

ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION CALENDAR

MISSION RCD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

DARCY COOK

Mission RCD TA Support for TEAM RCD

SALC San Diego Ag Planning Program

Water Working Group – to discuss and develop a potential CropSWAP / RootStalk SWAP program for San Diego County.

The focus of this Working Group

- Convene a coalition of interested parties
- Discuss strategies to assist San Diego County producers with water use / crop changes that would result in a net reduction of water usage while keeping farms sustainable
- Determine interest in and develop a Pilot CropSWAP program in San Diego County



- Use existing and successful model to build upon - RCWD CropSWAP / TEAM RCD
- Select a lead agency and parties for administrative responsibilities
- Determine incentives for producers
- Investigate grant and other funding opportunities
- Possible program areas include Escondido and Oceanside South Morro Hills

CDFA [Healthy Soils Incentive Program](#) (PoP ends 2024)

The Healthy Soils Program (HSP) is an initiative stemming from a collaboration of state agencies and departments to promote the development of healthy soils on California's farmlands and ranchlands. The HSP Incentives Program provides financial incentives to California growers and ranchers to implement conservation management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), and improve soil health. GHGs benefits are estimated using quantification methodology and tools developed by California Air Resources Board (CARB), USDA-NRCS and CDFA and soil health improvement will be assessed by measuring soil organic matter content.

Eligible practices include on-farm management practices that include but are not limited to: Cover Cropping, No-till, Reduced Till, Conservation Plantings, Mulching, and Composting.

Mission RCD TA Support for TEAM RCD

Who Is Eligible:

- California farmers, ranchers and Native American Indian Tribes.
- Projects must be located on a California agricultural operation.
- University and research farms, and city community gardens are not eligible for funding
- Awards are limited to one per agricultural operation
- Individuals or business entities receiving grant award funds must be located in Ca

Available Funding

Up to \$100,000 for the
Incentive Program

How to Apply

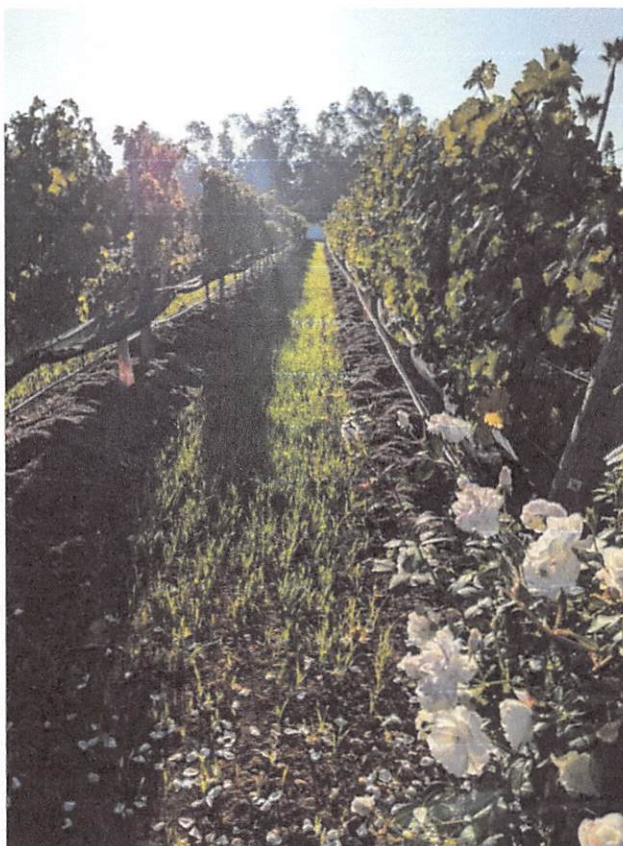
Application and instructions are on the
CDFA website listed below. Mission
RCD can provide support to producers
in TEAM's District in Riverside County

Deadline to Apply

Applications are on a rolling first-come-
first-served basis.

Contact

Jameson Meyst
agirrigtech@missionrcd.org



CDFA Conservation Planning Program (PoP ends 2026)

The Conservation Agriculture Planning Grant Program (CAPGP) will fund development of agricultural conservation plans related to the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) programs. CSA addresses risks that climate change poses to agriculture. The funded plans will promote CSA efforts which help to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, adapt to climate change impacts and promote environmental and agricultural sustainability. *CAPGP only funds the development of plans, not the implementation of those plans.*

Mission RCD TA Support for TEAM RCD

The Southern California Carbon Farming Hub is collaborating to expand access to conservation planning for small-scale producers in our region. Hub members include four Resource Conservation Districts (RCD): Greater San Diego County, Mission, Inland Empire and Upper San Luis Rey. The Hub builds planning capacity and cooperation between agencies and partners to address the urgency, scale, and complexity of the climate crisis in agriculture.

Carbon Farm Plans (CFP) address water scarcity, rising temperatures and expanding pest populations, provide a holistic view of resource concerns across an operation, and incorporate practices such as water retention, temperature mitigation and enhanced biodiversity. These practices also address the compounding impacts of climate change, such as erosion, nutrient depletion and variable rainfall. Organic transition can be supported by providing an Organic Systems plan.



