

CORRESPONDENCE



SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

1112 I Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95814-2865
T 916.231.4141 or 800.537.7790 • F 916.231.4111

Maximizing Protection. Minimizing Risk. • www.sdrma.org

October 18, 2022

Ms. Rose Corona
President
Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District
Post Office Box 2078
Temecula, California 92593-2078

Re: President's Special Acknowledgement Award – Property/Liability Program

Dear Ms. Corona,

This letter and enclosed certificate are to formally acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District's Governing Body, management, and staff towards proactive risk management and loss prevention training for earning the President's Special Acknowledgement Award! The Award is to recognize members with no "paid" claims during the prior **five consecutive program years** in the Property/Liability Program.

A "paid" claim for the purposes of this recognition represents the first payment on an open claim during the prior program year and excludes property claims. Your agency's efforts have resulted in no "paid" property/liability claims for the prior five consecutive program years from 2017-22. This is an outstanding accomplishment that serves as an example for all SDRMA members!

In addition to this annual recognition, members with no "paid" claims during 2021-22 earned one credit incentive point (CIP) reducing their annual contribution amount, and members with no "paid" claims for the prior 5 consecutive program years earned three additional bonus CIPs.

On behalf of the SDRMA Board of Directors and staff, it is my honor to congratulate your Governing Body, management, and staff for your commitment to proactive risk management and loss prevention training.

Sincerely,
Special District Risk Management Authority

Mike Scheafer, President
Board of Directors

CORRESPONDENCE GENERAL

Subject **CSDA eNews 10/11/22: California Special Districts magazine; Take Action: Zero-Emission Vehicle Mandate and PFAS Comments**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@cda.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <neilm@cda.net>
Date 2022-10-11 11:43



Webinar:
Sexual Harassment Prevention for Supervisors –
with Spanish Interpretation Available

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

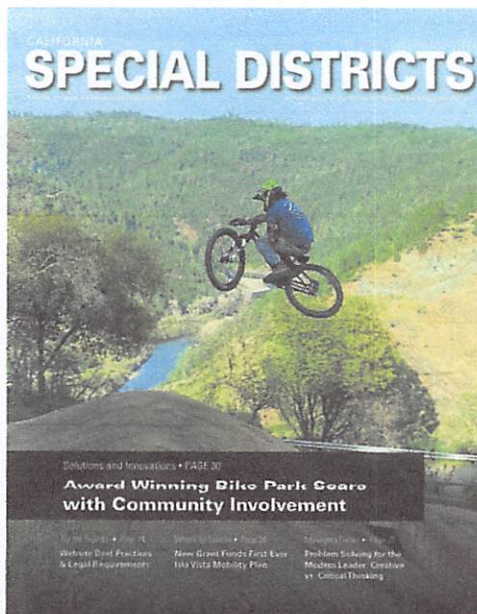
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Free to CSDA Members | \$95 to Non-members

[Register for Event](#)

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 11, 2022



Check Out the New Edition of the California Special Districts Magazine!

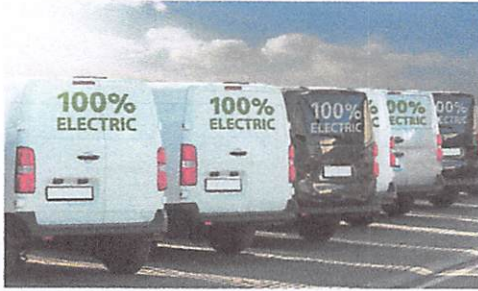
The September-October issue of *California Special Districts* is here and features the incredible accomplishments of some of this year's CSDA awards winners, such as Auburn Area Recreation and Park District's Auburn Bike Park, Rainbow Municipal Water District's Heli-Hydrant, Southgate Recreation & Park District's *Southgate Chronicles*, and the first-ever Isla Vista Mobility Plan by Isla Vista Community Services District!

Plus all the great special district content you've come to expect!

[READ THE MAGAZINE!](#)

CARB To Consider 2024 Zero-Emission Vehicle Mandate for Local Government Fleets

A recently-proposed regulation by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) would require state and local government fleets to phase in medium- and



heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles starting January 1, 2024. This proposed regulation also sets a clear end date for new internal combustion-powered medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales in California.

Affected special districts may submit comments by October 17, 2022 and attend the scheduled public hearing on October 27.

[LEARN MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

Comment on Proposed EPA PFAS Rule

On September 9, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking designating the two most studied and widely used polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) – perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) – as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as the "Superfund Law."

Comments on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking are due November 7, 2022.

[Read More](#)

FEDERAL GRANTS

Grants From Our Partnership With the National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC)

The National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC) provides weekly highlights for CSDA Members on newly-opened federal grant opportunities, as curated by The Ferguson Group (TFG).

This week's grants include:

- Advanced Biofuel Payment Program
- Fertilizer Product Expansion Program (FPEP)
- Solid Waste Management Grant
- Children's Safety Network

[Read More](#)

LEARN

Virtual Workshop: Financial Management for Special Districts

*Wednesday & Thursday, October 26 & 27
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

Money, money, money...it's on everyone's mind and on your job description. Make sure you understand the full scope of financial information affecting special districts today. From budgeting and internal controls to long term planning and capital improvement plans. Attendees will get the information they need to begin to assess the overall financial health of their district and steps needed to make positive changes.

[Register Here](#)



Inaugural Shredding and Compost Event a Success

Nearly 700 Costa Mesa residents took advantage of the first-ever community Shredding and Compost Giveaway event this summer. The drive-thru event was hosted by the Costa Mesa Sanitary District (CMSD), in partnership with the City of Costa Mesa, Newport Mesa Unified School District, and CR&R Environmental Services.

[READ MORE](#)

SDLF

It's Time to LEVEL UP!

In a time where proper fiscal management and

CAREER CENTER

Check out the most recent job postings in CSDA's

[Career Center](#).

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

To post an RFP or receive notifications when a new

responsibility in public agencies is paramount and the task of governing these agencies has become even more complex, regulated, and costly, it has become increasingly important to demonstrate to constituents that districts have sound fiscal management policies and practices in place among other areas of importance in district operations. Earn your District of Distinction & Showcase your efforts today! [Commit to the Challenge](#)

[Apply Now!](#)

[General Manager](#) - Oro Loma Sanitary District

[District Engineer](#) - Calaveras County Water District

[Buyer / Senior Buyer](#) - Mesa Water District

[Supervising Air Quality Planner](#) - Monterey Bay Air Resources District

[Air Monitoring Specialist](#) - Monterey Bay Air Resources District

[Read More](#)

RFP is posted, join the [RFP Clearinghouse Community](#).

RFP – Fire Station Replacement Design

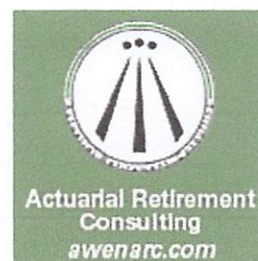
RFP – Social Media and Public Relations

RFP – Education, Communications, & Outreach Services

RFP – Integrated Water Master Plan

RFP – Prop 218 Engineering Study

[Read More](#)



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1112 I Street, Suite 200
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Subject **CSDA eNews 10/18/22: COVID State of Emergency Ending, Legislative Year-End Report, Cybersecurity Grant Program**
From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>
Date 2022-10-18 11:04



Virtual Workshop: Financial Management for Special Districts

Wednesday and Thursday, October 26 and 27, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. each day

\$100 SDRMA Members | \$175 CSDA Members | \$260 Non-members

[Register for Event](#)

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 18, 2022



2022 Year-End Legislative Report Includes Biggest Highlights and Comprehensive Bill Summaries

CSDA's advocacy highlights include infrastructure, revenue protections, housing, oversight and accountability, public meetings, cyber threats, and federal advocacy efforts. CSDA members can now [download the 2022 Year-End Legislative Report](#).

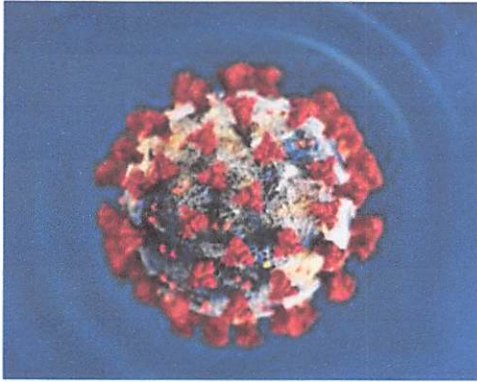
[READ MORE](#)



What Districts Need to Know: State, Local, Cybersecurity Grant Program

Federal cyber and emergency management agencies have announced the first opening of the \$1 billion State, Local, and Cybersecurity Grant Program. The notice of funding opportunity outlines that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will administer the grant with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) providing expert guidance. The program is the first of its kind and was established under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

[LEARN MORE](#)



California's COVID State of Emergency Ends February 28, 2023

On Monday, California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the COVID-19-related state of emergency proclaimed back in March 2020 would come to an end, terminating at the end of February 2023. The state of emergency remained in place throughout the pandemic, fostering the state's response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus and serving as the basis for several initiatives related to public health.

[READ MORE](#)



Share Your Knowledge with Special District Leaders!

It's your time to shine! CSDA is looking for the best and brightest in presentation proposals to help special district leaders excel in their communities. Submit your presentation ideas for any or all the conferences scheduled in 2023.

[SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL HERE.](#)

MEMBER RESOURCES

Is Your District's Website Compliant?

Navigating website mandates can be tricky, but CSDA has the resources to help. In this article titled "Website Best Practices and Legal Requirements," CSDA Endorsed Affiliate Streamline dives into website best practices and legal requirements so that your district can remain transparent and compliant. Get help understanding how SB 929, WCAG 2.0 AA, AB 2257, SB 272, & AB 434 impact the website posting requirements for your district today.

[Read More](#)

FEDERAL GRANTS

Grants From Our Partnership With the National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC)

The National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC) provides weekly highlights for CSDA Members on newly-opened federal grant opportunities, as curated by The Ferguson Group (TFG). This week's grants include:

- Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Program: Peer-Learning Pilot Cohorts
- National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program
- Rail Vehicle Replacement Program

[Read More](#)

LEARN

Virtual Workshop: SDLA Module 1 Governance Foundations

*Tuesday and Wednesday, December 6 and 7
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

Don't miss your chance for the last virtual governance training of the year! This course teaches the foundational knowledge and skills that identify and define the essential building blocks of a successful board, focusing on the critical elements of governance: effective trustees, board mindset, structure, process and protocols, individual/team standards, and the board's role and responsibilities.

[Register Here](#)



EPA Announces \$18 Million WIFIA Loan to Helix Water District for Drinking Water Resiliency

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced an \$18 million Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan to Helix Water District in San Diego County, California to support the Drinking Water Reliability Project. With EPA's WIFIA loan, Helix Water District will increase the region's drinking water resiliency by expanding water reuse opportunities and reducing reliance on imported water.

[READ MORE](#)



California Special
Districts Association



Reach Your Audience Online & In Print

Opportunities at csda.net and in CSDA's Magazine



Mover and Shaker: Jessica Puckett

Jessica Puckett, administrative analyst with Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park District, has earned her Certified Park and Recreation Executive certificate from the National Recreation and Park Association. The CPRE establishes a national standard for managerial, administrative and executive parks and recreation professionals. This mastery-level credential focuses on the practical knowledge and current real-world skills necessary in today's changing park and recreation environment. Congratulations from CSDA!

Have a mover and shaker to share? Send to advertising@csda.net

SDLF

Congratulations to Certified Special District Managers (CSDM) Kyle Swanson of Padre Dam Municipal Water District and Jeremy Wittie of

CAREER CENTER

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

[HR Analyst II](#) - Modesto Irrigation District

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

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

Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector District!

Do you want to improve your overall skills and knowledge, demonstrate your commitment to special districts, and stand out as one of the recognized "best in the field?" Complete your CSDM application and schedule your online exam by contacting Amberp@sdlf.org.

[Apply Now!](#)

[Harbor Director](#) - Tripepi Smith
c/o City of Morro Bay

[Bookkeeper](#) - Mendocino
Coast Health Care District

[General Manager](#) - Oro Loma
Sanitary District

[District Engineer](#) - Calaveras
County Water District

[Read More](#)

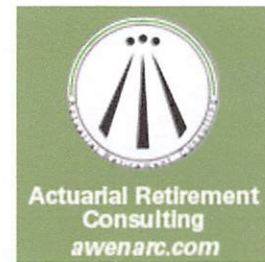
RFP – Fire Fuel Reduction &
Defensible Space Creation

RFP – Professional
Accounting Services

RFP – Social Media
Assessment

RFP – Public Opinion Survey
for Recycled Water

[Read More](#)



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**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

2022

HIGHLIGHTS



INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS

NEW CSDA MEMBER PROGRAM LAUNCHED: CALIFORNIA CLASS INVESTMENT OPTIONS FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS

California CLASS provides special districts and other public agencies with a convenient method for investing in high-quality, short-to-medium-term securities carefully chosen to provide for safety and liquidity while still maximizing interest earnings. California CLASS provides districts with a comprehensive, professionally managed approach to investing, a dedicated client service team, and a user-friendly and secure online transaction portal. Learn more: www.californiaclass.com



CHARTING OUR PATH FORWARD

A LOOK AHEAD – CSDA'S PATH FORWARD

The CSDA Board of Directors met for a strategic planning session to develop priorities and updates to the existing CSDA Strategic Plan. The CSDA Board of Directors approved the 2023-2025 CSDA Strategic Plan on September 16, 2022.

