

Helping you care for our **land, water,** **soil, and wildlife.**



Hello Napa RCD Community!

It's acorn season, a time of growth and preparation, and we're reminded of the many opportunities this time brings for action within our community. This is a wonderful moment to celebrate efforts that nurture the environment and explore how we can continue to thrive together.

In this edition of the newsletter, you'll find some highlights from our recent splash at Coastal Cleanup Day, showcasing the incredible work of our volunteers. We also take a moment to honor a beloved figure in conservation, Dennis Bowker, whose legacy continues to inspire us all. Find details about upcoming events where you can join in on making a positive impact right here in Napa County's backyard.

Thank you for being an integral part of the RCD community. Together, let's embrace the spirit of this season and continue to make a difference. Enjoy the read, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

Until next time,
Napa RCD



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Announcements

Thank you, Napa County!

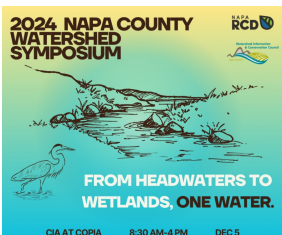
429 Volunteers
 3,116lbs of waste
 2,600 lbs landfill trash
 463 lbs recycling
 53 lbs compost



Coastal Cleanup Day Recap

This year's Coastal Cleanup Day in Napa County was a fantastic success, with 429 volunteers at 16 sites removing an incredible 3,116 lbs of waste from our streets, creeks, and river. That's a big win for our local waterways! Napa RCD would like to extend a massive THANK YOU to the amazing volunteers, Site Captains, and partners that supported the effort.

We also want to extend a big shout-out to our sponsors! Your support made one of Napa County's largest volunteer events possible, and we couldn't do it without the dedication of our amazing community.



2024 Napa County Watershed Symposium: Tickets on Sale Now!

Dive into a day of discovery and professional development at the 2024 Napa County Watershed Symposium, hosted by the Watershed Information & Conservation Council (WICC) of Napa County and Napa RCD.

This year, we're embracing the "One Water" approach—a unified

vision that addresses our water challenges from every angle, ensuring every drop counts. The Symposium will offer an in-depth look at local initiatives to improve water stewardship for the resiliency of communities and ecosystems.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

For more information on the Watershed Information & Conservation Council, or for updates on the event, check out NapaWatersheds.org.



Welcome to Napa RCD, Lisa!

Napa RCD is thrilled to introduce Lisa Michl, our new Conservation Project Manager. With a background in environmental compliance, construction monitoring, and wildlife conservation projects, Lisa brings a fresh perspective and a wealth of knowledge to our team. Please join us in giving Lisa a warm welcome!

Want to learn more about the folks behind some of Napa RCD's work? Check out our staff bios!

[Staff Bios](#)

Tribute to Dennis Bowker

It is with heavy hearts that we remember Dennis Bowker, a true pioneer of conservation in Napa County, who recently passed away. His profound impact on land stewardship and sustainable farming resonates throughout our community and beyond. As we honor Dennis's remarkable contributions, we would like to share a heartfelt statement from Phill Blake, who served as the District Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service alongside Dennis for many years, reflecting on his legacy and the indelible mark he left on our environment and those who had the privilege to work alongside him. Dennis's commitment to preserving our natural resources serves as an inspiration to us all, and he will be deeply missed.

[Read the Tribute](#)

Upcoming Events with Napa RCD

10/5 - First Saturday Volunteer Event: Oak Tree Care Day at Alston Park

Grab your gloves and help us celebrate Arbor Day with the City of Napa Parks and Rec! We'll be planting trees, building a greener Napa, and having fun along the way. Whether you're a pro or a



newbie, your help is needed to prep and protect our new trees. Plus, get updates on the City's tree survey and the Urban Forestry Master Plan!