UPDATE ON CITY OF MENIFEE WILDLIFE APPRECIATION DAY

Wildlife Appreciation Day March 18, 2023

Booth Registration Form

Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

Facebook: _____ Instagram: _____

Type of Booth and Activity(s) you will offer:

Space Preference: *(Booth spaces are 10'x10' and assigned based on event need)*

Grass Area: Patio Area: Tented Area: Indoor Kiosk: *(Kiosk space is limited)*

Will you be giving away any promotional item(s)? Yes No

Description: _____

The undersigned agreement acknowledges and agrees to the following:

- *Will be responsible to provide all booth needs (tables/ chairs/ canopy/ etc.)*
- Set up time will begin at 8:00 am – all booths must be completed by 9:30 am.
- Tear down will begin at 2:30 pm – please do not begin tear down until 2 pm.
- Responsible for removing all booth items from our site/park at conclusion of the event.
- Vehicles will not be allowed onto the field without prior authorization.
- Submission of an application does not guarantee placement at event.

The undersigned agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Menifee; its representatives, officers, and employees for all liabilities, demands, or claims of loss, damages or injury resulting from participation in this event.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

For further information please contact us at:

parkranger@cityofmenifee.us

Brandon Samson: (951) 723-3763 Amanda Ingraham: (951) 723-3888

29995 Evans Rd. Menifee, CA 92586





CITY OF MENIFEE

Liability Waiver

Photo & Video Taping Release:

I hereby give my express and unconditional permission and consent to the City of MENIFEE to use videotaped or photographed images of me or said minor or otherwise use the name or my likeness or that of said minor for use in the City's publicity or public relations materials and I will not seek any fee or other form of compensation of any type or amount for such use. I hereby give up any rights that I or said minor may have to inspect or approve my images, name or likeness or that of said minor including any advertising copy, printed matter, website or other media or material in which my images, name, or likeness or that of said minor may appear in relation to the City publicity or public relations materials.

Release from Liability and Indemnification:

In consideration for participating in the activity(ies) listed above, I hereby waive, release and discharge any and all claims for damages for bodily injury, personal injury, death, or property damage which I may have or which may hereafter accrue as a result of my participation in the activity(ies). This release is intended to discharge, in advance, the City of MENIFEE, its officers, officials, employees, agents, and volunteers from and against any and all liability arising out of, or connected in any way with, my participation in said activity, even though that liability may arise out of negligence on the part of the City its officers, officials, employees, agents, and volunteers. I understand that the above activity may be of a hazardous nature and/or include physical and/or strenuous exercise or activity; that serious accidents may occur during the above described activity; and that participants in the above described activity may sustain bodily injury, personal injury, and/or property damage as a consequence thereof. Those hazards include, but are not limited to, exposure to the elements, sprains, strains, cuts or contusions associated with strenuous work or the use of tools; over exertion; walking on uneven ground, lifting materials or unpredictable acts by others. Knowing the risks involved, nevertheless, I have voluntarily applied to participate in the above described activity and I hereby agree to assume any and all risks of injury or death and to release the City of MENIFEE, its officers, officials, employees, agents, and volunteers, who through negligence or any other act or omission might otherwise be liable to me. I further understand and agree that this waiver, release, and assumption of risks is to be binding to my heirs and assigns. I further agree to indemnify, defend and hold the City of MENIFEE, its officers, officials, employees, agents, and volunteers harmless from any loss, liability, claim, damage, or expense which may incur as a result of my participation in the above described activity.

By participating in events, vendors acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that they and others attending may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19. The city requires all attendees follow CDC and Riverside County Department of Public Health recommendations for enhanced health and safety measures related to COVID-19 and follow all posted instructions while using City facilities; including requirements for social distancing, wearing of face coverings, participant grouping, types of activities allowed, and potential limits on event size.

Participant Name (Printed): _____

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____
(Signature of parent/guardian if minor)

LARGE GROUPS PLEASE MAKE COPIES FOR DISTRIBUTION

For more information or to return a completed copy please contact:

City of Meniffee Community Services Department

29995 Evans Road, Meniffee CA 92586

Office: 951-723-3880 or Fax: 951-723-3881

FREE

City of Menifee Rangers Present

Wildlife Appreciation Day

Saturday, March 18, 2023
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Central Park | 30268 Civic Plaza Drive

- Wildlife Ambassadors
- Conservations Specialists
- Habitat Restoration
- Nature Education
- Food Vendors



All proceeds from
raffle go to
support local
Sierra Club Santa
Margarita Group

"Share my wildlife with
me. Because humans
want to save things
that they love."

- Steve Irwin



For More Information
Community Services Department
29995 Evans Road | 951-723-3880
www.cityofmenifee.us



MENIFEE

New. Better. Best.

Hello,

I am following up with you about the Menifee Wildlife Appreciation Day and confirming the details for the event. We hope that TEAM Resource Conservation District can join us. Please take the time to read through each section below and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We ask that you confirm your attendance and send back the enclosed registration paperwork by March 3, 2023. Our media department is requesting that you provide us with your organization's social media tags in order to help us promote the event to a wide audience. The anticipated attendance for this event is between 500-750 persons. This event is rain or shine and event tenting will be staged around the park in case of inclement weather. Booths are approximately 10'x10' and booths must be spaced minimum of 5 feet apart from one another. A limited number of kiosks are available during the event which are approximately 8' x 6' and have electric and lighting with a teller window opening. Space next to the kiosk is available for tables or canopies of your own supply. If you are requesting a kiosk, you will be notified ahead of the event if your request has

been approved.

Animal exhibits and handlers will be placed according to needs of the animals on the day of the event and placed in order to avoid any undesirable interactions with other booths.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, March 18, 2023

Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: Central Park, 30268 Civic Plaza Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

Loading & unloading information

Set up time will begin at 8:00 am

Booths are responsible to provide all booth needs (tables/ chairs/ canopy/ etc.)