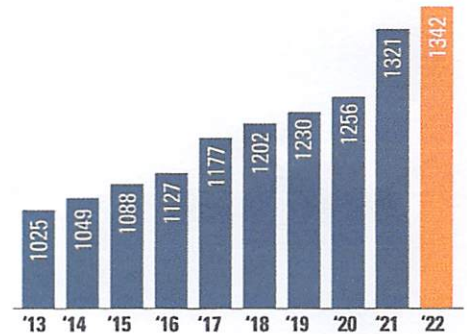
A few common themes of the plan:

- Continued Growth in Membership
- Focus on Member Engagement
- Leader in Content & Resources
- Prioritize Advocacy for All Types of Districts – Quality over Quantity
- Continue Progress & Growth in National Efforts



MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

CSDA membership numbers continue to grow, with more than 70 new organizations joining our ranks in 2022.



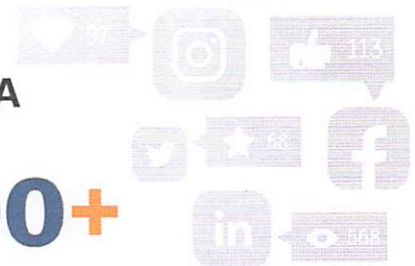
MEMBERSHIP

70+

JOINED
CSDA IN
2022

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

68,000+



18

**CSDA BOARD
MEMBERS
BRINGING LOCAL
PERSPECTIVES**
from across the state to your
association



DEDICATED STAFF
in Sacramento and throughout CA
serving members of all types and sizes

29



**NEWLY REVISED
BROWN ACT
COMPLIANCE
MANUAL**

25

**CSDA Affiliated
Chapters**



BUSINESS AFFILIATES

Diamond Level

- California CLASS
- CSDA Finance Corporation
- Special District Risk Management Authority

Platinum Level

- Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
- Best Best & Krieger LLP
- Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
- Richards Watson Gershon
- Umpqua Bank

5,129



Reviewed
State Bills



1,498

Adopted position on State Bills



224

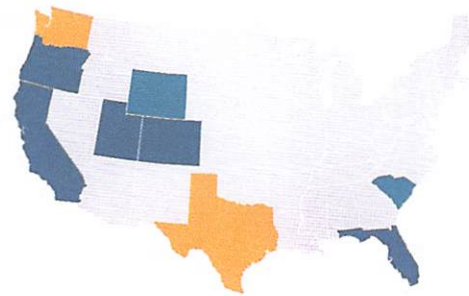
Directly Lobbied on State Bills

23

Of the 101 bills opposed
by CSDA, only 23 have
become law.

69

Of the 123 bills supported
by CSDA, 69 became law.



NSDC
NATIONAL SPECIAL DISTRICTS COALITION

Key:
■ Founding Members
(CA, OR, UT, CO, FL)
■ New Members
(WY, SC)
■ Associate Members
(WA, TX)

Founding Member of

National Special Districts Coalition

- CSDA extends NSDC resources and benefits to all CSDA members
- Adopted positions on 23 Federal Bills
- Produced a national report investigating community gaps in fire suppression infrastructure, after engaging with a 24-member working group from nine states
- Fielded 78 requests through the NSDC "Project Idea Portal" facilitated by CSDA endorsed affiliate, The Ferguson Group, and shared access to funding opportunities

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS: THE VOICE OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS



Cyber Security Legislation:

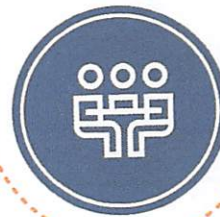
- Avoided unnecessary reporting & data handling mandates
- Allowed new efficient technologies
- Advocated for resources and improved information sharing

Blocked CEQA expansion
that could negatively impact
critical projects



Local Revenue:

- Prevented diversion of millions of dollars in property tax revenues away from special districts.
- Protected impact fee revenues critical to special district infrastructure
- Led special district response to proposed statewide ballot initiative that could devastate local revenues and services



Brown Act:

- Guidance on emergency remote meetings
- Supported allowances for Board Member remote meetings
- Protected orderly meetings that avoid administrative delays



Stood against efforts
to limit the local control of
leases and impose severe
new penalties related to
surplus land decisions

LEGAL



REPRESENTING SPECIAL DISTRICTS IN THE COURTS

CSDA seeks positive legal outcomes for special districts by filing amicus curiae (or "friend-of-the court") briefs in cases of interest that could impact special districts' governance or operations.

12



Actively tracked 12 cases in the Courts of Appeal and California Supreme Court involving legal issues affecting special districts.



Issues addressed in CSDA amicus briefs include:

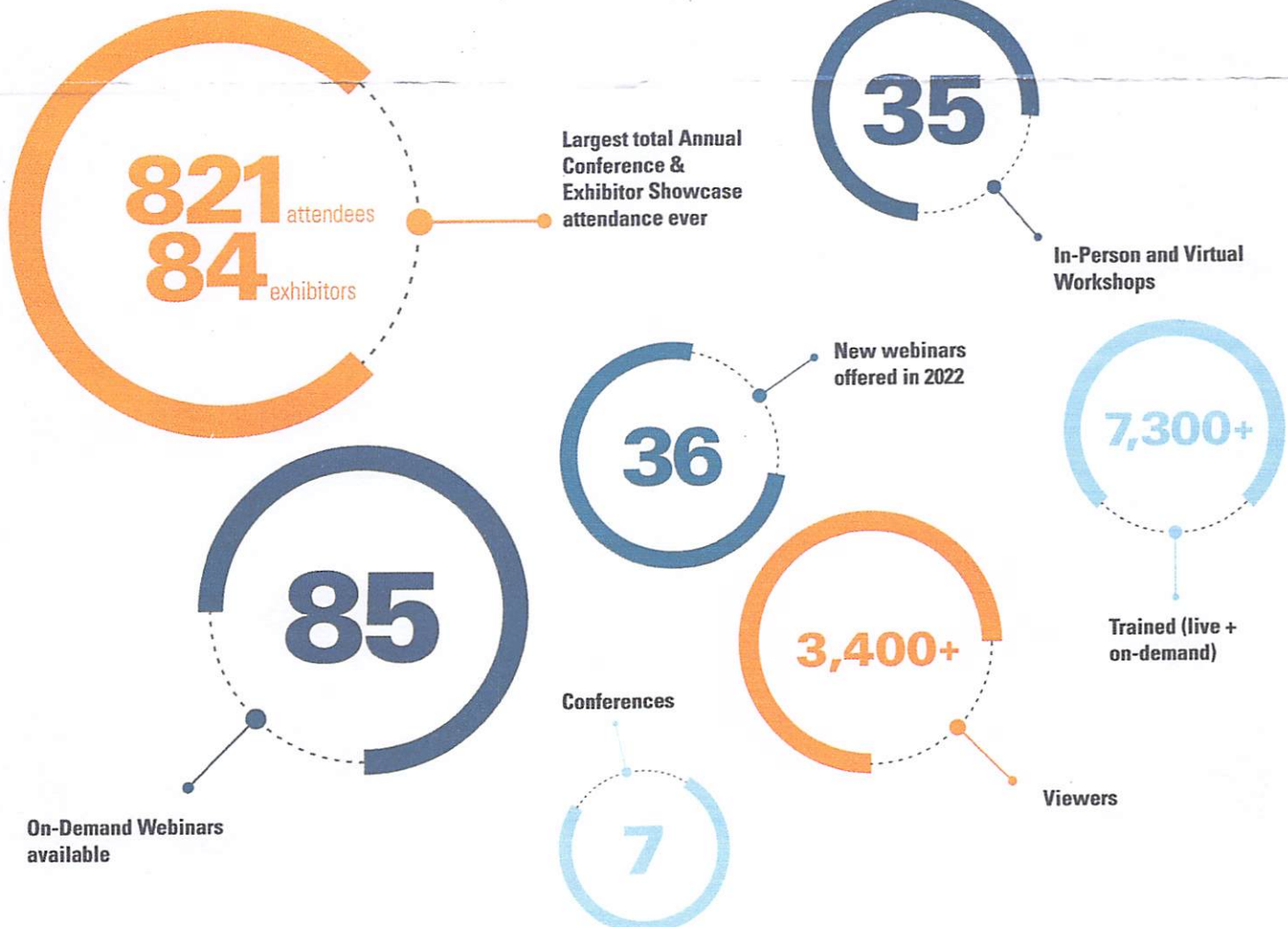
- California Public Records Act
- Special Benefit Assessments
- Rate-setting under Proposition 218
- Employer Liability Insurance

Learn more online at: www.csdanet.org/advocate/legal-advocacy.

Filed four (4) briefs on behalf of special districts as of September 2022, with another 2 pending for filing by year end.

4

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

CONGRATULATIONS 2022 CSDA AWARDS RECIPIENTS

2022 CSDA Exceptional Public Outreach & Advocacy Award (Small District Category):

Isla Vista Community Services District for its Isla Vista Mobility Plan

2022 CSDA Innovative Project of the Year Award (Large District Category):

Rainbow Municipal Water District for its Rapid Aerial Water Supply (RAWS)

Innovative Program of the Year Award (Small District Category):

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District for its Auburn Bike Park

Chapter of the Year Award:

Contra Costa Special Districts Association

William Hollingsworth Award of Excellence:

William (Bill) Morton, founder of the Municipal Finance Corporation

Staff Member of the Year Award:

Cecilia Goff, district secretary and district administrator of Ironhouse Sanitary District

Board Member of the Year Award:

Mike Scheafer, board member of the Costa Mesa Sanitary District

General Manager of the Year Award:

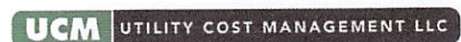
Scott Carroll, CSDM, general manager of Costa Mesa Sanitary District

LEGISLATIVE TOURS

Hosted a two-day tour for 27 Capitol Staff, as well as two one-day tours and a virtual tour for hundreds of state and federal officials featuring 19 special districts.



Special thanks to CSDA Endorsed Affiliates who provide CSDA's value-added benefits.



Subject **CSDA eNews 10/25/22: Does Your District Have An Investment Policy?**

From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>

To <manager@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>

Date 2022-10-25 11:07



Last Chance for VIRTUAL Governance Training Virtual Workshop: SDLA Module 1 Governance Foundations

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 6 and 7, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. each day
\$175 CSDA Members | \$260 Non-members

[Register for Event](#)

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 25, 2022



Does Your District Have An Investment Policy?

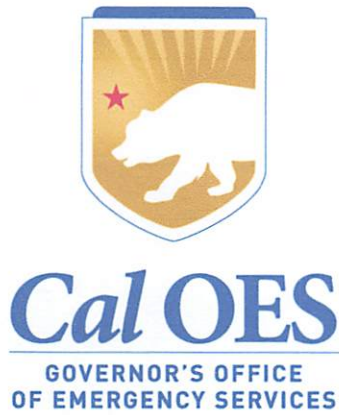
In line with current government code, CSDA recommends every district develop an investment policy. If your district has one already, when was the last time you reviewed it? View our [Sample Investment Policy](#) or request a free CSDA review.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Cal/OSHA Releases Modified Draft COVID-19 Workplace Non-Emergency Standard and Updates Close Contact Definition

The final version of this regulation is anticipated to be in place January 1, 2023, replacing the current Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) when it expires.

[READ MORE](#)



Special Districts Encouraged to Complete Upcoming Census of Local Government Count

Information gleaned from special districts and other governmental entities is analyzed by the Census Bureau and published in a series of reports and datasets providing aggregated insights on the 90,000 local governments across the country. As it is the only official comprehensive national governments dataset that is routinely and consistently gathered, the information is also used for federal grantmaking decisions.

[READ MORE](#)

TAKE ACTION

2023 New Laws Series Preview

November 1, 2022, CSDA will kickoff its annual New Laws Series. Every year, CSDA helps members get a step ahead by convening leading legal and public policy experts to overview the most significant new laws signed into law that will impact the work of special districts and the communities they serve. This year, members will benefit from a seven-week series focusing on new laws on topics ranging from the Brown Act to LAFCO to employment, to rates and fees.

The full range of topics covered in CSDA's 2023 New Laws Series will include...

MEMBER RESOURCES

Latest Sample Policy Handbook Update Now Available

Current subscribers to the CSDA Sample Policy Handbook can now view the most recent update from our Business Affiliate member [Jarvis Fay, LLC](#). The firm has provided a new policy regarding Procurement Procedures for Federal Awards. The handbook also includes sample policies for board and board meetings, administration, and financial management. Purchase of the handbook, delivered on a USB drive in an editable format, includes an annual subscription to quarterly updates. Visit CSDA's online [Bookstore](#) for purchase information or contact [Member](#)

LEARN

Do You Know About "Governance To Go?"