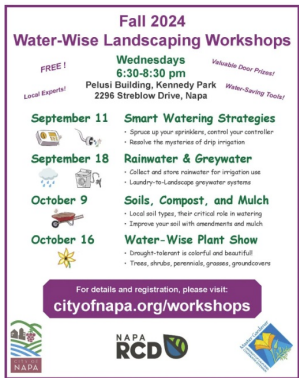
Learn More



10/8 - Ecofriendly Reusable Wraps Workshop

Take your lunch to the next level by creating your own reusable sandwich wraps! Learn to make your eco-friendly, reusable food wrappers made made using waterproof fabric that's free from chemicals, is vegan friendly on the inside, and features a fun cotton print on the outside. This program involves using a sewing machine independently.

Learn More



10/9 & 10/16 - Water-Wise Landscaping Workshop Series:

10/9 - Soils, Compost, and Mulch
 Miguel Garcia, Napa RCD's Sustainable Agriculture Program Manager, will examine local soil types and the critical importance of soil in establishing a water-wise landscape. He'll also demonstrate how to improve your soil with aeration, amendments, and mulch. The "sheet mulching" technique for lawn removal will be highlighted, and the UC Master Gardeners will provide breakout stations for more in-depth learning.

Register Here

10/16 - Waterwise Plant Show

Local landscape designers will showcase the beauty of drought-tolerant plants, featuring a vibrant selection of trees, shrubs, and more, along with yard transformation highlights and numerous plant displays. Information on "Cash For Grass" rebates will also be available.

Register Here



10/19 - Third Saturday Hike with Napa Open Space District

Get ready for an exciting forest adventure with Napa RCD, Napa Open Space District, and PUC! Join us as we explore the PUC Forest, stopping at forest health project sites to learn about forest management. Have you ever wondered why the forest looks different these days or what the future holds for the PUC Forest? We have the answers! Whether you're interested in our forest health projects or just looking for a fun day outdoors, this event is

perfect for you!

Learn
More



11/1 - Conservation Burning and Biochar Workshop

Join us for a hands-on Conservation Burning and Biochar Workshop with Napachar! Experience a low-smoke burning demo using a flame-capped kiln to turn wood waste into biochar. Discover the benefits it can offer for soil health and learn sustainable practices while contributing to environmental conservation. Don't miss this chance to deepen your knowledge!

Learn
More

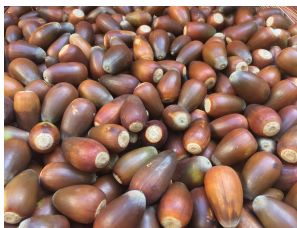


11/2 - First Saturday Volunteer Event: Waterway Keepers Community Cleanup

Join us for a community cleanup under the Wine Train Bridge before the rainy season! Help us clear trash from Napa's waterways to protect our aquatic wildlife and preserve the area's natural beauty. Bring your family and friends for a fun and rewarding day—tools and good vibes provided. This is a great opportunity to give back, meet new people, and make a positive impact right in our backyard. Let's keep Napa clean, green, and thriving for everyone!

Learn More

Discover the incredible connection between acorns and oak trees! These mighty seeds are not just food for wildlife; they are the first step in creating a thriving ecosystem. Planting acorns helps ensure the growth of strong oak trees, which provide shade, improve air quality, and support biodiversity.



Fall Acorn Drive

You may have already heard the sharp "plop" echoing from the oak in your backyard—yes, it's that time again! Acorn collection season is here, and now is your chance to help shape the future of Napa County, one acorn at a time! Your efforts will directly fuel county-wide planting projects, spreading new growth and greenery for generations to come.

This year we're hoping to gather:

- 700 valley oak acorns
- 200 coast live oak acorns
- 150 blue oak acorns

We invite you to submit your acorn collections! Please keep your submissions to a maximum of one full grocery store paper bag.

Just a friendly reminder: each submission should include a completed data collection form.

[Download the Data Collection Form](#)

Want to learn more about the benefits of planting acorns and how to successfully nurture them into magnificent oaks? Check out our comprehensive guide, where you'll find tips on collection, storage, and planting techniques.

