how it conducts board meetings, such as telecommuting options. [READ MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

New Bills Seek to Help with Public Safety Power Shutoffs

In response to the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events that took place statewide last year, hampering critical services, slowing local economies and highlighting gaps in emergency...

[Read More](#)

Special Districts Week Legislation Introduced

On February 26, Assembly Member Randy Voepel introduced Assembly Concurrent Resolution 179, which would proclaim the week of May 17-23, 2020 Special Districts Week.

[Read More](#)

MEMBER RESOURCES

CalTRUST Spring Shareholder Summits Going Virtual! Webinar Registration Now Open!

CalTRUST has decided to cancel the scheduled in-person Spring Shareholder Summits due to the ever-evolving status of the Coronavirus. Instead, they will be offering a portion of the agenda via webinar as a Virtual Shareholder Summit to be offered as two free webinars on **March 26** and **March 27**. These CalTRUST webinars are open to both existing shareholders as well as any public agency who does not already invest with CalTRUST.

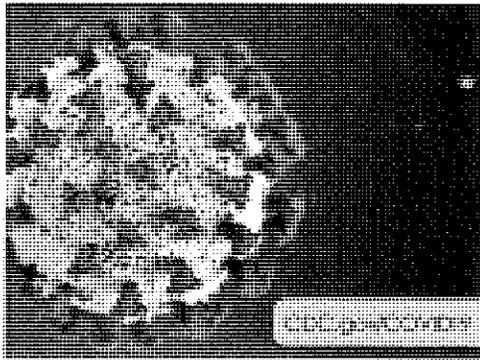
[Read More](#)

LEARN

What to Expect for First-time Attendees at Special District Leadership Academy (SDLA) Conference

First-time attendees will have the opportunity to complete all four modules of the program in order to get their recognition in governance and receive a certificate at the end of the conference. The four modules include: Building a Foundation for Good Governance, Fulfilling your District's Mission: Charting the Course, Defining Board/Staff Roles and Relationships, Get the Word Out! Best Practices for Communication and Outreach, and more!

[Read More](#)



Coronavirus Notice

In the wake of the COVID-19 coronavirus, CSDA is working with our hotel partners to help ensure the health and safety of all attendees, staff, and speakers at CSDA events. If you are ill or have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus, CSDA is offering no cost cancellation until further notice. CSDA Professional Development Director Megan Hemming is in contact with each of the event facilities for our upcoming conferences regarding their cleaning and sanitizing procedures and other precautions. Special districts may also want to refer to this guidance for employers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding COVID-19.

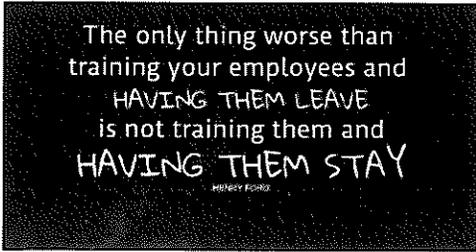


CSDA Workshops Near You in Fresno this March

March 26, Understanding the Brown Act, Fresno Free for SDLA Members, 525 CSDA Members - Includes lunch!
REGISTER

CSDA Education in Your Area

- March 12, Budgeting for Special Districts, Chino
- April 1, Human Resources Boot Camp for Special Districts, Costa Mesa



- April 2: Financial Management for Special Districts, Costa Mesa
- April 7: Supervisory Skills for the Public Sector, Montclair
- April 18 - 22: Special District Leadership Academy Conference, San Diego

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – District Legal Counsel

RFP – Environmental Services

RFP – Audit Services

RFP – Bus Wash Replacement

RFP – California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review

[Learn More](#)

SDLF SCHOLARSHIPS

Need \$\$\$ for CSDA Professional Development?

There are scholarship funds available through the Special District Leadership Foundation. The Dr. James Kohlen Scholarship is available to directors and trustees. The Education Allowance Fund is available to special district staff, to cover registration fees for CSDA workshops, webinars, and conferences in 2020. There is a rolling application deadline of the 15th of each month -the next deadline is **March 15!** For questions, please email [Megan Hemming](#).