Can't make it to one of CSDA's scheduled governance trainings? Would your district prefer an internal training at your location? We have you covered! With CSDA's "Governance to Go" program you can complete an online request for training that works for you and your district. Choose from any of four governance modules, focusing on the basics of governance, public outreach and strategic planning, finances and fiscal responsibility, or human resources. All of our governance training options also meet the requirement for six hours of governance training for the [District of Distinction program](#) from the

[Read More](#)

[Services](#) to find out if you are
current on your subscription.

[Visit Bookstore](#)

[Special District Leadership
Foundation](#).

[Learn More](#)



History and 100-Year Anniversary Celebration of Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District

Delta Mosquito Abatement District (DMAD) was formed on September 19, 1922. The Visalia Women's Civic Club was highly influential in its formation. The interest was stimulated by numerous cases of the mosquito-borne disease, Malaria as well as a severe pest mosquito problem.
[READ MORE](#)

FEDERAL GRANTS

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- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Section 41006: Water Power Projects: Innovative Technologies to Enable Low Impact Hydropower and Pumped Storage Hydropower Growth
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Section 40334: Pumped Storage Hydropower Wind and Solar Integration and System Reliability Initiative

[Read More](#)

RECOGNIZE PUBLIC SERVANTS

Nominate a Champion of Local Government!

The Institute for Local Government is collecting nominations for outstanding leaders in public service and celebrating champions of local government throughout the year. Nominations can include anyone working in one of California's counties, special districts or cities – from staff to elected or appointed officials. Self nominations are encouraged!

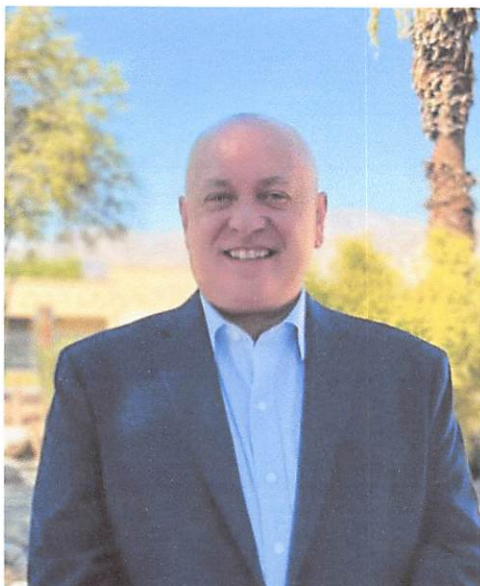
Help us celebrate the important work local leaders are doing in the areas of:

- Leadership & Governance;
- Public Engagement;
- Sustainable & Resilient Communities; and
- Workforce & Civics Education.

[Recognize a Champion Today!](#)

Mover and Shaker: Robert Griffith

The Mission Springs Water District Board of Directors appointed local resident and businessman Robert Griffith to fill its Division 2 Board vacancy. Griffith, who resides in Division 2 and has a history of leadership and giving back to the community, previously served as a Desert Hot Springs Councilmember and Mayor Pro Tem. He also has held positions on the Desert Hot Springs Planning Commission and is currently the president of the DHS Historical Society and the



DHS Hotelier's Association. Congratulations to Mr. Griffith! [READ MORE](#)

Have a mover and shaker to share? Send to advertising@cdda.net



California Special
Districts Association



Reach Your Audience Online & In Print

Opportunities at cdda.net and in CSDA's Magazine

SDLF

The Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) Congratulates the Following Districts for Renewing their Transparency Certificate of Excellence!

- Central Contra Costa Sanitary District and
- Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District

YOU COULD BE NEXT!

Check out the Transparency Certificate of Excellence at the link below or at SDLF.org. For questions, contact SDLF Program Assistant Amber Phelen at amberp@cdda.net.

[Apply Now!](#)

CAREER CENTER

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

[Assistant to the General Manager](#) - Compton Creek Mosquito Abatement District

[Executive Assistant](#) - Northern California Power Agency (NCPA)

[Finance Manager](#) - Woodside Fire Protection District

[Contracts Administrator I/II](#) - West Basin Municipal Water District

[Executive Director - Air Pollution Control Officer](#) - Bob Murray & Associates - Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

[Read More](#)

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

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RFP – Communications & Outreach Services

RFP – Backup Power Reliability Consulting Services

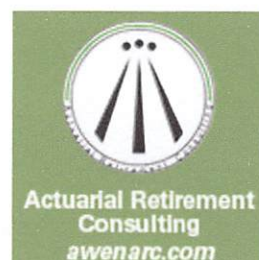
RFP – Fire Fuel Reduction & Defensible Space Creation

RFP – Professional Accounting Services

RFP – Social Media Assessment

RFP – Public Opinion Survey for Recycled Water

[Read More](#)



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Subject **CSDA eNews 11/1/22: New Law series of 2023 begins!**
From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
To <manager@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <neilm@csda.net>
Date 2022-11-01 11:21



Special Districts and Next Door: Opportunity is Knocking!

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

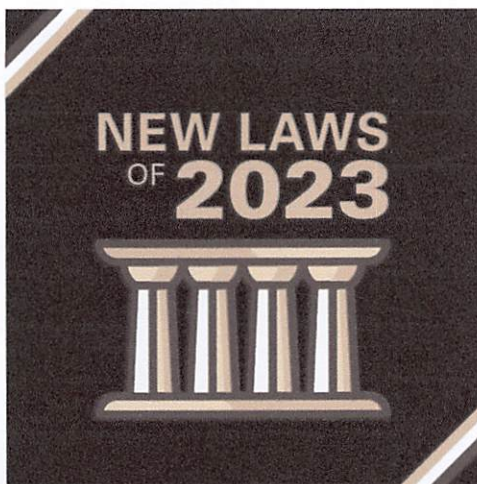
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Free CSDA & CAPIO Members | \$95 Non-members

[Register for Event](#)

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

November 1, 2022



Part 1: SB 938 LAFCO Protest Procedures

SB 938 to simplify LAFCO protest procedures and ensure special districts exceed basic standards. This bill amends the law governing local agency formation commissions (LAFCOs) in two ways: (1) Consolidates protest thresholds for determining whether LAFCOs can approve an annexation or change of organization and (2) gives LAFCOs a new avenue to dissolve districts.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Coach, Mentor, Sponsor & a Personal Board of Directors? Yes, You Need All of Them

Our keynote speaker for the upcoming Board Secretary / Clerk Conference provided us this article on what it takes to succeed. In a nutshell: it takes connections to others who can shape, guide and foster your growth along the way. But, how do you find those people and how will you know they're 'your people?' [READ MORE](#)

LEGAL NEWS

WEEKLY GRANTS

LEARN

Local Governing Board Members Will Now Have Conflict of Interest in Campaign Donors Appearing Before Their Agencies

Local elected officials – including city council members, special district board members and school district board members – will now have to "conflict out" of certain proceedings involving persons that made contributions to their respective political campaigns.

[Read More](#)

Week of October 28 Grants Update

The National Special Districts Coalition provides weekly highlights for CSDA Members on newly-opened federal grant opportunities, as curated by The Ferguson Group (TFG). This week's selection of grants include:

Department of Health & Human Services

Department of Interior

National Endowment for Humanities

[View Grants](#)

Quarterly Leadership Book Club:

Five Dysfunctions of a Team

Friday, December 2

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Our December book is *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* by Patrick Lencioni. The discussion will be facilitated by David Aranda, Certified Special District Manager. David has over 30 years of experience in the public sector, working both as a general manager and as a board member. He has also taught CSDA's acclaimed SDLA Governance Foundations and Board Secretary Foundations courses for many years.

[Register Here](#)



Problem Solving for the Modern Leader

Creative vs. Critical Thinking

Are you a critical thinker? If so, can you learn to be more creative? This article explores critical and creative thinking to help you learn to break your boundaries. [READ MORE](#)

SDLF

There's still time!

Special District Leadership Foundation has funds available to attend the [Board Secretary Clerk Conference](#) in Monterey November 7-9, 2022!

All Secretaries / Clerks are encouraged to attend this career development conference.

CAREER CENTER

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

[General Manager](#) - Rosamond Community Services District

[Assistant to the General Manager](#) - Compton Creek Mosquito Abatement District

[General Manager](#) - Pauma Valley Community Services District

[Executive Assistant](#) - Northern CA Power Agency

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

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

RFP – Auditing Services

RFP –Actuarial Services

RFP –Communications & Outreach

RFP –Backup Power Consulting Services

RFP –FireFuel Reduction & Defensible Space

[Apply Now!](#)

[Read More](#)

[Read More](#)



Movers and Shakers: Inland Empire RCD

Inland Empire Resource Conservation District in Redlands was recognized in September by the California State University, San Bernardino with their Outstanding Community Partner Award.

[READ MORE](#)

Have a mover and shaker to share? Send to advertising@csda.net

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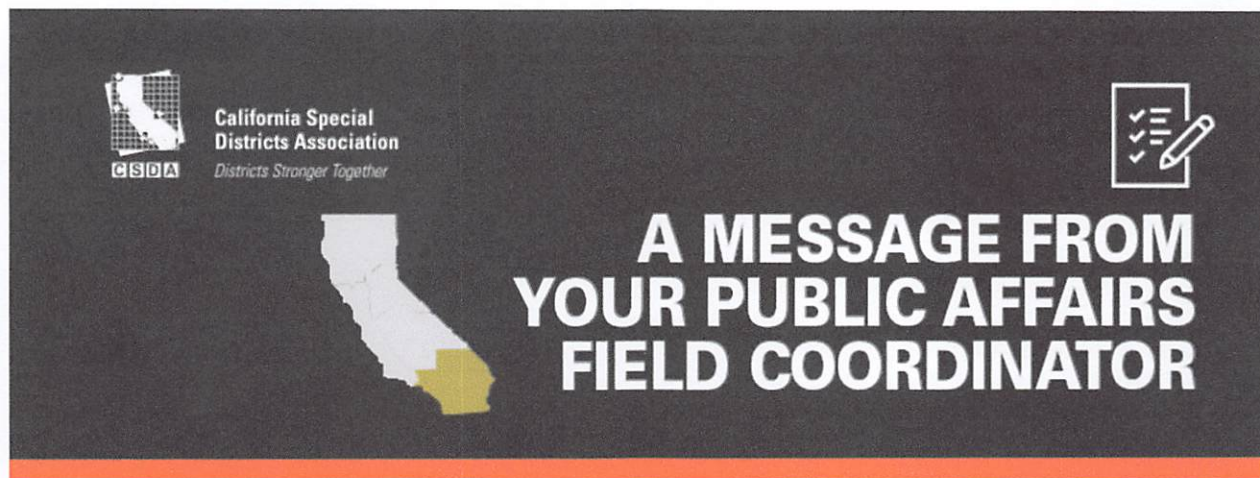


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Sacramento CA, 95814
Phone - 877.924.2732
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Network News



Dear Members,

The 2022 legislative session has now ended and CSDA has compiled a report of its major advocacy achievements. CSDA has also demonstrated value to districts in other areas throughout the year.

We have designed easy-to-read reports for 2022 to keep you updated on our efforts and accomplishments. It has been an honor to represent and advocate for special districts this legislative session.

[View 2022 Legislative Report](#)

[View the Bill Report](#)

[View the 2022 CSDA Highlights](#)

New Changes to Brown Act in 2023

Governor Gavin Newsom recently announced that the COVID-19-related state of emergency proclaimed back in March 2020 would come to an end, terminating at the end of February 2023. Now, with the state of emergency ending, any current initiatives relying on the active state of emergency for their operation will cease to remain in effect. **Importantly, this will include local agencies who transition to remote meetings using the framework enacted by the passage of [Assembly Bill](#)**

[361 \(R. Rivas, 2021\) Bill Text - AB-361 Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences.](#); after February 28, 2023 these agencies will no longer be able to cite the COVID-19 state of emergency as the basis for their AB 361 resolutions, meaning that these agencies will be required to hold in-person meetings, remote meetings under the typical procedures (i.e., the procedures as they generally existed before the pandemic), or, after January 1, 2023, they may opt to use the procedures created by [Assembly Bill 2449 \(Rubio, 2022\)](#). While the provisions of AB 361 themselves technically remain in law until the end of 2023, those provisions require an active state of emergency for their operations.

Share Your Knowledge with Special District Leaders!

It's your time to shine! CSDA is looking for the best and brightest in presentation proposals to help special district leaders excel in their communities. Submit your presentation ideas for any or all of the conferences scheduled in 2023.