The booth space will be assigned upon arrival on a first come first serve basis.

Booth/vendors will not be able to drive vehicles onto the field without prior authorization. Please be prepared to carry your items from your car up to 40 yards to the vendor space.

Booths must be completely set up by: 9:30 am and breakdown will begin at 2 pm.

Menifee Staff Members are unable to help lift, open E-Z-Ups, or help with any unloading/loading of vehicles, please plan accordingly if you need assistance in these areas.

Respectfully,

Brandon Samson | Park Ranger

Community Services Department

City of Menifee | 29995 Evans Rd. | Menifee, CA 92586

Desk (951) 723-3763 | Hotline (951) 723-3888

bsamson@cityofmenifee.us | CityofMenifee.us

UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

**DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL TO PARTNER WITH
MURRIETA PUBLIC LIBRARY ON EARTH DAY**



Earth Day Plant Trade and Food Fest 2023
Saturday, April 22, 2023 - 9 AM to 1 PM
 (Set up before 8:30 AM, take down after 1 PM)
 Murrieta Public Library and Town Square Amphitheater
 8 Town Square, Murrieta, CA 92562

Vendor Space (10' x 10') \$15.00

Contact Name: Rose Corona
Business Name: TEAM RCD (Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD)
Items Selling/Promoting: Flyers and information on Conservation
Address: P.O. Box 2078, Temecula, CA 92592
Telephone: 909-208-7848
Email: rose.corona@bighorsefeed.com
How many spaces (10' x 10' space): 1

- Vendors must provide proof of general liability insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 general aggregate (food vendors must provide proof not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence and \$4,000,000 general aggregate), as well as an endorsement naming the City of Murrieta as additional insured. (See attached sample certificate.)
- Vendors are required to have a [City of Murrieta Business License](#) or purchase a Temporary Vendor Special Event Permit from the City of Murrieta for a \$10.00 fee.* In addition, people who sell merchandise in California are generally required to hold a seller's permit. Exceptions are Occasional and Nontaxable Sales. Please visit the [California Department of Tax and Fees Administration](#) for more information.
- All food vendors must comply with the [Riverside County Department of Environmental Health](#) ordinances.

Murrieta Business License #:	Need \$10 Temporary Vendor Special Event Permit: <input type="checkbox"/>
501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Vendor: <input type="checkbox"/> <small>(*No additional Permit fee will be charged for non-profit organizations.)</small>	Taxpayer ID #:

The undersigned agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Murrieta, its representatives, officers, agents and employees from all damages, liabilities costs and expenditures, including exposure to, and infection with, SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), attorney fees and costs for defense, which may occur due to their participation in this event.

The undersigned acknowledges that they must provide their own canopy, tables, chairs, and other supplies. The undersigned also acknowledges that there are NO WATER OR ELECTRICAL HOOK-UPS AVAILABLE and that SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION DOES NOT GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE AS A VENDOR. All vendors must be set-up by the event start time and cannot break down until the event is completed.

- There is limited vehicle access to the event site; be prepared to load and unload your items at the curb.
- Vendor information and site location will be emailed no less than a week before the event.

Signature: _____	Date: _____
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Return to: Ashley Bigay
ABigay@MurrietaCA.gov
 Phone: (951) 461-6137 - Fax: (951) 696-0165

Rose Corona

From: Natural Resource <naturalresource@missionrkd.org>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 4:12 PM
To: Darcy Cook; Rose Corona
Cc: Rose Corona
Subject: Re: Murrieta Library Earth Day event

Hello, and nice to meet you Rose,

If it helps, I am willing to commit to the Earth Day event on April 22 as a volunteer - I live in Temecula, so I would find it valuable to help conservation and outreach efforts in my local community. I would welcome the opportunity to collaborate on pollinator garden projects with TEAM RCD as well.

Thank you,

Lisa Dibbell

Natural Resource Specialist

[130 East Alvarado Street](#)

[Fallbrook, CA 92028](#)

www.missionrkd.org

Phone: [760-728-1332](tel:760-728-1332) or [1-866-883-1332](tel:1-866-883-1332)

Hours: [Monday - Friday; 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM](#)



From: Darcy Cook <darcy@missionrkd.org>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 2:50:16 PM
To: Rose Corona <rose.corona@teamrkd.org>
Cc: Natural Resource <naturalresource@missionrkd.org>; Rose Corona <rosecorona@bighorsefeed.com>
Subject: Re: Murrieta Library Earth Day event

Thanks Rose -

Lisa is willing to support the Earth Day event but will confirm now that she knows the date and time.

We can provide relevant program info (pollinator programs, wildfire landscaping, healthy soils) and educational material, but is Kathryn willing / able to provide some funds to cover Lisa's time?

For the pollinator program, we can also support Kathryn with that; we have some funds that could be applied to support a TEAM / MRCD workshop and TA, but if possible, additional support for Lisa's time would be welcome.

Best,
Darcy

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

Darcy Cook
District Manager
130 E. Alvarado Street
Fallbrook, CA 92028
Phone: 760-728-1332
Cell: 760-994-8246



From: Rose Corona <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Darcy Cook <darcy@missionrcd.org>
Cc: Natural Resource <naturalresource@missionrcd.org>; Rose Corona <rosecorona@bighorsefeed.com>
Subject: Re: Murrieta Library Earth Day event

Darcy and Lisa,

I sent the information over. It is Saturday April 22. The library has a pollinator program and would love to have us participate and since Lisa is already familiar with it we could promote our mutual work in the healthy soils programs etc. It is only 4 hours so you don't have to spend an entire day there. We can provide the table, cloth, signage but we don't have much in the way of hand outs etc. Does that work? I'd like to be able to get back to Kathryn. I'm sure she'll be thrilled.