[Check out the Oak Planting Guide](#)



11/29 - Community Oak Planting Day

Looking for an awesome way to get outdoors, give back, and have a blast with your community? Come join us for Green Friday as we team up to protect our beautiful oak trees! We'll be clearing planting areas, building protective cages, and planting acorns to help the oaks grow strong. There's a job for everyone, so all ages and abilities are welcome—bring your friends, family, and neighbors for a fun day outside!

[Learn More](#)

Your Input is Needed!

City of Napa Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)



Take the Survey

Over the next months, the City of Napa Fire Department, in partnership with Napa RCD, Napa Valley COAD, and Napa Firewise, will host a series of surveys and public meetings to understand your concerns regarding wildfires and identify types of projects we should invest in as a community.

We're launching a survey to gather your thoughts on wildfire risks and how we can work together to keep our community safe. Your input will shape the City of Napa's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), guiding future projects and initiatives.

[Take the Survey](#)



Join us at Fire Life and Safety Day!

This family-friendly event will offer opportunities to:

- Learn about the hazard and risk assessment that has been completed as a part of the CWPP development
- Share your ideas for projects that will help to enhance community wildfire resilience.
- Participate in fun activities, meet local organizations, and learn about wildfire and emergency preparedness

Where: Fire Station #1, 930 Seminary Street, Napa, CA 94559

When: October 12, 2024 from 10 AM - 2 PM

For more information on the CWPP, how to join upcoming events, or to stay updated on the plan, click the link below.

Learn More

Tap into the Watershed



Napa Valley Chapter, California Native Plant Society Sale

October 5-6

Learn More



Beyond the Bin: Tour Day at Napa's Recycling and Composting Facility*

October 5

Learn More

Fire and Life Safety Day* October 12

Learn More

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FIRE & LIFE SAFETY DAY OPEN HOUSE
 NAPA FIRE DEPT.
 SATURDAY OCTOBER 12, 2024
 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 FIRE STATION #1
 930 SEMINARY ST.

- Learn about fire safety or get to know your fire department
- Tour the fire station and see what it's like to be a firefighter
- See firefighters in action using the jaws of life!
- Visit booths staffed by local health and safety service providers to learn how to keep your family healthy, safe, and prepared for emergencies!
- Have your picture taken with firefighters, fire trucks, and Sparky!
- Games, activities, and more!

FREE HALLOWEEN COSTUME EXCHANGE!
 Be Eco-Friendly this Halloween by bringing a gently used costume to this open house to exchange for a "new to you" costume! You don't have to donate costumes to participate.
RESPONSIBLE. REUSABLE. RESCUEABLE!
 DON'T MISS THIS FUN-FILLED, EDUCATIONAL DAY!

Induction Cooking Open House Expo October 17



THURSDAY OCT 17
 Open House Event
 5:00 - 7:00 pm

LOCATION
 Design Showcase
 3231 California Blvd
 Napa CA 94558



Learn More

St. Helena Hometown Harvest Festival* October 19



ARTISAN VENDORS - PET PAWRADE - LIVE MUSIC -
 FOOD AND DRINKS - FREE KID ZONE - CAR SHOW
 PUMPKIN PATCH AND MORE!

OCTOBER 19, 2024
 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 BANK AVE. ST. HELENA, CA
 WWW.CITYOFSTHELENA.GOV/HARVEST

Learn More

Napa Firewise Defensible Space Cost Share Program



DEFENSIBLE SPACE COST SHARE
 Improve your home's wildfire resiliency with 50% cost-share, up to \$3,000 in reimbursements.

STEPS TO PARTICIPATE

- Complete interest form
- Schedule site fire assessment
- Select eligible project
- Get any required permits
- Complete the work and submit photos
- Get reimbursed!

LIMITED FUNDING AVAILABLE SECURE YOURS TODAY

Spread the word. Your home is only as safe as your community.

Learn More



The Napa County Fire Department (NCFD) provides a FREE chipping service to all residents who live in the unincorporated areas of Napa County.

Learn More

The CCOF Foundation is giving \$10,000 grants to farmers transitioning to organic practices.