Learn More

Upcoming Southern Network Chapter Meetings:

San Diego CSDA Chapter Dinner

Thursday, November 17th, 6pm – 8pm

The Butcher Shop -- 5255 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego

Cost: \$60.00

RSVP: Contact Kim Johnson, Chapter Administrator at (858) 227-5797 or kjohnson@sfidwater.org and Rich Stevenson at (619) 409-6711 or rstevenson@sweetwater.org

Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts Chapter Dinner

Monday, November 21st, 6pm – 8pm

Yucaipa Valley Water District's Crystal Creek Facility -- 35477 Oak Glen Rd., Yucaipa

Cost: \$35.00

RSVP: Erin Anton -- eanton@yvwd.us or (909) 790-3308

Concerned of Cost Burdens, NSDC Opposes Federal Uniform Financial Reporting Mandate

The National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC), of which CSDA is a founding member, opposes federal legislation that would standardize local agencies' federal financial reporting requirements, potentially posing an unnecessary, costly mandate on special districts and other local agencies issuing bonds and holding investments.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)



2023 Trial Membership: New & Extended

Do you know a district that has been interested in CSDA? Now, they can try us out for up to 6 months! Our newly extended free Trial Membership allows a district more time to become acclimated with our services, like attending conferences/workshops, watching educational webinars, reviewing current news effecting their area, or perusing the Knowledge Base for reference materials.



Help us spread the word!

We'll send you a Starbucks gift card if a district refers your name on the submitted application!

Not a CSDA Member (yet)?

Registration for our [2023 Trial Membership](#) is now open. Non-member districts can experience CSDA membership for free starting January 1, 2023. [Application](#) must be submitted by December 30, 2022 to experience the full 6 months. Questions? Contact Eric Spencer at erics@csda.net or (916) 442-7887.

Best Regards,

Chris Palmer
Senior Public Affairs Field Coordinator
California Special Districts Association
Southern Network

chrisp@csda.net
714-743-7404 cell
www.csda.net



California Special Districts Association
1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento CA, 95814
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The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

REGISTER FOR NACD'S 2023 ANNUAL MEETING!

October 11, 2022



ICYMI: The Latest
Edition of *The
Resource* is Here!



Registration for The National Association of Conservation Districts' (NACD) 77th Annual Meeting is now open! Hosted in partnership with the **Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts**, the 2023 Annual Meeting will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana from **February 11-15** at the **New Orleans Marriott**. Early bird registration for the *discounted price* of \$575 will be open through **December 23, 2022**. NACD's Annual Meeting brings together hundreds of conservation leaders from across the nation with opportunities for networking, learning, and exploring New Orleans! More details, including hotel and tour information, can be found [here](#).

[Register Here](#)

SUPREME COURT TERM BEGINS WITH WOTUS CASE AS EPA FINALIZES DEFINITION

A new Supreme Court term began last week with the justices hearing oral arguments for *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*. In 2004, the Sackett's purchased a residential lot close to Priest Lake, Idaho and placed gravel with the intention of building a home. The EPA determined that the Sackett's residential lot included wetlands protected under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and subsequently

Catch up on everything NACD has been up this summer in the latest edition of *The Resource*. Click the cover above to begin browsing the publication. Inside you'll find updates on our grant programs and events, as well as stories from conservation districts across the county.

Browse past editions of *The Resource* on [NACD's website](#) and [please let us know](#) if you have any questions or comments about this edition.

informed the Sackett's they could not build. After several years of litigation, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals cited precedent from *Rapanos v. United States*, a previous Supreme Court case which attempted to define WOTUS. Justice Kennedy's opinion in the *Rapanos v. United States* stated "jurisdiction over wetlands depends upon the existence of a significant nexus between the wetlands in question and navigable waters in the traditional sense." A significant nexus test is presently used to determine if federal agencies, such as the EPA, have jurisdiction over wetlands and other non-navigable streams and ditches.

Since the *Rapanos v. United States* case did not end in a majority opinion, it has caused confusion as the lower circuit courts have interpreted the ruling differently (e.g., certain circuit courts have argued whether to use Justice Scalia or Kennedy's tests to determine WOTUS). The Sackett's are now hoping the Supreme Court will decide which test is appropriate for determining what waters and wetlands are considered WOTUS.

Why is this important? The decision in *Sackett v. EPA* from the Supreme Court could clarify how federal agencies determine what waters and wetlands are WOTUS and therefore subject to protection under the Clean Water Act.

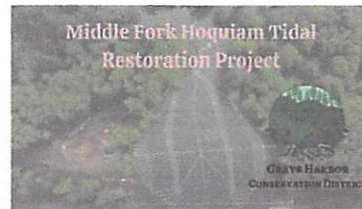
The EPA is also currently in the process of revising the definition of WOTUS and is likely to publish the final definition before the Supreme Court rules on the *Sackett v. EPA* case in early 2023. The definition may change again depending on the Supreme Court's decision.

Last year, NACD [submitted comments](#) to EPA requesting that the agency recognize and accommodate local input when defining WOTUS. The NACD Government Affairs team will continue to follow both the Supreme Court and EPA for decisions on WOTUS and will provide updates accordingly.

JOIN NACD'S UPCOMING FORESTRY WEBINAR ON INCREASING LOCAL CAPACITY

NACD will be hosting a webinar on the Society of American Foresters ForestEd platform on **October 26, 2022, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET**. Utilizing this learning platform will allow us to engage with NACD audiences and a broader cross section of natural resource professionals and foresters while exposing these new audiences to the work of conservation districts. NACD members can register for the webinar [here](#) and will receive details on how to access the webinar.

Grays Harbor CD Shares Documentary on Local Tidal Habitat Restoration Project



Grays Harbor Conservation District, WA, is excited to share a ten minute documentary film that captures a local tidal habitat restoration project six years in the making. This film provides a first hand look at the planning and construction that took place in the summer of 2021 to restore rare sitka spruce tidal habitat on the Middle Fork Hoquiam River at a site developed over a century ago as a railroad log dump by the Polson Brothers Logging Company. See the full documentary [here](#).

Sand County Foundation Grant Opportunity for High School Teachers



The Sand County Foundation (SCF) is now accepting proposals from high school teachers for [pollinator habitat grants](#)! This competitive grant program gives students hands-on experience growing native forbs indoors and establishing pollinator habitat.



Encouraging landowners to implement sustainable forestry management has a unique set of challenges including those related to capacity limitations. This webinar will showcase the work of the American Forest Foundation in partnership with NRCS, piloting capacity building efforts in the west by focusing on increasing local capacity. In addition, attendees will hear from the **Boulder Valley & Longmont Conservation Districts** and their efforts to increase forester capacity and engage more landowners. We will be joined by **Vanessa McCracken**, District Manager, Boulder Valley & Longmont Conservation Districts, and **Natalie Omundson**, Senior Manager Western Conservation and Fire, American Forest Foundation.

This webinar is intended for conservation district professionals, foresters, and natural resource professionals as well as anyone seeking to learn more about the role of conservation districts in forestry and innovative approaches to increasing local capacity.



CUYAHOGA SWCD ESTABLISHES FOOD FORESTS WITH UAC GRANT SUPPORT

Through the joint NACD-NRCS Urban Agriculture Conservation (UAC) grant initiative, districts have the opportunity to provide technical assistance related to any number of agricultural conservation issues in urban and community settings. Thanks to a 2020 UAC grant, **Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)** in Ohio was able to focus on establishing two food forests within the greater Cleveland area.

Successful applicants will receive prairie seeds and seedlings, an orientation and consultation, and \$1,000 to support project expenses. The deadline for proposals is

November 18. To be eligible you must be a high school teacher, have access to a suitable indoor growing area, identify a site (working/agricultural lands preferred), and be located in Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, or Wisconsin.

Interested in applying? Visit [here](#) for details, or [contact Haley Diem](#) at SCF for more information!

Reducing Risk at the Wildland-Urban Interface Webinar

Sparkling Solutions: Reducing Risk
at the Wildland-Urban Interface

Wildfires in the western United States are becoming more frequent and more damaging to affected communities. Increased damages due to wildfire owe in part to a growing number of homes, businesses, and other structures in wildfires' paths. The past several decades have seen a large increase in the number of US homes in areas known as the wildland-urban interface (WUI), where people live close to large areas of wildland vegetation. Over the past two decades, the number of residential homes in the WUI has grown by about 350,000 homes per year. As of 2021, roughly 49 million homes were in these areas.

Join Resources for the Future (RFF) tomorrow, **Wednesday, October 12**, for the second [RFF Live event](#) in the "Sparkling Solutions" webinar series, where they will discuss

The first food forest was a demonstration site set up near the Garfield Heights High School, in Garfield Heights, Ohio, which already had a community garden and several edible native and wild plants, including cherry oak. The site is used as a teaching tool to demonstrate that edible, native food can be grown in a "forest" atmosphere, regardless of the size of the forest. The proximity to the school also provides the ability for students to learn about native edible foods.



The second site was established near the Historic Coit Road Farmers Market in East Cleveland, Ohio. Coit Road Farmers Market is one of the longest running Farmers Markets in greater Cleveland, and one of the few spots that fresh, locally grown produce is available on Cleveland's west side, an historically disenfranchised area and food desert. Establishing a food forest here not only provides potential meal sources for residents, it also provides a green space in an area that is lacking green space access. The food forest will serve as a replicable model as well as a source for plants for other neighborhood projects.

The food forests would not have been established if it wasn't for the numerous partners that helped with the execution of the grant, including Cahoon Nursery, The Hawken School, Case Western Reserve University, Food Strong, The Cuyahoga County Land Bank, Central State University Extension, Coit Road Farmers Market, The City of East Cleveland, The City of Garfield Heights, and many, many others.



Working with so many partners provided a supportive network when the district needed to overcome challenges of their grant (as discussed in a 2021 [NACD monthly urban and community webinar](#)), but also provided many learning opportunities for Cuyahoga SWCD staff.

"Pre-grant work is the major key to success," says **Jakob Hamlescher**, Urban Technician at the district. "Have all MOUs out and agreed to with project partners and sites secured, or ready to be secured with funding. This allows boots and shovels to hit the ground as soon as possible."

Read more about all grantees through the UAC program on NACD's urban and community conservation [webpage](#).

the benefits and challenges of addressing the WUI problem. The session will touch on the costs and effectiveness of alternative approaches, including land use policies, building codes, landscaping ordinances, homeowner education programs, and more; examples of community success stories; and other potential creative solutions.

To attend this webinar, please [RSVP](#) and follow the instructions in the Zoom confirmation email. Visit the [event webpage](#) for more information.


September 2022


23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4


Promote your conservation district or state association's tree sale, annual meeting, webinar, field day, or other events on NACD's [Calendar of Events!](#)

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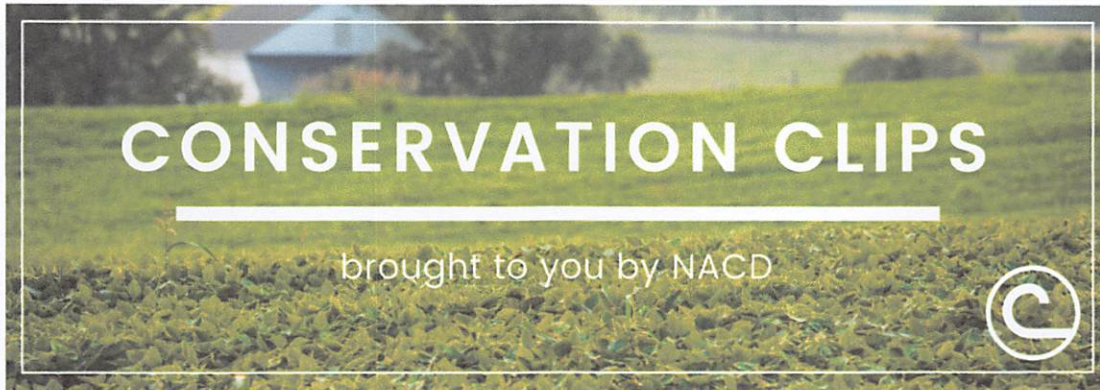
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Conservation Clips is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. These articles are not indicative of NACD policy and are the opinions of their authors, unless otherwise noted. If you have a relevant submission or need assistance with accessing articles, [please contact the NACD Communications Team](#).

U.S. Department of the Interior: [Interior Department Leads Multi-Agency Effort to Support Tribal Sovereignty Through 477 Program](#)

10/07/22

The Department of the Interior and 11 federal agencies entered into an updated Memorandum of Agreement on implementing Public Law 102-477 to better support Tribal sovereignty.

EPA: [EPA Seeks Nominations for Local Government Advisory Committee](#)

10/07/22

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing a solicitation for nominations to serve on its Local Government Advisory Committee

(LGAC), which advises EPA on critical environmental issues impacting local governments.

Washington Post: [Study Finds Climate Change is Bringing More Intense Rains to U.S.](#)

By Matthew Cappucci

10/11/22

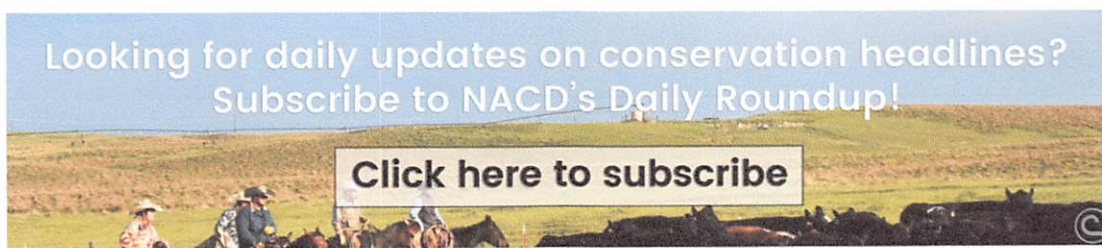
A paper published Tuesday in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters* finds that it's raining harder in most of the United States. The study tied the results to climate change and to warmer air's ability to hold more water.