Rose

On 2023-02-24 08:46, Darcy Cook wrote:

> Good morning, Rose and Lisa -
> this is to introduce you to each other and to discuss MRCD support
> for the Murrieta Library Earth Day event in April. The thought is that
> subject to Lisa's availability, she could cover a table at the event
> to promote TEAM RCD and our conservation programs.
>
> Rose is the TEAM RCD President, and spoke with the main librarian at
> the Murrieta library, who was asking for RCD support with this event.
>
> Lisa is MRCD's Natural Resource Specialist, has horticulture
> experience and is managing our pollinator program.
>
> Rose - if you could provide more detail such as the date and time,
> and your expectations, then Lisa could determine how and if she might
> support this.
>
> Best,
> Darcy
>

**UPDATE ON NACD URBAN AND COMMUNITY CONSERVATION
GRANT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

RESOLUTION OF THE TEMECULA-ELSINORE-ANZA-MURRIETA RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT RATIFYING AND APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE URBAN AND COMMUNITY CONSERVATION GRANT TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (NACD) AND THE NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) AS PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF THE URBAN COMMUNITY CONSERVATION (UAC) GRANT INITIATIVE PURSUANT TO THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR THE PLANNING GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District ("TEAM RCD") is a resource conservation District created and authorized pursuant to California Public Resources Code section 9001 et seq., and located entirely within the County of Riverside; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for a grant awarded pursuant to Government Code section 9084, Resource Conservation Districts ("RCD's") must satisfy specified requirements, which include providing at least 25% local match funding, of which can be in kind or cash from non-federal sources; and;

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2023 the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) through the Urban Community Conservation Grant initiative made grants available to RCDs for program improvements; and

WHEREAS, all funding requests are due by March 13, 2023 and a Resolution of the RCD Board of Directors approving the Submission of the application is required; and

WHEREAS, prior to the aforesaid deadline, TEAM RCD submitted the Grant Application for the Urban Community Conservation Grant Initiative ("Grant Application") to the National Association of Conservation Districts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Grant Application, TEAM RCD has requested financial assistance to help fund early stage development of a program related to Urban or Community agricultural conservation. These grants must focus on community needs assessments, partnership development, and building preliminary capacity to begin programming in these areas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Grant Application, the Total Budget is \$12,500.00, which includes the NACD Funds Requested in the amount of \$10,000.00 and the Match Contribution in the amount of \$2500.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Grant Application, TEAM RCD is committed to providing either cash or funds from its General Fund of \$2500.00 and/or in-kind compensation for completion of the grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of the Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District at its special meeting on this 9th day of March, 2023 that:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. TEAM RCD's Grant Application for the Urban Community Conservation Grant Initiative which has been submitted to the National Association of Resource Conservation Districts pursuant to the UAC Planning Grant, is ratified and approved.
3. A copy of this Resolution shall be submitted to the National Association of Conservation Districts.

ADOPTED BY THE Board of Directors of the Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District this 9th day of March, 2023

ROSE CORONA, Board President
Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource
Conservation District

ATTEST:

NEWTON PARKES III, Secretary
Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource
Conservation District



National Association of Conservation Districts

Request for Grant Proposals (RFP) Urban and Community Conservation Grants - FY2023

Program Background

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are proud partners in support of the Urban and Community Conservation (UAC) Grant Initiative. Since 2016, the Initiative has provided approximately \$6.5 million in competitive grants in support of over 150 agricultural projects. More information about the program is [available online](#).

NACD will again award up to \$1,350,000 in grants in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. Conservation districts—as defined by their state statute—and tribal organizations are eligible to apply for funding to address issues of conservation technical assistance related to conservation in urban, community and small-scale agricultural production.

These grants are open to any conservation district or tribal organization who will specifically focus on conservation within community-oriented agriculture, in both urban and rural areas. Rural districts looking to expand into community-oriented agricultural and conservation programs.

Proposed projects should directly contribute to increased food security and/or sovereignty locally, especially for low-income populations, regardless of whether they are in a large metropolitan area or a small town. Applicants should also emphasize outreach to underrepresented communities and traditionally marginalized individuals. The review committee will use this information to closely evaluate applications through a lens of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI); additional information is available in NACD'S [DEI Toolkit](#), and [past grantees](#) provide examples of successful programs incorporating components of food security/sovereignty and DEI.

Activities proposed through this RFP must focus on **technical assistance related to agricultural conservation** but can address a variety of community-based approaches, and organizations are encouraged to think creatively to support conservation within their communities. The technical assistance may address any natural resource concerns in agriculture, for example, soil health, water quality/quantity issues, biodiversity, and habitat improvement, human components of agriculture, etc. The review committee will prioritize projects with a focus on food security or sovereignty, food deserts, and other opportunities to connect individuals lacking access to healthy, fresh food in populated areas.