[Apply](#)

CAREER CENTER

Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's [Career Center](#):

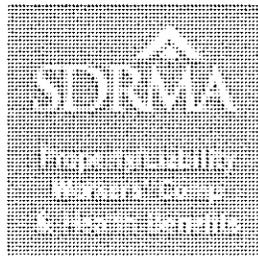
[Assistant General Manager – Stockton East Water District](#)

[Executive Assistant/Support to the Board of Directors – Western Municipal Water District](#)

[Operations Compliance Supervisor – Dublin San Ramon Services District](#)

[Director of Planning – Alameda County Transportation Commission](#)

[Read More](#)



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Subject **CSDA eNews 3/03/20: 10 New Bills Target Special District's Development Impact Fees**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-03-03 12:24



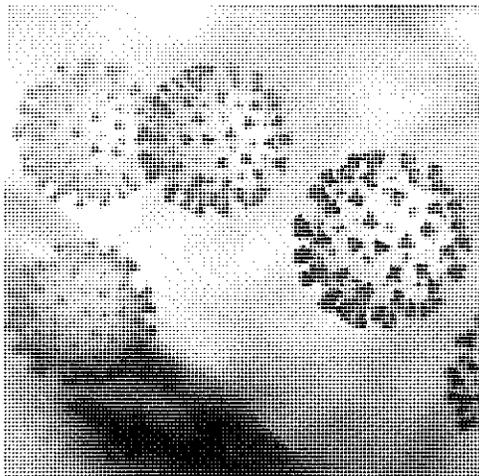
Webinar: How to Collect Unpaid Bills: SB 998 New Restrictions

[Register for Event](#)

Wednesday, March 11, 2020
 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
 \$65 CSDA Member | \$95 Non-member

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

March 11, 2020



10 New Bills Target Special District's Development Impact Fees

The year of 2020 has a busy start with the State Legislature beginning to discuss and pass bills (SB's). Bills are those laws that are approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Bills are introduced in the Legislature and go through a series of steps before they are passed. Bills are introduced in the Legislature and go through a series of steps before they are passed. Bills are introduced in the Legislature and go through a series of steps before they are passed.

TAKE ACTION

Are You Missing a Policy for Taking Positions on State Legislation?

The legislative year is in full swing with members of the Legislature and the Governor already discussing important topics affecting special districts, including issues regarding property tax

MEMBER RESOURCES

CalTRUST Spring Shareholder Summits

CalTRUST Spring Shareholder Summits are scheduled for **March 25** in Yorba Linda and **March 26** in Berkeley. These *free* events are an opportunity for CalTRUST to provide valuable education programs to our Shareholders and other

LEARN

Newly Added On-Demand Webinars

Did you miss the opportunity to attend a webinar? Don't worry! All of the 2019 webinars are now available as an on-demand webinar on the CSDA website to view at any time and day. 2020 webinars that were shown in January and February are also now

allocation, impact and connection fees, the Public Records Act, and many more. CSDA will soon be asking for your help through Calls to Action on the most important bills, so now is the time to make sure you are prepared.

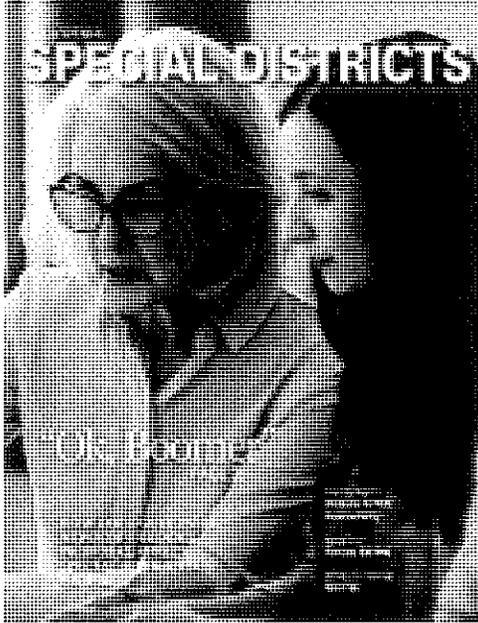
[Read More](#)

California public agencies. You are welcome to register as many folks as you'd like to attend as well as to share the registration information with any California public agency. Each summit will be headlined by BlackRock and key topics will include...

[Read More](#)

available! Get the most up to date knowledge from instructors on Prevailing Wage Updates, Annual Employment Law Update, and how to access CSDA's resources. Check out the CSDA website to view the full listing of on-demand webinars.