Farm Progress: [Manage Soil Health While Grazing Cropland](#)

By Kerry Nielsen

10/12/22

Benefits of grazing cattle on cropland extend beyond having more cattle feed. Integrating cattle and cropland can also provide a much-needed boost to soil health.



The Progress News: [Clearfield County Conservation District Awarded Grant for AMD Treatment Project](#)

By Mikayla Heiss | *Harrisburg, PA* | *Northeast Region*

10/07/22

The state Department of Environmental Protection recently awarded \$3 million in grant funding to local governments and organizations to restore the health of local watersheds around the state by reducing water pollution including the award of funding to **Clearfield County Conservation District** for a treatment project for Montgomery Creek.

My Edmonds News: [Snohomish Conservation District Holding 5th Annual](#)

[Orca Recovery Day Oct. 15](#)

Edmonds, WA | Pacific Region

10/07/22

Snohomish Conservation District is hosting its fifth annual Orca Recovery Day event in partnership with the City of Marysville. Attendees will learn about the role they can play in protecting the Southern Resident orcas, including the benefits of trees along waterways and the impact of stormwater runoff on aquatic wildlife.

[N'West Iowa Review: Sioux Center Cover Crop Shed in Heavy Use](#)

By Randy Paulson | *Sioux Center, IA | North Central Region*

10/09/22

The new cover crop storage shed at Farmers Cooperative Society in Sioux Center became operational just in time for the company's busy harvest season. The facility houses technology and equipment used to blend cover crop seeds.

[News10: Native Annual Plant Sale Helps Teach Rouge Valley Community About Ecology](#)

By Malik Patterson | *Phoenix, AZ | Southwest Region*

10/09/22

Pollinator Project Rogue Valley hosted its fifth annual native plant sale pop-up shop in Phoenix to help educate and share the importance of planting pollinators in one's garden.

[The Southern Scoop: Macon Soil & Water Conservation District Cost Share Funds for the 2022-2023 Program Year Now Available](#)

By Brittney Lofthouse | *Macon County, NC | Southeast Region*

10/10/22

The Macon Soil & Water Conservation District has received an allocation through the North Carolina Agriculture Cost Share Program for the implementation of best management practices. Operators who qualify may receive cost share reimbursement of 75%.

[The Sentinel: Funding Possible for County Farmers Interested in BMPs](#)

Middleburg, PA | Northeast Region

10/10/22

The Snyder County Conservation District (SCCD) is seeking farmers interested in improving their farm operations with the installation of conservation practices, and will work with those farmers to see what practices and plans are needed, how much it costs, and how to secure potential funding.

Wisconsin Ag Connection: [Free Soil Health Workshop Planned for October 14](#)

Marathon County, WI | North Central Region

10/10/22

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension is hosting a Soil Health Workshop on October 14 for those farming, managing land, or working with landowners in the Big Eau Pleine/Fenwood Creek watershed.

Wilkes Journal-Patriot: [Mixed Cover Crop Could be Best Option](#)

By John Cothren-Wilkes | *North Wilkesboro, NC | Southeast Region*

10/10/22

Corn harvest is underway in most of North Carolina and tobacco fields are being stripped as harvest season kicks into high gear. That means it's time to get winter cover crops in the ground and the sooner the better.

Ashland SWCD: [Plan Now to Prevent Spring Fish Kills](#)

Ashland, OH | North Central Region

10/10/22

The Ashland Soil & Water Conservation District will host a Conservation Chat: Prep Your Pond on November 3 to educate pond owners on the steps they can take to prepare their ponds for the winter.

Herald and News: [Feds Give Oregon Groups \\$100 Million for Sustainable Farming, Ranching, Timber](#)

By Alex Baumhardt | *Portland, OR | Pacific Region*

10/10/22

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would send two Portland-based nonprofit conservation groups, \$50 million to work on three sustainable ranching and reforestation projects, and \$50 million to Oregon State University to lead the Northwest's transition to more climate-friendly

potato production.

DRG News: [DANR Accepting Applications for Urban and Community Forestry Grants through Friday](#)

By Jody Heemstra | *South Dakota* | *Northern Plains Region*

10/11/22

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) is pleased to announce funding is available for new community forestry projects through the 2022 Community Forestry Grant program.

KUAR: [Arkansas Agriculture Connected to \\$2.8 Billion USDA Climate-Smart Commodities Initiative](#)

By Mary Hightower | *Arkansas* | *South Central Region*

10/11/22

Arkansas has connections to several projects being funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's \$2.8 billion Climate-Smart Commodities program aimed at reducing greenhouse gases, improving carbon storage and developing new revenue streams for small and underserved farmers.

Courier-Gazette: [Conservation District Offers Native Wildflower Seeds Fundraiser](#)

Rockland, ME | *Northeast Region*

10/11/22

The Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District is offering a native wildflower seeds fundraiser in October. Whether gardeners are seeding a small space garden, filling in a side yard, or planting across acres of land, wildflowers are an easy-to-grow solution and supportive of pollinators.

Southwest Farm Press: [Texas Wildfire Activity Increasing, Preparedness Level Raised](#)

By Darren Benson | *Texas* | *South Central Region*

10/12/22

The Texas A&M Forest Service raised the State Wildland Fire Preparedness Level to Level 2 this week due to increased wildfire activity, particularly in the eastern half of the state. Texas A&M Forest Service firefighters have responded to 58 wildfires for 759 acres across the state in October.

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The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

FRIENDS OF NACD DISTRICT GRANTS PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING PROPOSALS

October 18, 2022



Friends of NACD 2023 DISTRICT GRANTS PROGRAM

Grants for conservation districts to
conduct new activities or test novel
approaches to their operations.



**8 grants available, up
to \$2,500 each**

Now accepting applications through



NOV. 29, 2022

11:59 P.M. LOCAL TIME



National Association of
Conservation Districts

The Friends of NACD District Grants Program is now accepting applications for grants up to \$2,500! Now in its fourth round of funding, the Friends of NACD District Grants Program is an initiative of the NACD District Operations and Member Services (DOMS) Committee. The 2023 program will award eight grants, up to \$2,500 each, to conservation districts to conduct new activities or test novel approaches to their operations. Awards will be announced at the 2023 NACD Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

"Thanks to the generous donations to Friends of NACD, we are able to once again award eight grants to conservation districts in 2023," said **Franklin Williams**, chair of the NACD DOMS Committee. "NACD is excited to help conservation districts fund new, locally-led conservation activities to support their communities."

**Register for NACD's
2023 Annual
Meeting!**



Registration for The National Association of Conservation Districts' (NACD) 77th Annual Meeting is now open! Hosted in partnership with the **Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts**, the 2023 Annual Meeting will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana from **February 11-15 at the New Orleans Marriott**. Early bird registration for the *discounted price of \$575* will be open through **December 23, 2022**. NACD's Annual Meeting brings together hundreds of conservation leaders from across the nation with opportunities for networking, learning, and exploring New Orleans! More details, including hotel and tour information, can be found [here](#).

Conservation districts may view the complete request for proposals (RFP) and application instructions on the [Friends of NACD District Grants webpage](#), and apply through the online application form by **11:59 p.m., local time on Nov. 29, 2022.**

Questions may be directed to NACD Southeast Region Representative **Candice Abinanti** at candice-abinanti@nacdnetwork.org.

50 YEARS OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT: OXFORD COUNTY SWCD WATER QUALITY PROJECTS IN THE ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER WATERSHED

October 2022 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act. The Androscoggin River's declining water quality in the 1960s and 70s was the inspiration for Ed Muskie to draft the Clean Water Act in 1972. The river was a receptacle for paper mill waste, sewage, and stormwater runoff from uncontrolled development for most of its length from New Hampshire to the Atlantic Ocean. Not only was it unhealthy for drinking, but also fishing and swimming. A large portion of the Androscoggin River runs through Oxford County Maine. Since 1972, the water quality has steady and vastly improved due to the Clean Water Act. **Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District (OCSWCD)** is doing its part to continue improving water quality in the watershed through 319 Projects, which are funded by the Clean Water Act.



Currently OCSWCD has been working on two projects that protect water quality sub-watersheds of the river. The Lake Pennesseewassee and Anasagunticook Watershed Protection Projects are 2-year 319 projects which are both in their final year. These projects have brought over \$128,000 in federal grant funds to Oxford County and have been matched locally by over \$118,000 of in-kind and cash contributions to get this important work done. That's \$246,000 of conservation work put on the ground that directly benefits Oxford County, its towns and citizens, as well as the health of the Androscoggin River. These two projects address non-point source (NPS) pollution, primarily caused by stormwater runoff and soil erosion, that has adverse effects on the water quality of our lakes; lakes that are focal points of our local economy.

[Register Here](#)

NACD Announces New Finance and Operations Specialist



NACD is pleased to announce **Colt Fossum** as the new Finance and Operations Specialist.

Fossum has been with NACD since January 2022, serving as the Executive Assistant.

Prior to joining NACD, Fossum served as a Rural Carrier with the United States Postal Service. Previously, he served for nine years as an officer in the U.S. Army, working in various positions, including assistant operations officer at Fort Carson, CO; human resources officer at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA; and, most recently, Assistant Professor of Military Science at St. John's University in Queens, NY.

Fossum holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from American University and a Bachelor of Arts in English from The Citadel. He enjoys spending time outside with his family, good food, reading, and writing.

Colt is based in the Washington, D.C. office and can be reached

Text by Michele Windsor, Oxford County SWCD. Read the full article on NACD's [blog](#).

at colt-fossum@nacdnet.org.

DONATE ITEMS TO THE 2023 NCF LIVE AUCTION

2023 NACD Annual Meeting



NCF Live Auction

New Orleans, Louisiana
February 13, 2023

NCF
National Conservation Foundation

The National Conservation Foundation (NCF) is now accepting item donations for the 2023 Live Auction! The auction is a great opportunity to support the Foundation's conservation programs including the NCF-Envirothon program and the Next Generation Leadership Institute.

During the 2023 NACD Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, NCF will host their annual Live Auction on February 13, 2023, benefitting the foundation's conservation education programs. The mission of the NCF is to identify and advance strategic programs and partnerships to deliver conservation solutions through locally led conservation and to develop the next generation of conservation leaders. The vision of the NCF is to support delivery of locally led conservation and to create future conservation leaders.

Individuals, conservation districts, state associations, and partner organizations are encouraged to donate unique items for the NCF Live Auction. Items can feature local artists, a special product made only in your state or territory, or interesting items with a conservation theme. Successful items in past auctions include pottery, jewelry, and "made in" agriculture products. Since the NCF is returning to the live only auction format, after completing the [Auction Donation Form](#) donors will be provided the shipping information for the meeting hotel and a date window. Smaller items can be brought along by NACD Annual Meeting attendees but will still need an Auction Donation Form entry. As they are received, all items will get an entry on the NACD Annual Meeting webpage's NCF Live Auction tab with a description, photo, and credit to the item donor. Please have all donations forms submitted by **January 31, 2023**.

If you have questions, please contact **Keith Owen**, NACD Director of Education at keith-owen@nacdnet.org. The 2023 NCF Auction is a great opportunity to support the NCF and its conservation programs!

[Learn More & Donate Here](#)

STATE/TERRITORY LEADERS MEET TO ESTABLISH ASSOC. OF CONSERVATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Last month, the State/Territory Associations' Executive Directors held their annual conference in Lewes, DE. At the meeting the **Association of Conservation Executive Directors (ACED)** was formally created

**ICYMI: The Latest
Edition of *The
Resource* is Here!**



Catch up on everything NACD has been up this summer in the latest edition of *The Resource*. Click the cover above to begin browsing the publication. Inside you'll find updates on our grant programs and events, as well as stories from conservation districts across the county.

Browse past editions of *The Resource* on [NACD's website](#) and [please let us know](#) if you have any questions or comments about this edition.

USFWS Job Opportunities

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is actively seeking applicants for a supervisory position to lead the USFWS' Coastal Program and Marine Programs.

This position is a Supervisory Natural Resources Management and Biological Sciences, GS- 0401-14 working in

as an NACD Affiliated Organization and passed their bylaws by unanimous consensus.



The conference was attended (in person and virtually) by nearly two dozen Executive Directors as well as the NACD liaison and NACD Projects and Partnerships Coordinator, **Meg Leader**. **NACD CEO Jeremy Peters** also joined for the kick-off dinner on the first night. While the bulk of the

time was spent developing the bylaws, **Chris Young**, NACD Director of Government Affairs, lead a discussion the next morning of the upcoming FarmBill followed by **Mark Hudson**, Executive Director of the Ag Container Recycling Council, presenting information on ACRC's mission. After the bylaws were passed, the meeting concluded with a tour of University of Delaware's Marine Research Complex and a visit with NACD Soil Health Champion **Brad Ritter**.