Example activities may include (see more information about technical assistance on [NRCS' website](#)):

- The promotion of new or innovative conservation practices to address emerging or ongoing natural resource concerns (soil, water quality and quantity, air, energy, biodiversity)
- Educational and informational workshops and tours highlighting local conservation activities
- Online and virtual trainings, networking events, or other opportunities to share information about agricultural conservation or in development of peer-to-peer communities
- The development of a cultural ambassador program to provide technical assistance in locally relevant languages (other than English) and contexts
- See additional examples of successful projects on [NACD's urban and community webpage](#)



National Association of Conservation Districts

UAC Eligibility:

Only **conservation districts** as defined by state statute and **tribal organizations** are eligible to receive funding. Conservation district applicants must upload a resolution adopted by the district board, indicating that the board has reviewed and approved the proposal and has addressed any conflicts of interest.

Previous recipients of **UAC implementation grants** are only eligible if they have received only one implementation grant since the start of the program (2016) and if all activities under the first grant are finalized and NACD staff have record of a final report for the project on file.

Previous recipients of **UAC planning grants** are eligible to apply for an implementation grant in the year immediately following their planning grant. The planning grant does not have to be completed; however, the applicant must have documented progress and outcomes toward finalizing their open planning grant, and they must detail how the implementation grant will address outcomes from the planning grant.

All applicants, regardless of previous grantee status, must indicate how they will support their UAC program after the NACD UAC grant period ends.

Districts are encouraged to be active, dues-paying, members of NACD, however this is not a requirement to apply, nor for selection.

Available Funding

New to FY 2022, two funding pools will be available, both of which require a match of 25% from non-federal funding sources.

1. **UAC Planning Grants** (up to \$10,000) and
2. Traditional UAC Grants, to be referred to as **UAC Implementation Grants** (up to \$60,000).

UAC Planning Grants:

Conservation districts may apply for up to \$10,000 and are required to provide 25% matching grant funds, in-kind or cash, from non-federal sources.

These smaller UAC Planning Grants will only be available to **first time UAC conservation district grantees**, for the purposes of early-stage development of a program related to urban or community agricultural conservation. These grants must focus on community needs assessments, partnership development, and building preliminary capacity to begin programming in these areas.

Districts may partner with a consultant or other organization to conduct the early research needed to later implement a full urban agricultural conservation project or program. After completing their planning project, the district should be prepared to address why and what type of technical assistance is needed in their community, how the identified need fits within the context of the district's long-range or strategic plan, who the target audience would be, key organizations for partnerships, and long-term funding sources beyond NACD.

With the successful completion of a planning grant, a district will have the basis to later apply for a UAC implementation grant. However, having received a planning grant does not guarantee that a district will



National Association of Conservation Districts

receive an implementation grant; districts with a previous planning grant will be evaluated on a competitive basis compared to all other applications for an implementation grant in the same year.

Districts who already have a strong urban or community agricultural conservation program should not apply for these grants, and instead consider the UAC Implementation Grants. **Rural districts looking to expand into community-oriented agricultural and conservation programs and those from NACD's South Central, Northern Plains, and Southwest Regions are especially encouraged to apply.**

UAC Implementation Grants:

Applicants may request up to \$60,000 and are required to match 25% of the requested funds through in-kind or cash match, from non-federal sources.

The UAC Implementation Grants are open to any conservation district or tribal organization; however, districts who have already received two NACD UAC grants are not eligible to receive a third grant. Previous grantees who have only received one UAC grant are eligible only if they have successfully completed all requirements related to their first grant, with a final report on file with NACD, and if they can document ongoing activity that is not dependent on the NACD UAC grant.

Districts may apply for any type of project focused on technical assistance within a community- or urban focused agricultural context (see example activities above). As part of the application, districts are asked how the grant fits within the context of their long-range or strategic plan; districts who cannot answer this question are encouraged to apply for a UAC Planning Grant instead of a full UAC Implementation Grant.

At least half of the project budget must support direct technical assistance, to include staff time related to the project, or compensation to others providing the technical assistance (for example, honorariums of speakers or cultural ambassadors). Supplies are an acceptable expense but must be less than 15% of the proposed budget, for example, food, materials, or other necessities for events, signage, seeds, planting, garden beds, or other equipment like shovels.

Grants **may not** be used for large infrastructure, such as the purchase of land or buildings, nor to exclusively hire contractors for the purposes of site preparation or other major renovations needed for an agricultural site. See detailed information about project budgets below and in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for this grant.

Districts are encouraged to work closely with other conservation districts and partners, but we will not accept more than one application for the same project. Specifically, more than one conservation district cannot apply for the same project with the goal of increasing the overall project budget.

At least one Letter of Support from a partner organization is required as part of the application—to indicate support for the project and likelihood that the district will complete it successfully—but also to help indicate how partner organizations may increase the long-term sustainability beyond the term of the NACD grant. Up to 5 letters are accepted as part of the application, and these will be read closely by the evaluation team.



National Association of Conservation Districts

Project Budgets

Districts must provide 25% match from non-federal sources for both types of grants. For additional information, see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for this grant.

For both grants, applicants may request funds in the following categories, within the limits indicated:

Salary, Benefits, and Honorariums:

These grants are designed to increase district capacity related to urban and community agriculture conservation, so ensuring district employees have time to carry out the work related to technical assistance should be the primary objective within your proposal. At least 50% of the budget should cover salary, benefits, or honorariums of any staff, cultural ambassadors, or speakers involved in project planning and implementation. Time may include contacting and working with partners, organizing, and delivering outreach events, promoting the program and contacting potential community farmers, etc., and any time needed to fill out the reports submitted to NACD. Districts are encouraged to work with cultural ambassadors if they do not have the multicultural or language skills on staff to work with specific, underrepresented, communities and honorariums may be used to compensate those individuals for their time.