[Learn More](#)



First Magazine of 2020 is Here!

The January-February 2020 issue of California Special Districts magazine is available online and hard copies are on their way to you! This issue features Governor Newsom's budget proposal and how it affects special districts. Other great content include:

- [VOT - Overview](#)
- [Welfare & RFP Approval Law](#)
- [Legal Best Practices for Tax](#)
- [Local Government Purchase Agreements for Purchasing Equipment](#)
- [What's So Special About a Pension](#)
- [The Committee on the State of California's Special Districts](#)

[READ MORE](#)

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

- RFP – Audit Services
- RFP – Bus Wash Replacement
- RFP – California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Review
- RFP – HVAC Remodel
- RFP – Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Support Services

[Learn More](#)

ILG WEBINAR

Does your local agency need an innovative, cost-effective strategy for talent development?

The Institute for Local Government (ILG) is hosting a free webinar on **March 31** entitled "Local Government Apprenticeship & Workforce Strategies." Apprenticeship, for trades and non-trades positions, is one solution that can meet your agency's talent development needs for new and incumbent employees. Through partnerships with community colleges across California, cities, counties, and special districts can strengthen and sustain a skilled workforce that meets evolving community needs.

[Learn More & Register](#)

CAREER CENTER

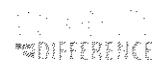
Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's Career Center:

- [Director of Planning – Alameda County Transportation Commission](#)
- [Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator – Mammoth Community Water District](#)
- [Utility Services Manager – Otay Water District](#)
- [General Manager – Utica Power & Water Authority](#)
- [Senior Utility Billing & Customer Services Representative – Dublin San Ramon Services District](#)

[Read More](#)



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Subject **CSDA eNews 2/25/20: Legislature Introduces Thousands of Bills, Including 34 on Independent Contractors**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-02-25 11:31



Webinar: Online ADA Compliance & Transparency Requirements

[Register for Event](#)

Wednesday, April 8, 2020
 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 \$65 CSDA Member | \$95 Non-member

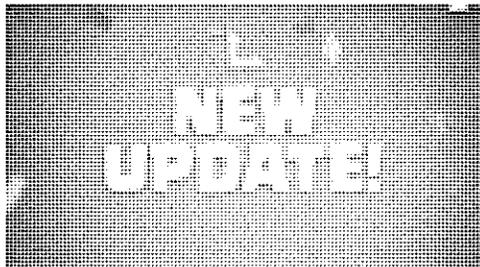
CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 25, 2020



2020 CSDA Award Nominations Now Open!

Each year, CSDA presents awards as thanks to the CSDA Area's Outstanding Independent Contractors. There are several different categories and you can submit a nomination any time of year. All nominations must be received by May 31, 2020. Find out more about this year's awards and how to submit your nomination. [READ MORE](#)



SDLF Update: Program Names

The State District Legislature's Emergency Bill, Bill of the People, and the State's new program names are effective March 1, 2020. The new State Administrative Code provisions for the State District Legislature's Bill of the People are effective March 1, 2020. Find out more about the new program names and how to update your information. [READ MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

New Resource to Help Special Districts Increase Engagement

MEMBER RESOURCES

New Benefit: Chat with Us!
 CSDA recently launched a new chat feature on CSDA's website that allows members

LEARN

Free Forum on Wildfire Mitigation and Resilience
 Join key policymakers, officials from the Federal Emergency

and Service on Boards and Commissions

Every two to four years, community members bravely put their name on a ballot, signing up for the chance to serve as a leader on a special district board.

[Read More](#)

Legislature Introduces Thousands of Bills Prior to Deadline, Including 34 on Independent Contractors

Between January 1 and the State Legislature's February 21 deadline to introduce legislation for consideration in 2020, legislators introduced a total of 2,203 bills.

[Read More](#)

to ask questions and get assistance in real-time, online. Members are already using the new feature, and it is working extremely well in providing them with exceptional service which is always our goal. During regular business hours, it is in live chat mode and after hours, it is available to send a direct email to member services which will be replied to first thing the next day. Go to CSDA's website and you'll see the new feature in the bottom right of your screen. We look forward to chatting with you!