ACED will hold its first Annual Meeting during NACD's 2023 Annual Meeting in New Orleans. During the meeting, ACED will elect their first set of officers. All state/territory association Executive Directors are encouraged to participate. To lead ACED until the election, the conference attendees elected by consensus **Bryan Evans**, **North Carolina Association of SWCD**, as interim President; **Sarah Blaney**, **Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts**, as interim Vice-President and **Janelle Mead**, **Ohio Federation of SWCD** as interim Secretary/Treasurer.



SHARING KNOWLEDGE: A SOIL HEALTH FIELD TRAINING

One of the current challenges facing the ag industry is training new staff in the field. On August 23, 2022, thirteen conservation planning staff from the North Central Zone of Oklahoma met at **Kay County Conservation District** Board Member **Rick Jeans'** property to learn more about soil health, communicating with landowners, and the Slake Test.

Jeans, a landowner from Kay County, OK, and NACD soil health champion, has fields where he has been implementing a no-till rotation for up to 30 years. Jeans discussed his fields but also gave some insight on communicating with

Baileys Crossroads, VA, Virginia for the R9-Branch of Habitat Restoration. As lead for the USFWS Coastal and Marine Programs, you will have an opportunity to support voluntary conservation efforts across the country including the Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, Atlantic and Pacific ecosystems and engage with a diversity of stakeholders and cooperators.

Government applicants visit [here](#). External applicants visit [here](#).

Sand County Foundation Grant Opportunity for High School Teachers



The Sand County Foundation (SCF) is now accepting proposals from high school teachers for [pollinator habitat grants](#)! This competitive grant program gives students hands-on experience growing native forbs indoors and establishing pollinator habitat.

Successful applicants will receive prairie seeds and seedlings, an orientation and consultation, and \$1,000 to support project expenses. The deadline for proposals is **November 18**. To be eligible you must be a high school teacher, have access to a suitable indoor growing area, identify a site (working/agricultural lands preferred), and be located in Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, or Wisconsin.

landowners who may be interested in soil health practices or conservation opportunities. One of the no-till fields the attendees visited showcased the diversity of plants present. There were soybeans planted into wheat stubble and even old milo stalks were standing.



It was a great place to run the soil health assessment and take a closer look at the soil. Conservation planning staff evaluated the soil for resource concerns such as soil compaction, soil temperature, organic matter depletion, aggregate instability, and soil organism habitat loss or degradation. To evaluate aggregate instability they used the Slake Test. This is a test to see how well soil holds together when submerged in water. A healthy soil system has microorganisms that create biological glues that builds soil structure and can stay connected even in water, whereas an unhealthy soil that is only clumped due to compaction will fall apart in water.

Viewing several fields throughout the day gave the group opportunities to evaluate different levels of soil health and management practices as well as a chance to communicate with landowners in the field to determine how resource concerns can be addressed. It was emphasized to all attendees of the importance of getting into the field, walking with and talking to landowners, and showing them the tools NRCS uses. Ultimately, utilizing the producers input to develop possible plans will provide both the planner and the landowner with a clear path to success.

Interested in applying? Visit [here](#) for details, or contact **Haley Diem** at SCF for more information!

September 2022

26	29	30	31	1	2	3
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Promote your conservation district or state association's tree sale, annual meeting, webinar, field day, or other events on NACD's **Calendar of Events!**

[Submit Events](#)

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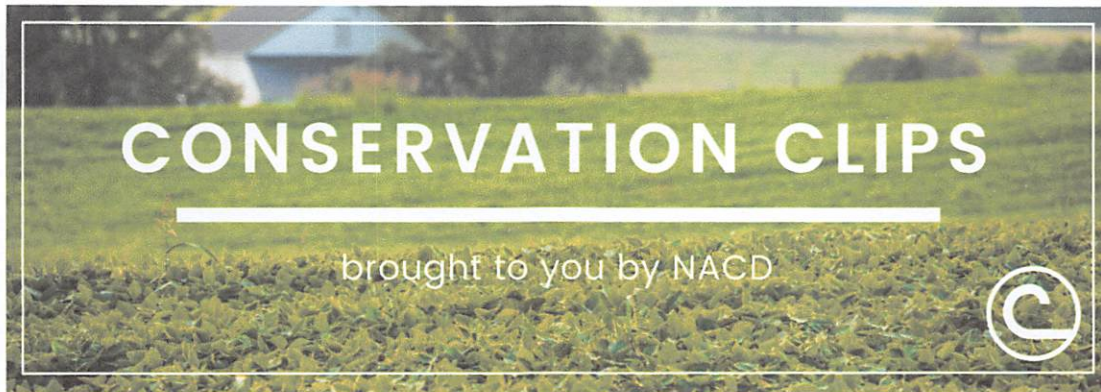
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Conservation Clips is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. These articles are not indicative of NACD policy and are the opinions of their authors, unless otherwise noted. If you have a relevant submission or need assistance with accessing articles, [please contact the NACD Communications Team](#).

NACD: [NACD Announces Launch of District Grants Application Period](#)
10/17/22

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) announced the launch of its application period for the 2023 Friends of NACD District Grants Program.

NACD Blog: [50 Years of the CWA: Oxford County SWCD Water Quality Projects in the Androscoggin River Watershed](#)
10/18/22

Since 1972, the water quality has steadily and vastly improved due to the Clean Water Act (CWA). **Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation**

District is doing its part to continue improving water quality in the watershed through 319 Projects, which are funded by the Clean Water Act.

Farm Progress: [Annual Forage Mix or Cover Crop?](#)

By Matt Lippert

10/14/22

Cover crops, winter cereal forages, and summer annual mixtures are covering more acres than in the past. Many species selected to protect soil and water quality are the same ones used in annual forage mixtures. While these crops can serve a dual purpose, management differs depending on their intended use.

Cotton Grower: [Cotton Growers Increasing Soil Health Practices](#)

By Jim Steadman

10/17/22

An increased emphasis on transparency, sustainability, and regenerative programs is helping to improve soil health across the Cotton Belt – state by state, farm by farm. Yet, significant opportunity to expand adoption of climate-friendly soil health practices in cotton production remains.

Crop Life: [Soil Health Focus Increasing for Growers](#)

10/17/22

production methods, it's easy to see why there's so much focus on building a solid foundation with our soils.

USDA: [USDA Scientists Collaborate with Partners to Address Soil Moisture Challenges on Farms](#)

10/17/22

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agriculture Research Service is conducting outreach to farmers and engineers to inform them about the side effects of soil moisture so that farms have a chance to thrive under agricultural challenges.

Metro Blooms: [Help Tuck Pollinators into Bed for the Winter](#)

By Jessica Miller

10/18/22

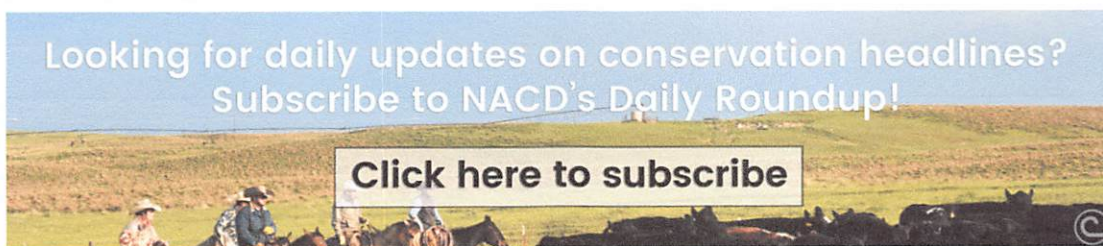
Before leaves break down, they provide essential shelter for insects. There are a lot of insects that use leaves to overwinter. By October, insects beneficial to our ecosystems may be bedding down, some making cocoons in leaves on the ground.

AgWeb: [Flip your Soil: How do Farmers get Started Implementing Soil Health Practices on their Farms?](#)

By Michelle Rook

10/18/22

Farmers realize the benefits of improving soil health on their farm. However, sometimes they just need help implementing some of the practices.



South Dakota Locally Led: [New Video Puts a Spotlight on Long-Billed Curlews in Northwestern South Dakota](#)

South Dakota | Northern Plains Region

10/11/22

The "Cattle, Curlews, and Conservation" video released by **the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts** showcases one of South Dakota's Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) Projects in action.

KWTX: [Drought Expected to Draw more Pests, Fewer Fall Colors to Central Texas](#)

By Rissa Shaw | *Waco, TX | South Central Region*

10/11/22

The state's drought is bringing some unwelcome visitors to Central Texas. Due to the stress it has taken on trees, experts say Central Texans can expect to see more pests and less fall colors this year.

Walterboro Live: [Colleton Soil & Water Conservation District Names Ag Scholarship Winners](#)

By Susan Hrvol | *Colleton County, SC | Southeast Region*

10/14/22

The Colleton Soil & Water Conservation District was pleased to present the 2022 Ag Scholarship to two recipients. The Ag Scholarship is offered to Colleton County students pursuing a degree in an agricultural or natural resources related field.

USDA: [Fridays on the Farm: Embracing Conservation on a Florida Cattle Ranch](#)

By Cynthia Portalatin | *Okeechobee County, FL | Southeast Region*

10/14/22

Meet Alberto and Taimi Fernandez of Aaron Agriculture, a cattle ranch in Florida. Today, Aberdeen Angus and American Brahman cattle graze the pastures at the couple's 632-acre ranch. These pastures have improved over time with the help of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Sierra Sun Times: [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on How Does Wildfire Impact Wildlife and Forests?](#)

By Megan Snow | *Mariposa, CA | Pacific Region*

10/16/22

Seeing a forest recently burned in a wildfire can be jarring. Green is replaced by shades of gray. The land is quiet. The sunshine feels hotter. However, it's not long before the forest comes back to life.

Wyoming Tribune-Eagle: [As Invasive Mussels Creep Towards Wyoming, 'Dirty Boats' Show up in Yellowstone Ecosystem](#)

By Billy Arnold | *Jackson Hole, WY | Southwest Region*

10/16/22

Invasive mussels float down rivers as plumes of tiny larvae, latch onto boats to cross state lines, and find new waters to infest. They are inching closer to

Wyoming.

Grand Island Independent: [Soil Carbon Project Deadline is Nov. 18](#)

Nebraska | Northern Plains Region

10/16/22

Producers in the Central Platte and Upper Big Blue natural resources districts are now able to enroll their acres in the new Nebraska Soil Carbon Project. The project deadline is Nov. 18.

CNN: [As the Mississippi River Plunges, the Army Corps is Building a 1,500-Foot-Wide Levee to Keep Salt Water out of Drinking Water](#)

By Rachel Ramirez | *Louisiana | South Central Region*

10/17/22

Increasingly frequent and intense drought combined with sea level rise are creating low flow in Louisiana at the mouth of the Mississippi River, allowing saltwater from the Gulf of Mexico to push up the river, threatening drinking water supply.

Cowboy State Daily: [Federal-State Partnership Will Reward Wyoming Landowners for Conservation](#)

By Wendy Corr | *Wyoming | Southwest Region*

10/17/22

In an effort to reward landowners for their ongoing conservation of grazing lands, the federal government and state of Wyoming finalized an agreement that would allow agricultural producers and landowners to more easily access money to ensure Wyoming's wide open spaces stay that way.

BLM: [BLM Enhances Watershed Restoration Initiative Agreement with Utah Partners](#)

By Javonne Goodman | *Salt Lake City, UT | Southwest Region*

10/17/22

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is growing its partnership with the Utah Department of Natural Resources for the Watershed Restoration Initiative by committing approximately \$3.8 million of funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for habitat restoration, watershed health, and hazardous fuels removal.

Richmond Register: [Conservation District Challenged by Changing Landscape Collaborates with Local Non-Profit](#)

By Ricki Pryor | *Richmond, KY* | *Southeast Region*

10/17/22

To address increasing amounts of farmland turning into development, **Madison County Conservation District** is prioritizing attention to urban agriculture, which includes urban farms, neighborhood gardens, school and household gardens, backyard and rooftop gardens and other forms of food production.

Western Farmer-Stockman: [Summit to Focus on Invasive Species](#)

Helena, MT | *Northern Plains Region*

10/17/22

The Montana Invasive Species Council will host the Montana Invasive Species Summit on Tuesday, Oct. 25 and Wednesday, Oct. 26 in Helena at the Great Northern Hotel.

CBS19 News: [Accepting Applications for Grassland Bird Protection Incentive Program](#)

Warrenton, VA | *Southeast Region*

10/17/22

The Virginia Grassland Bird Initiative is accepting applications for its 2023 financial incentives program. Producers and landowners can now apply for an incentive program that aims to protect grassland birds with best management practices during their nesting season.

South Dakota Soil Health Coalition: [Adding Life to the Soil: Experimenting with Compost](#)

By Stan Wise | *Pierre, SD* | *Northern Plains Region*

10/18/22

Healthy soil requires healthy, active biology beneath the surface. This includes bacteria and fungi. Some researchers and producers are experimenting with methods to jumpstart the growth of soil biology to improve soil health.

The Bloomfield Democrat: [DALS Announces Urban Water Quality Project](#)

[Cost-Share Availability](#)

Iowa | North Central Region

10/18/22

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture announced the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (DALS) is now accepting pre-applications for cost-share funding to support urban conservation projects.