Employee Training and Travel Costs:

These funds may cover any training needed to conduct the proposed project activities or to continue the project after the NACD grant. For example, training related to small scale and urban farming and conservation, cultural awareness, community engagement, asset mapping, or other relevant topics. Travel to and from project sites, events, training activities, etc. would also fit in this category.

Consultant/Contractor: for UAC Implementation Grants, this category must be less than 25% of the funds requested from NACD

Consultants or contractors may support any special outreach needs (for example, curriculum development), site development, planning, etc. that would not fall under the district employee or partner capabilities. For example, you would use this category if you need to hire a contractor to level ground prior to site development.

Supplies, Equipment and Promotion: must be less than 15% of the funds requested from NACD

This category includes any infrastructure or materials needed to conduct the project (signage, printed materials, shovels, irrigation equipment, snacks for events, etc.).

Administrative: must be less than 10% of the funds requested from NACD

Any costs associated with managing the employee dedicated to the project would fall under this category. Examples may include the district manager's time (discussing activities, providing guidance or mentorship, reviewing timecards), activities related to recruiting or hiring employees, interns or AmeriCorps members, and any time by district finance staff related to financial management.

Grant Timeframe and Sustainability

Grantees will have one year to complete project activities but will be evaluated on how they plan to continue the activities after the grant period. As part of the application districts must show how they will leverage partnerships with neighboring districts and other organizations to achieve the goal of long-term sustainability.



National Association of Conservation Districts

In the application, districts should provide details on other sources of funding or donations that they may seek to continue the program after the NACD grant, or how the grant will contribute to new revenue for the district to become self-sustaining (e.g., through plant or seed sales, fundraising events, fee-for-service programs, etc.). [Funding Resources and Tools for Conservation Districts](#) available on the Members Only Section of NACD’s Website may provide helpful ideas.

Proposal Guidelines and Timeline

Applications will be [accepted online](#) through **March 13, 2023, 11:59 PM Pacific Time**.

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE
NACD Announcement and Promotion	January 2023 – March 2023
Applicant Proposal Deadline	March 13, 2023
NACD Proposal Review and Selection	March 2023
NACD Award Notification and Processing of Agreements	April 2023
Applicant Project Implementation With ongoing reports submitted quarterly	May 2023 – May 2024

Applicants are encouraged to draft their text prior to starting the [online application](#) (see application questions at the end of the RFP), as applications cannot be saved to return to later. Review the Proposal Evaluation Criteria below prior to drafting the application.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

The review committee will evaluate all applications based on the following:

- A clear understanding of the grant program, reporting requirements and project goals, as indicated through concise answers to each application question and supplemental materials.
- How the project will contribute to local food security or sovereignty and ways the project will reach previously underrepresented clients or traditionally marginalized individuals.
- Project addresses a need for conservation technical assistance for community-oriented agriculture.
- Applicant meets all eligibility criteria and provides a resolution from the board indicating support for the project and that the project will not result in conflicts of interest (if applicable).
- Proposals provide detailed information on the project budget and how the funds will be used to achieve project goals, with budgets that do not exceed limits in each category.
- A detailed description of how the project fits within the district’s long-range or strategic plan, and how the project will continue beyond the grant timeframe.
- Project incorporates partnership activities with neighboring conservation districts, nonprofits, the private sector, local, state and federal government agencies, or others.
 - **For UAC Implementation Grants:** At least one letter of support is required from a partner organization detailing how the district and the partner will work together over the long-term. Applicants for the UAC Planning grants may submit letters, but they are not required.
- If this is a request for a second implementation grant, proposal indicates how the project has continued and operated without NACD UAC grant funds.
- Proposal indicates how the district will promote the project, including to policymakers, the community at large, and others.



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Project Agreements and Reporting Requirements

To receive grant funds, successful applicants must submit a signed 1-year Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), provided by NACD upon announcement of successful proposals. Grantees will then receive a 25% payment to begin project activities, with the remainder of funds disbursed in 25% increments on a quarterly basis pending availability of funds.

Beyond the first grant disbursement, districts must show ongoing activity toward project completion by submitting detailed quarterly reports on time. NACD will provide the reporting templates, which districts will use to provide information on project progress and detailed information about expenses. At the completion of the project, grantees must provide a written summary of project activities to be published in NACD's weekly newsletter, 1-2 lessons learned to be published on our website, and photos for continued promotion through publications and reports.

Applicants must also be willing to be interviewed post-project about ongoing project activities and be willing to be featured in NACD publications, including reports, newsletters and additional media.

Contact Information

Ariel Rivers, Ph.D.; (925) 290-8925

Ariel-Rivers@nacdnet.org



National Association of Conservation Districts

Application Instructions

Applicants must apply online by **March 13, 2023, 11:59 PM Pacific Time**. The application form is available online: [NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative - 2023 Application](#) and on [NACD's Urban and Community Webpage](#).

Interested applicants are encouraged to read these instructions and prepare their application with required documents well before the deadline. Late applications will not be accepted, and assistance with applications will not be available on the date they are due (March 13, 2023).

The online application includes a combination of questions that applicants must answer directly, as well as places for the district to upload specific files. **To be considered for funding, you must follow these instructions closely, answer each question, and submit all required documents.** Applications may be saved and resumed later, but applicants must save their access link as NACD staff will not be able to provide it at a later date. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

The required questions and required documents are numbered and italicized below, with additional instructions (including word counts) where indicated. A complete application includes clear and concise answers to each question within the word limits, and documents uploaded with the application. Please note that all questions are required for UAC Implementation Grants, and certain questions are not required for UAC Planning Grants (where indicated).