[Check it Out!](#)

Management Agency (FEMA), state and local emergency managers and disaster officials from the region, and leading stakeholders from the insurance and infrastructure industries for the second forum in the Disaster Mitigation and Resilience Forum Series, including a panel with local government perspective and special district representation.

Thursday, March 5
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
California Chamber of Commerce, Sacramento, CA
Registration is FREE for Government (space is limited)

[Register](#)



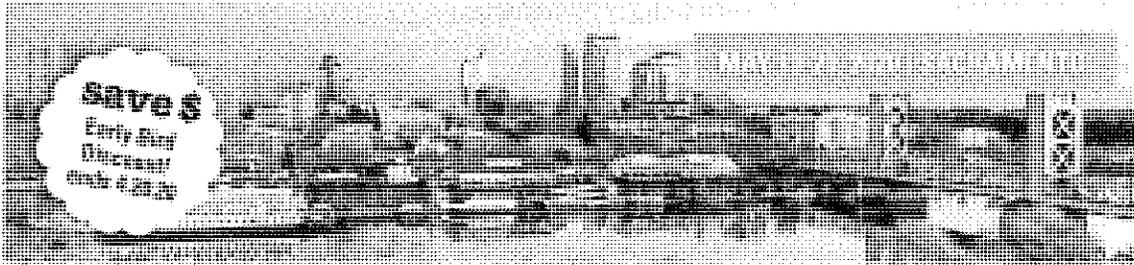
Tweet Tweet! SDLA San Diego Early Bird Deadline March 18

The early bird registration deadline is less than a month away! Register on or before March 18 to receive a discounted price at registration for the Special District Leadership Academy Conference in San Diego. CSDA members will save up to \$50 and non-members \$75 at registration. Want to save more? Send additional attendees from the same district to receive an additional discount of \$400 for CSDA members and \$600 for non-members during early bird registration! To register additional attendees, please call the CSDA office at (877) 324-2702 to apply the discount. [LEARN MORE](#)



Spring Forward with CSDA Education in Your Area

- March 12: Supervisor's and a District Board
- April 1: Human Resources and Training for Special Districts, Santa Ana
- April 2: Financial Management for Special Districts, Santa Ana
- April 7: Supervisors and Board Members, Riverside
- April 19 - 23: Special District Leadership Academy, Long Beach, San Diego



SPECIAL DISTRICTS LEGISLATIVE DAYS

Gain the edge on policy changes impacting your agency and **exchange ideas with California's top decision-makers.**

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – Legislative Consulting and Lobbying Services

RFP – Water Rates Study Cost of Services Analysis

RFP – Auditing Services

[Learn More](#)

SDLF RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to the following districts!

Transparency Certificate of Excellence Renewal

- Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- Florin Resource Conservation District/Elk Grove Water District

[Learn More](#)

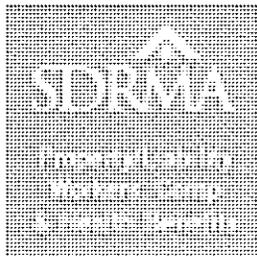
CAREER CENTER

Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's [Career Center](#):

[Administrative Assistant](#) – Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

[Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board](#) – Oakdale Irrigation District

[Read More](#)



California Special Districts Association
1112 I Street, Suite 200
Sacramento CA, 95814
Phone - 877.924.2732
www.csdanet.net | [Unsubscribe](#)



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A7700102 PAGE 2 OF 2

Subject **CSDA eNews 2/18/20: Letters Needed to Stop Costly Email Retention Legislation**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2020-02-18 11:02



Webinar: Public Service Ethics-AB 1234

[Register for Event](#)

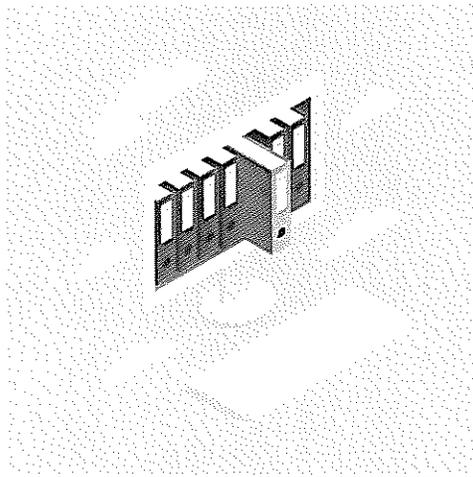
Wednesday, March 18, 2020

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Free SDRMA Member | \$65 CSDA Member | \$95 Non-member