VT Digger: [FCNRCD Completes Two Designs for Natural Resources Restoration Projects in Franklin County](#)

Lauren Weston | Franklin County, VT | Northeast Region

10/19/22

The Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District (FCNRCD) has completed two final designs for natural resources restoration projects to help improve water quality, stream health, and lake shorelines.

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The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

NATIONAL CONSERVATION FOUNDATION LAUNCHES FALL FUNDRAISER

October 25, 2022



NACD's sister organization, the **National Conservation Foundation (NCF)** is asking for your support in the development of the next generation of conservation leaders. Last week, they



National Conservation Foundation

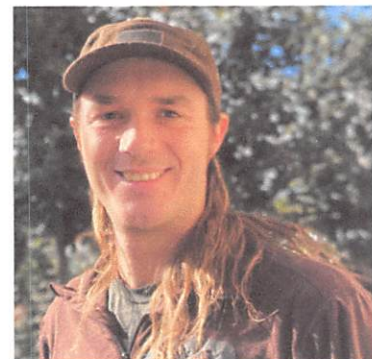
launched their annual fall fundraiser with a **goal of raising \$75,000** by the end of 2022! NCF programs and partnerships advance locally-led conservation and work to develop the next generation of conservation leaders. Their two flagship programs, the NCF-Envirothon and Next Generation Leadership Institute (NGLI) help deliver those results.

There will be no edition of eResource next week, Tuesday, Nov. 1, as NACD will be having our annual staff retreat and planning session.

NACD Welcomes New Pacific Region Representative



With past support, NCF was able to create and implement the NGLI, which is now in its second cohort. The program and its curriculum is helping to grow the next generation of conservation leaders by selecting cohort members from diverse background and equipping them with skills and resources related to personal, civic, and organizational leadership development.



On Tuesday, Oct. 18, NACD welcomed **Caleb Griffin** as the new Pacific Region Representative.

Prior to joining NACD, Griffin served in environmental monitoring and data collection roles with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Western South Dakota, and USDA Forest Service in Northeastern Idaho. He



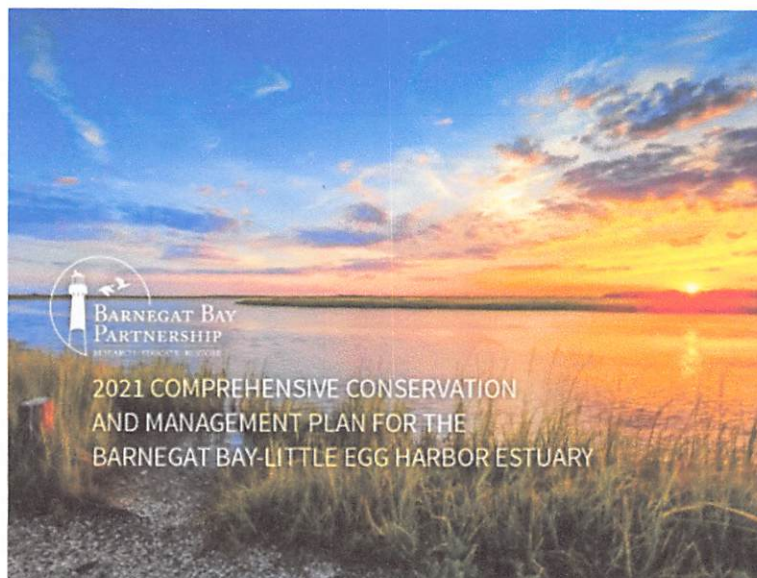
Through your support, NCF has also continued to run its Envirothon program, a problem-solving competition that builds leadership experience for high school students. Its mission is to educate students about the environment and conservation of natural resources through hands-on outdoor experiences, academic study and

collaborative competitions. The program winners are rewarded with scholarships, encouraging their continued education into conservation.

NCF needs your help to continue to expand its influential and crucial programming! Tackling conservation and natural resource management must begin with education and training of the next generation.

Donate to NCF

OCEAN COUNTY SCD AND BARNEGAT BAY PARTNERSHIP SHARE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GOALS



In the United States, 29 percent of the population or approximately eighty-seven million people live in coastline counties. Coastal communities, and the country at large, depend on the health of our watersheds for food, water, recreation, and more. To protect and restore the resources of our country's coastlines and estuaries, Congress established the [National Estuary Program \(NEP\)](#) in 1987. Currently the NEP includes 28 estuaries located across the U.S., stretching from the Puget Sound in Washington State to the Galveston Bay in Texas, and along to the San Juan Bay in Puerto Rico. NEPs are designed to bring a diverse set of local stakeholders together to work toward common natural resource management goals. In New Jersey, the [Barnegat Bay Partnership \(BBP\)](#) is the perfect example of the power of partnership work in the watershed.

In July 1995, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) accepted the nomination of the Barnegat Bay estuary to be included in the National Estuary Program. The [Ocean County Soil Conservation District \(OCSCD\)](#) has been integrally involved with the Barnegat Bay Partnership since the drafting and approval of the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan for Barnegat Bay in 2002 and has actively served on several committees for the partnership. The relationship has evolved and expanded over the past 20 years, and the district continues to play a critical role in the partnership today. Conservation districts are well aligned with the goals of the NEP

most recently served as a Soil Conservationist for USDA NRCS in Susanville, California where he participated on the West Side Snow Survey team and led California NRCS's Civil Rights Advisory Committee.

Griffin holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture from West Virginia University, with an emphasis in Agroecology. An active member of his community, he directs a local food & farm cooperative while managing an urban farming/composting operation in Susanville, California. He enjoys exploring the outdoors with his growing family, usually on belay, foot, bicycle, or boat!

Griffin is based in Susanville, California and can be reached at caleb-griffin@nacdn.org.

NACD Seeks Feedback on Urban Webinar Series

NACD's [Urban and Community Resource Policy Group](#) is currently evaluating the monthly urban and community conservation webinars, and we would like your input! To help us understand how you use the monthly webinars and opportunities for the future, [please fill out our review form online](#). We will use the information collected to plan the webinars for Fiscal Year 2023, so we thank you for your contributions in helping organize informative sessions. Please reach out to [Dr. Ariel Rivers](#) with any questions, and check [the webinar archive on YouTube](#) for many great sessions!

and in the case of the BBP, it has provided the district with opportunities to be engaged with many different people and programs across the watershed.

"Ocean County Soil Conservation District seeks to address critical and priority issues identified through effective communications with its partners and the needs of the local communities," said **Christine Raabe**, OCSCD District Director. "Partnerships are the key to accomplishing more together for mutual benefits."

Read the [full blog post](#) to learn more about the work the Ocean County Soil Conservation District does with the Barnegat Bay Partnership.



NGLI COHORT MEETS FOR FINAL SESSION FOCUSED ON BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS



On October 16-19, the **National Conservation Foundation's (NCF)** Next Generation Leadership Institute (NGLI) 2022 cohort met in Ardmore, Oklahoma for their final session of the year. The theme for the session surrounded partnerships and the group got to visit with professionals from state, local, non-profit, federal, tribal, and other partners that share the conservation vision in Oklahoma.

The cohort was welcomed first by **Trey Lam** and **Lisa Knauf Owen** from the Oklahoma Conservation Commission (OCC), who helped to underwrite the session. The three-day agenda included:

- Visiting landowners on their property to see the results of implemented BMPs through federal and local contracts
- Going out to see watershed flood control dams with OCC staff
- Learning about the **Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts (OACD)** and their CARE project, which focuses on

Stevens SWCD Erosion Fixes Catching on in Pomme de Terre River Watershed



In the Pomme de Terre River watershed of Minnesota, Clean Water Funds and federal assistance continue to support prioritized projects targeting water quality. The **Stevens Soil & Water Conservation District** worked with local producers for one project to construct eight earthen dams that mend gully erosion and improve drainage as a part of their ongoing water quality work. [Read more](#) about this project on the **Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources** website or watch a video about the project [here!](#)

Northern Virginia SWCD Job Opportunity

The **Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD)** seeks an enthusiastic and organized team player to fill a vacant Agricultural Water Quality Specialist/Conservation Specialist (AWQS/CS) position which will provide technical assistance and prepare conservation plans for agricultural operations within Fairfax County and be the go-to person for technical recommendations addressing issues related to agricultural land use problems. The deadline to

assisting socially disadvantaged and veteran producers to get conservation plans and contracts

- Stream sampling with the Oklahoma Blue Thumb project
- Hearing from the Lake Arbuckle Watershed Association and how they partner to achieve their goals
- Learning from **Dr. Carol Crouch**, NRCS Tribal Liaison on how to effectively work with tribes
- Experiencing soil health first-hand from **Jimmy Emmons**, Soil Health Mentor
- And much more!



This was a fun, hands-on session designed to demonstrate the end products of what effective partnerships can achieve, and how to create those partnerships to increase capacity at any level.

The 2022 NGLI cohort will celebrate the completion of their program with a graduation ceremony at the NACD Annual meeting in New Orleans in February. To learn more about NGLI and to support NCF in order to keep this and other conservation education programs running, visit the NCF [website](#).

apply is **November 12, 2022**.

For more information on this role, please see [here](#) or contact the NVSWCD Executive Director Willie Woode at Willie.Woode@fairfaxcounty.gov.

September 2022

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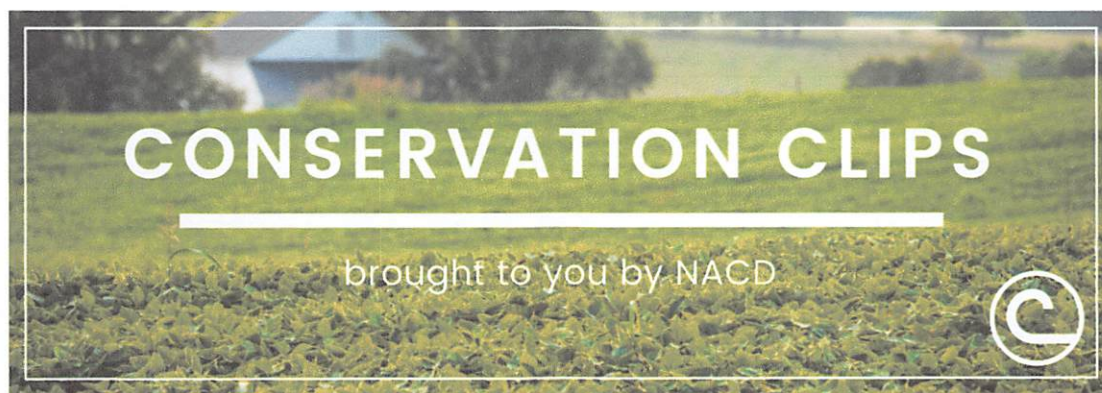
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Editor's Note: Due to NACD's Staff Retreat there will not be an edition of Conservation Clips on November 4.

NACD Blog: [Ocean County SCD and Barnegat Bay Partnership Realize Shared Natural Resource Management Goals](#)

10/25/22

National Estuary Programs are designed to bring a diverse set of local stakeholders together to work toward common natural resource management goals. In New Jersey, the Barnegat Bay Partnership (BBP) is the perfect example of the power of partnership work in the watershed.

NPR: [Western Wildfires are Making Far Away Storms More Dangerous](#)

By Lauren Sommer

10/21/22

Understanding the effects of wildfires on weather patterns far downstream could help improve forecasts in those areas. In the Central U.S., extreme summer storms can pose a dangerous threat, often doing millions of dollars in damage.

Journal-Courier: [Don't Throw Away Dried Plants; Build a Pollinator Nest](#)

By Maddie Ellis

10/23/22

Some gardeners toss twigs, thatch and branches at the end of fall to prepare for winter. But those dry plant materials are where some pollinator species — such as bees, butterflies, wasps, flies and beetles — hibernate through the winter to emerge next spring.

NRCS: [Celebrating Bat to the Bone Ecosystem Services](#)

10/24/22

For National Bat Week, learn more about the prized ecosystem services bats provide, and read tips that farmers, ranchers and forest landowners can use on their land to help increase bat habitat and build awareness around the top threat to bats survival.

Farm Progress: [Census of Agriculture Coming Soon](#)

10/25/22

The census will be mailed in phases, starting with an invitation to respond online in November, followed by paper questionnaires in December. Farm operations of all sizes, urban and rural, that produced and sold — or normally would have sold — \$1,000 or more of agricultural products in 2022 are included.

The Verge: [Why the US is Suffering a Widespread Drought](#)

By Justine Calma

10/26/22

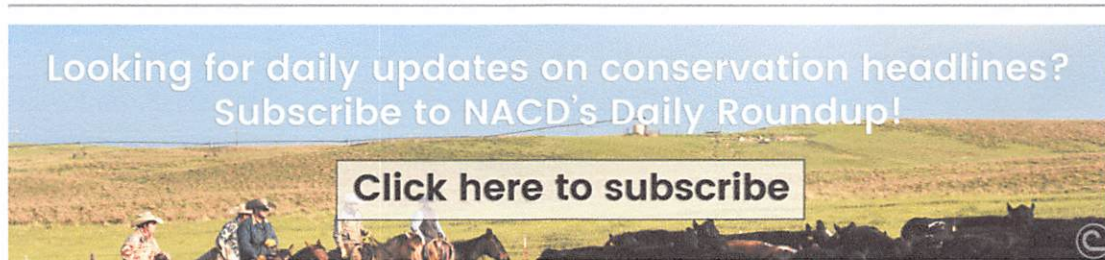
Nearly 60 percent of the contiguous US is experiencing drought, according to

the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Drought hasn't been this widespread in the nation in about a decade, and over 80 percent of the country is at least experiencing "abnormally dry" conditions.