Districts may contact Ariel Rivers, Ph.D (ariel-rivers@nacdn.org) **well before the deadline** with any questions or issues. Assistance with applications will not be available on the date they are due. Additional information is available online in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for this grant.

Application Questions and Documents:

Applicant Information

Applicants are required to provide:

- The name of the applicant organization
- Name and contact info for at least one person
- Address, state and [NACD region](#) of applicant organization

UAC Applicant Eligibility

Applicants must answer the following questions and upload a document where indicated:

- Are you applying on behalf of a conservation district according to your state's legislation? *If you are not applying for a conservation district, you are not eligible for this grant.*
- Upload a Board Resolution - *Upload a resolution adopted by the district board stating that the board has reviewed and approved the proposal and has addressed potential conflicts of interest.*
- Have you read the UAC Frequently Asked Questions Available on NACD's website?
- Is your district a previous UAC Grantee?
- Describe your experience as a previous grantee (if applicable) – 200-word limit



National Association of Conservation Districts

Basic Grant Information

Applicants must answer the following questions:

- Which UAC Grant are you applying for?
 - UAC Planning Grant (Up to \$10,000)
 - UAC Implementation Grant (Up to \$60,000)
- Project title
- Brief Project Description - *In 50 words or less*
- Expected Agricultural and Conservation Outcomes (select all that apply):
 - Soil - including soil health and erosion
 - Water - including stormwater management and flood control, quality, quantity, or urban specific access issues
 - Plant - including productivity, health, pest management, forest and fire management, native plan conservation and urban tree canopy cover
 - Animal - including habitat and wildlife management, pollinator diversity, and other relevant issues
 - Energy
 - Human Impacts - including food security and sovereignty, impacts to livelihoods or wellbeing, increased access to green space, etc.
 - Other

Project Budget

Applicants must review the information regarding each eligible budget category and the maximum allowable costs. All grants must contribute 25% of the requested funds from NACD in matching funds.

For both NACD Funds and Matching Funds, applicants must provide the dollar amount requested or contributed for each category, respectively:

- Salary, Benefits and Honorariums
- Employee Training and Travel Costs
- Consultant/Contractor – *For NACD funds, must be less than 25% of the requested budget*
- Supplies, Equipment and Promotion – *For NACD funds, must be less than 15% of the requested budget*
- Administrative – *For NACD funds, must be less than 10% of the requested budget*

Applicants must also provide a detailed description (300-word limit) of how the funds will be used. Indicate sources of match funds, and how project activities are tied to the project budget.

Project Proposal

Applicants must provide the following information within the applicable word counts:

Applicant Qualifications – 200-word limit

Describe the conservation district's experience and expertise in providing technical assistance in urbanized settings, working with non-traditional partners and engaging communities and citizens. If the experience and/or expertise is limited, describe how district board and staff will prepare for the project implementation. Please describe how the project aligns with the districts' long-range or strategic plan.



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District Capacity - 200-word limit

Describe how this project will enhance the district's future capacity to provide conservation technical assistance to urban agriculture.

Detailed Project Description – 1,000-word limit

Describe the community population and location, the potential for community and partners' support, the urban agriculture conservation assistance needs, and how the project will address those needs. Include the additional benefits of the project such as stormwater infiltration, invasive species management, community engagement, participant business skills, etc. Districts are **strongly encouraged** to include demographic data, information from local, state, or national databases on resource concerns or food security metrics, etc.

Geographic Focus – 200-word limit

Please describe how your project will address technical assistance in a specific community. If applicable, please also include any information on outreach to underrepresented areas or populations, and how your project may address food insecurity or food sovereignty. Districts should include any supporting information that clearly identifies specific needs through resource or needs assessments, data available from partners, etc.

Project Goals and Timeline – 200-word limit

This is a one-year initiative running April 2022 to March 2023. List the specific goals of the project along with the proposed timeline for each.

Project Sustainability – 200-word limit

This question is not required for UAC Planning Grants. Describe how the project will continue after the NACD UAC grant term has ended. Include any expected contributions by partners to help support ongoing project activities. Please describe source of ongoing funds, e.g., district funds or additional grants, and the role the district will play in providing technical assistance beyond the term of the grant.

Project Promotion – 200-word limit

This question is not required for UAC Planning Grants. Describe how the project will be showcased at the local, state, and national level, outside of traditional audiences. Your outreach plan should provide information beyond what you are already doing, and not include only NACD and our publications. Include how the project can be used to encourage/mentor other districts' work in urban agricultural conservation. Please also link to any social media accounts you expect to use to promote the project, if not included elsewhere.

Supplemental Information:

Letters of Support

The UAC Evaluation Team considers partnerships a key to the ongoing success of the UAC grants, especially beyond the term of the NACD grant. Supplementary letters of support help indicate how applicants will engage with different partners from the community.

Applicants may upload up to 5 letters of support as a single document from potential project partners.



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Letters are a key factor in evaluation, applicants to the UAC Implementation Grant program should upload at least one letter; letters are encouraged but not required for UAC Planning Grants.

The file name must include the state and name of the district, saved as: State-District-LOS. Example: WA-Benton CD-LOS.