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 18, 2020



Letters Needed to Stop Costly Email Retention Legislation

Following the vote of AB 1134 (Gloria, 2019), Assembly Member Todd Gloria (D-San Diego) has reintroduced the same bill this year as AB 2083. Last year's AB 1134 was opposed by CSDA and vetoed by Governor Gavin Newsom. Just like last year's bill, AB 2083 mandates public agencies to keep all emails related to the agency's business for at least two years at a cost of millions of dollars statewide. CSDA is now calling upon special districts to join CSDA in submitting a letter of opposition to this legislation that would unfortunately consume significant resources while doing little to improve government transparency.

[READ MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

CSDA Weighs in on Biggest CVRA Court Case to Affect At-Large Elections

As special districts throughout the state have begun to face legal challenges to their voting systems, many have sought guidance on switching from an "at-large" to "by-district" voting method and how to comply

MEMBER RESOURCES

Join Webinar Series by Streamline

Streamline is a CSDA endorsed affiliate that provides website technologies to help our special districts stay compliant online. They also provide education to help districts promote themselves in their communities. Sign up for their upcoming webinar series titled "Engage Your

LEARN

2020 Spring Education Day

Join the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) and the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) at the SDRMA Spring Education Day on **March 24!** This free conference offers training on Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation exposures,

State Required Notification

with the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). Recently, CSDA filed an amicus brief in a case currently pending in the California Court of Appeal that may provide guidance to districts that wish to keep an "at-large" voting system, in Pico Neighborhood Association, et al. v. City of Santa Monica.

[Read More](#)

Community: Using Guerrilla Marketing Tactics to Promote the Important Work You Do" that begins **Wednesday, March 4**. These series are weekly 30-minute webinars packed full of ideas on how to promote your district to the community, without spending an arm and a leg!

[Learn More & Sign-up](#)

Supervisor Safety Specialist Certificate Program, and information on what's happening in the current insurance market. In addition, they will conduct their annual membership meeting to provide SDRMA updates and information on the upcoming 2020-21 renewal.

[Register](#)



Rowland Water District Launches Innovative Hazardous Plastic Waste Program

Rowland Water District is launching a creative conservation program aimed at reaching students at a place they know well: the drinking fountain. "What's in Your Bottle?" features recast/old filling stations at both Rowland and Blandford Elementary Schools. [READ MORE](#)

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To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – General Counsel Legal Services

RFP – Routine Maintenance

RFP – Auditing Services

RFP – Voter Opinion Surveys and Polling Services

[Learn More](#)

SDLF RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to the following districts!

Transparency Certificate of Excellence - New!

- United Water Conservation District
- Fallbrook Public Utilities District

Transparency Certificate of Excellence Renewal

- Inland Empire Utilities Agency

[Learn More](#)

CAREER CENTER

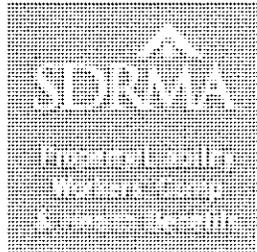
Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's [Career Center](#):

[Director of Field Operations](#) – Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District

[Recreation Coordinator](#) – Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District

[Instrumentation Technician](#) – Dublin San Ramon Services District

[Read More](#)



Subject **Stop overwatering and your LUCK will grow!**
From Riverside County Watershed Protection Program
<rcwatershed@gmail.com>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <rcwatershed@gmail.com>
Date 2020-03-02 07:55



Bringing Riverside County residents watershed news and updates!

Let Your Luck Grow

Vol. 4 No. 3 - March 2020

Skip the Handyman: Learn How to Fix a Broken Sprinkler!

Prevent irrigation runoff by regularly monitoring your irrigation system for leaks, broken sprinkler heads, or misdirected sprinklers. Click the link below for 6 steps on how you can fix a broken sprinkler at home

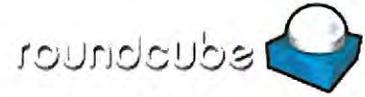
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Let the Weather Do the Work: Conserve Water this Rainy Season

The rainy season is coming up so take a break from watering and lower your water utility bill. Make the most of our infrequent Southern California rainy days and protect the watershed by following these four simple tips!