Morning Ag Clips: [Advance in Automatic Forest Mapping Technology](#)

10/27/22

New research developments could mean the difference between mapping a few trees to mapping hundreds of acres at a time quickly and with high accuracy. It also could lead to making digital twins of forests, which could improve management planning in the face of climate change, disease outbreaks and population growth.



KATU: [Oregon State University Tests Cattle Grazing as Firefighting Tool](#)

By Christiana Giardinelli | *Salem, OR | Pacific Region*

10/19/22

Strategic cattle grazing may be the latest tool to help fight fires by building fuel breaks. An Oregon State University study tested the efficacy of using virtual fence technology to confine cattle to a specific area.

Santa Fe New Mexican: [Volunteers Sought for Wildlife-Friendly Fence Project](#)

By Geoffrey Plant | *Taos County, NM | Southwest Region*

10/19/22

In order to enable herds of pronghorn to more easily migrate, the **Taos Soil and Water Conservation District** is seeking volunteers to help remove or modify about a mile of fence this week east of the Rio Grande Gorge near Cerro de la Olla.

WRFA: [Chautauqua Co. Soil and Water Conservation District Receives](#)

[\\$353k Grant to Help Farms](#)

Jamestown, NY | Northeast Region

10/20/22

The Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District has received nearly \$354,000 for two projects to help farms protect clean water. The funding will support agricultural water quality conservation projects, enhance water quality in priority watersheds, and protect the environment.

[Agri-View: Field Day Features Soil Pit, Cover Crops](#)

By Bill Powers | Juneau County, WI | North Central Region

10/20/22

A recent field day was hosted by the Farmers of the Lemonweir Valley. The producer-led watershed-protection group's event featured soil health, multi-species buffers and improvement efforts on Lake Decorah in Wisconsin's Juneau County.

[Texas A&M Forest Service: East Texas Forests Growing Strong](#)

Texas | South Central Region

10/20/22

The forests of East Texas are thriving, thanks to modern forestry practices and a strong forest-products economy. The health of the forests and an abundance of harvest-ready trees suggest room for growth in terms of investments in forest products.

[Vermont Natural Resources Council: Pelletier Dam Removal is Completed: Wild Trout and Riparian Habitats Restored](#)

Castleton, VT | Northeast Region

10/20/22

The health and function of North Breton Brook in Castleton has been remarkably improved through the removal of the Pelletier Dam, completed through collaboration with partners including the **Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District**.

[KTXL: Fragile Forests: Millions of California Trees Dying Due to Drought](#)

By Dennis Shanahan | El Dorado County, CA | Pacific Region

10/20/22

In forests throughout the Golden State, trees are turning a dark shade of rust, succumbing to the impacts of the drought in a well-documented phenomenon known to forest scientists as tree mortality.

East Idaho News: [Idaho Adds Another Easement to Protect Working Timberlands](#)

By Keith Ridler | *Idaho* | *Pacific Region*

10/20/22

State officials approved a northern Idaho conservation easement of 166 acres in Northern Idaho under the federal Forest Legacy Program. Overall the program has protected from development about 156 square miles (400 square kilometers) of private timberland.

NRCS: [Indiana Landowner Utilizes CRP, WRE to Restore Cropland into Native Wetland](#)

By Brandon O'Connor | *Indianapolis, IN* | *North Central Region*

10/21/22

The restoration work included the planting of native grasses and other plants to create the prairie, weed control to remove reed canary grass, tree and shrub plantings, and the construction of a wetland pond.

County News Review: [Invasive Buckthorn Threat to Native Plants](#)

Brooklyn Park, MN | *North Central Region*

10/23/22

Late fall is often an ideal time to remove invasive buckthorn species, which have spread widely across Minnesota. Buckthorn outcompetes native plants, suppresses the growth of canopy tree seedlings, and reduces habitat quality for wildlife.

WLIO: [Allen Soil and Water Conservation District Celebrate "Stormwater Awareness Week" with a Run](#)

By Todd Cummins | *Allen County, OH* | *North Central Region*

10/23/22

Allen Soil and Water Conservation District kicked off "Stormwater Awareness Week" with a Fun Run along the Ottawa Riverwalk that featured

informational signs along the path. The week aims to increase awareness of how what goes into storm drains could impact the watershed.

The Center Square: [Maryland Launches Cover Crop Incentive Program for Urban Farmers](#)

By David Beasley | *Maryland* | *Northeast Region*

10/24/22

A new pilot program would pay urban farmers to grow cover crops in the winter. The program is designed to improve soil and water quality, as growers would be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 per year under the Small Acreage Cover Crop program.

NRCS: [NRCS Announces Conservation Funding Opportunities for Alaska Private Landowners](#)

Alaska | *Pacific Region*

10/25/22

Conservation funding is now available for private landowners in Alaska to help restore, enhance, and protect natural resources such as soil, water, wildlife habitat and more.

Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission: [Cost-Share Program Available Throughout the State](#)

Georgia | *Southeast Region*

10/25/22

The Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, partners with private landowners to fence out livestock from various water bodies and environmentally sensitive areas. A 90% cost share program provides an incentive for landowners to participate in the program.

NRCS: [NRCS in Colorado Accepting Applications for Conservation Funding Opportunities](#)

Colorado | *Southwest Region*

10/26/22

NRCS-Colorado announced funding opportunities for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, and the Conservation Stewardship Program.

Although NRCS accepts Farm Bill program applications throughout the year, to be eligible for this round of funding, applications must be submitted by December 2, 2022.

Courier Express: [Conservation District Projects Benefit Environment, Landowners in Elk County](#)

By Brianne Flemming | *St. Marys, PA* | *Northeast Region*

10/26/22

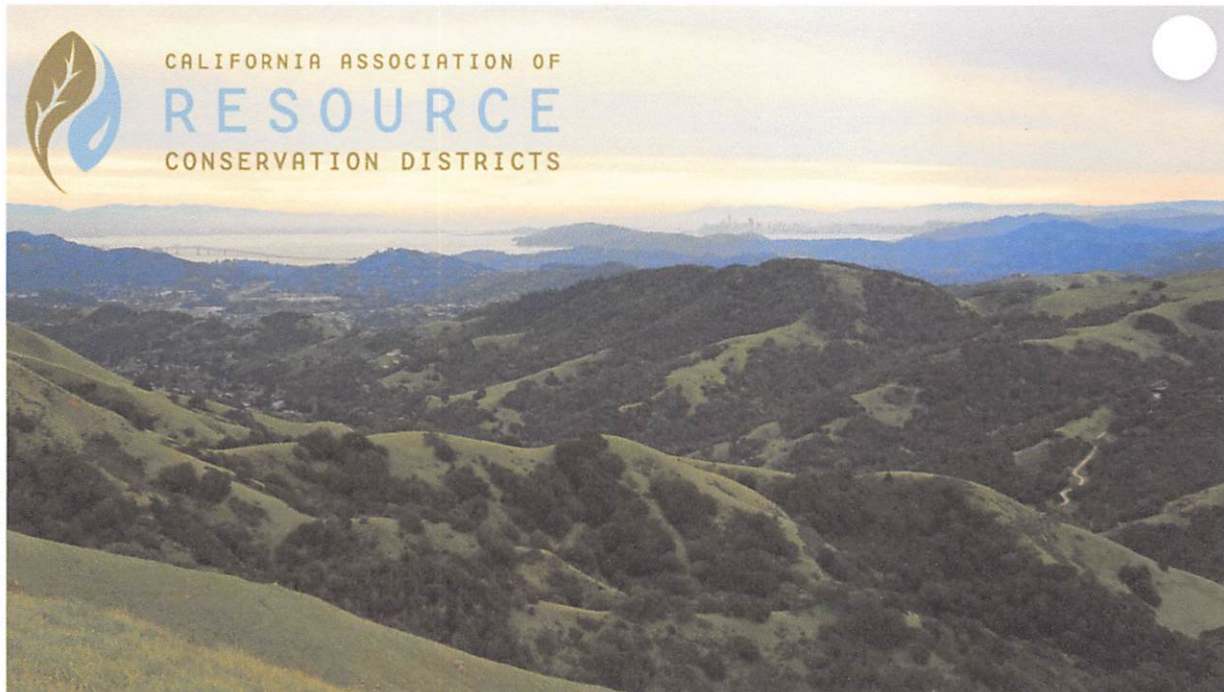
The Elk County Conservation District (ECCD) recently completed two projects that provide numerous environmental benefits, and benefits for Elk County landowners. ECCD staff members installed riparian buffers along Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek, and along a tributary to Little Mill Creek in Elk County.

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77th Annual CARCD Conference

Building Partnerships for California's Conservation Communities

In-Person Conference: Wednesday, November 30 - Friday, December 2, 2022

Lake Natoma Inn, Folsom

Virtual Conference: March 2023

Registration & Hotel Reservation Deadline: November 15th

Spotlight on Wildfire Resilience and the Caldor Fire Tour



Join the CARCD Joint Forestry Committee on Wednesday, November 30th as they visit sites from the 2021 Caldor Fire. The Caldor fire burned towards Highway 50 and threatened communities including Pollock Pines and Sly Park. However, no structures were burned. This is partly due to how well the Fire Adapted 50 project units performed when subjected to backfiring by the USFS and CAL FIRE. Fire Adapted 50 is an all-lands approach to wildfire hazard reduction focused in the area between Camino and Echo Summit along Highway 50. It is a primary focus area of the South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy, a collaboration of state and federal agencies, non-profits, utility districts, Resource Conservation Districts and private landowners. The objectives of the project are to reduce likelihood of a crown fire if a wildfire occurs, improve the resiliency of the residual stands, allow implementation of prescribed fire to maintain desired conditions and improve access and safety for firefighters by providing areas where they can stage to fight a fire or conduct back burning.

****Additional Registration and Fee Required, limited tickets available.**

Registration

Registration Fees In-Person Conference

- Full Conference - RCDs (includes registration to the Virtual Conference) | \$375
- Full Conference - Partners (includes registration to the Virtual Conference) | \$395
- One Day Conference - RCDs | \$150
- One Day Conference - Partners | \$175
- * Optional Wednesday Tour: Spotlight on Sac Valley Agriculture | \$48

* Optional Wednesday Tour: Caldor Fire Recovery/Fire Adapted 50 Demonstration | \$48

Registration Fees Virtual Conference Only (March 2023)

- RCD Full Virtual Conference | \$125
- Partner Full Virtual Conference | \$150
- RCD Virtual Single Track | \$75
- Partner Virtual Single Track | \$95

View the [Conference Agenda here](#).

***schedule is subject to change*

Registration for the in-person conference closes November 15, 2022.

Registration for the virtual component is open now until March 2023.

[Register Now](#)

[Book Hotel Stay](#)

Sponsor the Conference

If you are ready to amplify your impact in California's conservation community, become a sponsor of CARCD's Annual Conference today!

View our [Sponsorship Packet](#) for information about our sponsorship packages.

Contact Nancy Wahl-Scheurich at nancy-wahlscheurich@carcd.org or 831-287-5363 to discuss what option will best fit your goals.

Silent Auction Items

It's time to start collecting items for the annual silent auction! The silent auction is a great way to show off gifts and goodies from your local area. It's also an easy way to support CARCD and pick up unique gifts for the upcoming holidays.

If you plan on donating an item to the silent auction, please fill out this [Silent Auction Items questionnaire](#) with a description and approximate value of the item. We always accept last-minute items at the event as well. Please bring your auction item to our registration table at the conference. Bidding closes 12pm on Friday, December 1st.

Reach out to [Taylor Stubblefield](#) with any questions regarding the Silent Auction.

CARCD Annual Business Meeting / Call for Resolutions

The CARCD Annual Business meeting will take place virtually on Thursday, December 8th from 5pm-7pm. The meeting agenda will include the presentation and voting on submitted resolutions and updates from partners (NRCS, DOC, NACD, and Pacific Policy Group).

Any member district or committee may propose a resolution for adoption by the general membership at the annual conference. Resolutions shall declare policies, and/or call for actions in connection with policies that are within the scope of the purposes and powers of the Association. Resolutions for consideration of the general RCD membership need to be submitted to the CARCD by November 11, 2022. All member RCDs and delegates will receive a copy of all resolutions by November 17th, 2022. Please submit your resolution via email to [Brittany Friedman](#).

Each member district can select a district director as its delegate to represent the district at the Annual Meeting. Each RCD that is a full dues-paying member needs to submit a [Delegate Credential here](#) by November 30th, 2022.



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California Association of Resource Conservation Districts • 705 E Bidwell Street, Suite 2-415, Folsom, California
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