Additional Documents

Any supplemental materials are not required, but please feel free to share any additional information you feel would benefit your application. For example, site maps, strategic plans, outcomes from needs assessments, etc. **Please make sure the district name is included in the file name.**

For larger files or to submit a document separately, contact Dr. Ariel Rivers at ariel-rivers@nacdn.net; all documents must be received by the application deadline. Application support is not available the day the applications are due (Jan. 13, 2023).

Subject **New form submission assigned to you: Contact Us**
From <noreply@getstreamline.com>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2023-03-03 16:23



Contact Us

Attachment:	File attached — please log in to download it securely
Message:	Hello We are a community garden what is a place for special needs young adults to grow food for food banks in the area. We are in need of testing our soil so we can improve our crops. We have taken 9 samples from various places in the garden and need to have them tested. Is there a time when we can discuss what testing is needed. Thank you Robert C Mccarthy 951-675-0535 for Mary Ann Tams Cultivation Incusion Garden 3977 Alta Marietta dr. 951-296-7756
Subject:	Soil Testing
Your email:	Cultivatinginclusion2@yahoo.com
Your name:	Mary Ann Tams for Cultivating Inclusion

Reply / Manage

Powered by [Streamline](#).

Serving Our Special Needs Community



Cultivating Inclusion
A Community Farming Project



About the Farm

WHO WE ARE

Cultivation Inclusion Farm is the brainchild of four dedicated women with special needs children. Julia Caron, Samantha Morton, Doreen Camerota and Laura Valencia are dynamic women who worked very hard to make this space what it is today. They built an environment for young adults with special needs that is focused on helping them develop practical skills in a garden setting.

In 2014, this 3-plus acre plot owned by the city became available. These women signed a lease with the City of Murrieta and started Cultivating Inclusion. The garden officially opened in the Fall of 2015.

As time passed, volunteers came and went, but one dedicated woman, Mary Ann Tams, stayed and took the lead as Garden Director after the founding members lives took them in different directions. The mother of four, the youngest with Down Syndrome, Mary Ann has been involved with the special needs community since 1997. After retiring from working for the State of California, she devoted herself to Cultivation Inclusion full time in 2015. The garden became a 501c3 non-profit in June of 2018. Mary Ann's core group of volunteers help make this garden the success that it has become.

The garden consists of raised beds and in-ground rows suited for vegetable growing, as well as room for trees, flowers and native plants. There are two large orchards of various fruit trees.

Partnering with several organizations, the garden provides a safe environment for participants do meaningful work while acquiring skills that might help them find employment in farming or gardening occupations. The garden also provides space for horticultural therapy, and the food that is grown is donated to local food banks.

Mary Ann and Cultivating Inclusion hope to inspire more like-minded people to join the team and help grow the programs. Please send an email if you'd like to get involved or make a donation to this worthwhile organization.

Mary Ann Tams, Cultivating Inclusion Garden Director

Our Programs

SERVING OUR SPECIAL NEEDS COMMUNITY

Cultivating inclusion partners with, and is endorsed by, Care Rite Vocational and Towards Maximum Independence, day care programs for Special Needs Adults and is funded by the state of California.

DONATING FOOD TO LOCAL FOOD BANKS

Cultivating Inclusion currently works with four food banks and all the food grown at the farm is donated to them. These organizations include Western Eagle, Community Mission of Hope, Murrieta Food Bank and St. Vincent de Paul.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

The garden is funded by donations and is always looking to raise funds for the programs it provides. In the past, there have been grant awards as well as donations from individuals, both large and small. It all helps!

Currently, the garden is exploring ways to involve more community members. The most recent event is a painting class in the garden, and there are plans for a succulent potting class using hollowed-out pumpkins in November.

Classes are meant to be fun and educational, and will raise funds for the garden and its programs.

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**THE BEST TIME TO PLANT A TREE WAS
20 YEARS AGO. THE SECOND BEST
TIME IS NOW.**

Chinese Proverb

Connect With Us



Cultivating Inclusion
A Community Farming Project

Serving Our Special Needs Community



Cultivating Inclusion
A Community Farming Project



**FARM CLOSED TODAY-3/1/23
WHEN RAINDROPS ARE FALLING
PLEASE DO NOT COME C**

For Volunteer Opportunities

Contact the Garden Director, Mary Ann Tams at (951)

296-7756

39775 Alta Murrieta Dr

92563

Please note:

Under IRS Codes all 501c3 organizations (Cultivating Inclusion - EIN#82-4809510) are absolutely prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in or endorsing, any political campaigns.

Frequently Asked Questions

Please reach us at Cultivatinginclusion2@yahoo.com - 951-296-7756 - if you cannot find an answer to your question.

The farm is open every morning, but I'd like to work in the afternoon. Can that work? ▼

I use a wheel chair. Will there be any accommodations for me? ▼

I would like to participate in a small group and help make seedlings. Is that possible? ▼

About Us

All produce grown at Cultivating Inclusion is donated to local food banks, i.e. Murrieta Food Bank, Community Mission of Hope, St. Vincent de Paul and Western Eagle Foundation

About Us

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a certified 501c3non-profit dedicated to providing a job site location for Day and Adult Transition programs for adults with Special Needs. Our garden space allows for our special needs adults to have an agricultural experience by planting and nurturing produce. Produce which in turn is entirely donated to local food banks, i.e

[+ Show More](#)

Learn More About Us

Help Our Cause

Want to help but don't have the time to volunteer? 100% of all donations go directly to fund our programs. Your generous donations will fund our mission providing job skills to people with disabilities.

[**Donate Now**](#)

OUR HOURS