[Read More](#)

Subject **READ Our Newsletter to Get Some Ideas to Thrive Indoors**
 From Riverside County Watershed Protection Program
 <rcwatershed@gmail.com>
 To <manager@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <rcwatershed@gmail.com>
 Date 2020-04-03 11:45



For the latest information regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Riverside County, please click [here](#)



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
 WATERSHED PROTECTION

Bringing Riverside County residents watershed news and updates!

Thrive Indoors

Vol. 4 No. 4 - April 2020

Help Yourself and the Environment by Staying Indoors

As we all do our part to follow the California Department of Public Health's order to stay home and practice social distancing, here are a few watershed-friendly projects to keep busy at home and help keep your watersheds clean!

[Read More](#)



The Story of the Santa Ana Watershed

The Santa Ana Watershed, one of the three watersheds located in Riverside County, is the water source for millions of residents and is home to various species. Beginning at the Santa Ana River, water from this watershed takes a long journey before it reaches your home.

[Read More](#)



How to Put a Stop to Stormwater Pollution

Stormwater pollution is a big problem throughout Southern California and is severely damaging to our local environment. Find out how you can do your part to stop stormwater pollution by taking some easy steps at home!

[Read More](#)



Follow Us for More Watershed Fun!



Riverside County Watershed Protection is a division of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. It is their mission to protect, preserve, and enhance the quality of Riverside County watersheds by fostering a community-wide commitment to clean water.

Riverside County Flood Control District | 1995 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501

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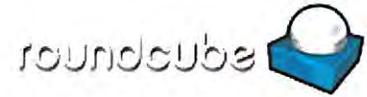
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 To <manager@teamrcd.org>
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 Date 2020-04-07 11:45



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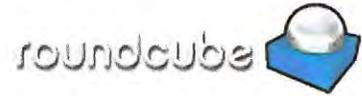
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 <rcwatershed@gmail.com>
 To <manager@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <rcwatershed@gmail.com>
 Date 2020-05-04 12:26



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Spring Into Action

Vol. 4 No. 5 - May 2020

Celebrate Water Awareness Month, Start a Xeriscape

May is Water Awareness Month and there is no better time than now to learn about water conservation by cutting the watering and converting over to a xeriscape! Learn more about how you can start a xeriscape this spring!

[Read More](#)



Bring May Flowers to Your Garden this Spring

Looking for a new house project and an excuse to go outside? Stay safe right in your backyard by gardening those breezy May days away! Make your garden bloom with your favorite flowers or vegetables with these watershed-friendly tips!

Read More



The Story of the Santa Margarita Watershed

The Santa Margarita Watershed, the second largest river basin in the Southern California coastal plain, provides water for the residents of Southwestern Riverside County which includes cities such as Murrieta and Temecula.

Read More



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Find Fresh Springtime Air at the Whitewater River

Part of the Whitewater River Watershed, this reserve offers a variety of activities, from incredible hiking trails to relaxing bird walks. Put on your hiking shoes because these trails can get a bit rocky. Learn more about this destination below!

[Read More](#)

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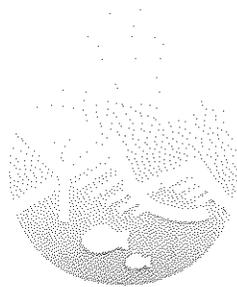
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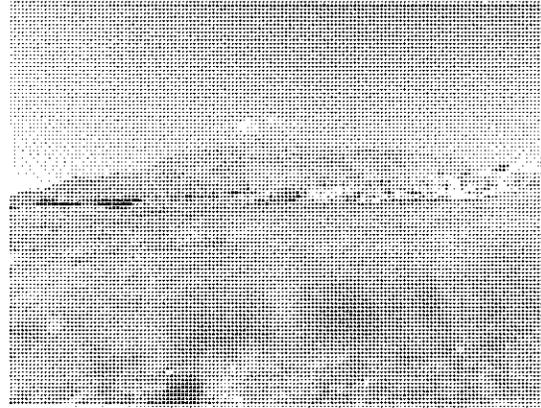
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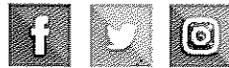
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