



Voluntary Conservation and Land Management Assistance Workshop

MARCH 1, 2023

4 – 7 PM

Welcome And thank you for coming!

This is a regional workshop for property owners looking for funding or technical assistance on conserving their land, agricultural operations, land management best practices, and more.

Co-Sponsored by:



**RESOURCE
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**
Greater San Diego County



Interpretación simultánea

En español

Si necesita interpretación simultánea:

Presione “Interpretation” y
seleccione “Spanish”



Mute

Chat

Raise Hand

Q&A

EN
English

Leave

Interactive Polls

Poll Everywhere

?

Zoom Comments/Questions? Send message using Chat feature



To Participate:

▶ Scan QR Code

OR:

- ▶ Open pollev.com/SDCoSustainable681 in your browser (Chrome, Firefox, or Edge)
- ▶ Enter your name or click Skip
- ▶ Wait to be re-directed to the event

I'm attending today's workshop as an interested...

Property Owner

Community Group

Non-Profit Organization

Land Manager

Public Agency

Other

In the past, have you received support from any public assistance programs to help you manage your land?

Yes

No

What is your #1 reason for attending today's workshop?

Conserve natural resources

Restore land

Integrate sustainable practices

Enhance or maintain wildlife habitat

Planning assistance

Learn more about programs

Agenda

4:00 – 4:30:

Introduction & Overview of Programs

4:30 – 5:30:

Expo Session #1

5:30 – 6:00:

Break/Information Session

6:00 – 7:00:

Expo Session #2



Overview of Programs

Restoration Programs

Healthy Soils Program

Administered by: CA Department
of Food and Agriculture & UCANR



The program has two components which are the HSP Incentive Program and the HSP Demonstration Projects



California farmers, ranchers and Federal and California Recognized Native American Indian Tribes



\$100,000 for the Incentive program
\$250,000 for the Demonstration Projects



Information on where to apply and when to apply will be communicated. Go to the CDFA website listed below to learn more about the programs.

Contact Esther Mosase,
enmosase@ucanr.edu and to apply go to
www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/IncentivesProgram.html

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Administered by: United States
Fish & Wildlife Service



Assists private landowners with the restoration of native habitat for wildlife on their properties



Private landowners such as private lands, land trusts, County and City owned land, and Tribal Lands.



The local program has approximately \$75,000 available for 3-4 projects each year (up to \$25,000 per project)



New applications are taken November to February each year, however, you can contact Jonathan with question about the program throughout the year.

To apply contact Jonathan Snapp-Cook, Biologist, USFWS
jonathan_snapp-cook@fws.gov or
(760) 805-5608



Conservation & Sustainability Programs

SALC Easement Grants

Administered by: CA Department of
Conservation with support from
UCANR



Acquisition grants offer funding to protect agricultural lands at the urban-rural fringe and on the outskirts of cities from development or conversion to non-agricultural uses.



Conservation buyers, specifically cities, counties, non-profit organizations, resource conservation districts, Federally and non-Federally recognized California Native American Tribes, regional park or open space districts and authorities; the buyer works in collaboration with a private landowner.



- 75% of the appraised value of the agricultural conservation easement, or 100% of the easement value if the project provides benefits to disadvantaged or low-income communities or households.
- Up to \$50,000 available for real estate associated costs and up to \$10,000 for a carbon farming plan or management plan.



Pre-proposals are due in June and full applications are due in mid-September each year. Contact Chandra or DOC with any questions regarding the program.

To apply contact Chandra Richards,
cmrichards@ucanr.edu or 619-786-2620
or the Department of Conservation at
salcp@conservation.ca.gov



PACE Program

Administered by: County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services



The County of San Diego's Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program supports local agriculture by preventing agricultural lands from being developed for other uses.



- Be zoned A70 – Limited Agriculture, A72 – General Agriculture, RR – Rural Residential, S90 – Holding Area, or S92 – General Rural; and
- Have been actively farmed and/or ranched for a minimum of two years immediately prior to applying



Typically, 5-8 properties are selected to receive an easement each year. Easement values vary by property, average is \$2,700/acre.



Applications are accepted year-round. If you would like to be included in the 2023 application review cycle, please submit by March 31, 2023.

To apply visit

www.sandiegocounty.gov/pds/advance/PACE



Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Program

Administered by: County of San Diego,
Department of Public Works & Mission
Resource Conservation District



The County of San Diego Waterscape Rebate Program is offering a rebate to agricultural growers that will help cover the cost of irrigation upgrades recommended in a free irrigation evaluation



- Agricultural producers within unincorporated San Diego County that receive water from the San Diego County Water Authority (or member agencies)
- Growers must have one or more acres of planted, irrigated agricultural material



Up to \$550/acre or \$5,000 (whichever is lower) to implement efficiency upgrades recommended by MRCD



To sign up for a free agricultural irrigation system evaluation, contact Jameson Meyst (MRCD).

Please include acreage, crop type, and contact information.

Jameson Meyst | agirrigtech@missionrcd.org,
(760) 728-1332

www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/watersheds/RebatesIncentives/AIEP.html



Rain-Saving Containers

Administered by: County of San Diego,
Department of Public Works



The County of San Diego Waterscape Rebate Program is offering supplemental rebates on rain barrels and cisterns.

Using a rain-saving container allows you to actively choose what to do with the rainwater you capture and save money in the process.



Properties in unincorporated San Diego County that receive water from the San Diego County Water Authority (or member agencies) are eligible for additional rebates



- \$30 per rain barrel
- \$100 per cistern
- \$0.75 per gallon stored (not to exceed \$2,100)



Please fill out an application form located on the website and submit pre-application photos.

Eleonore Durand Walker,
eleonorew@waterscaperebates.com, (201) 290-6680
www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/watersheds/RebatesIncentives/RainSaving.html



Septic Rebate Program

Administered by: County of San Diego,
Department of Public Works



The County of San Diego Waterscape Rebate Program is offering rebates for having your septic system serviced after completing a brief online training.

The training covers proper septic maintenance, how regular maintenance can prevent system failures, what to look for in the event of a failure, how septic systems relate to water quality, and information on additional resources.



- Septic system located on a property in the unincorporated County of San Diego
- Only County-approved septic pumpers are eligible for rebate program participation



\$100 per service (one septic system per parcel)



Please visit
www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/dpw/watersheds/RebatesIncentives/SRP.html to verify eligibility, watch the training video, and apply for your rebate



Compost Connector

Administered by: Zero Foodprint



Zero Foodprint's newest program, Compost Connector, allows farmers to access free compost of their choice in this expanded marketplace.



California farmers, ranchers & growers. All land & operation types and all acreage sizes are welcome in Compost Connector.



There is no set funding for each project nor a cap on how many projects will be funded. If freight and/or spreading costs are prohibitive, Zero Foodprint will make every effort to cost-share so that project requests can be fulfilled.



We encourage anyone who wants compost in 2023 to enter their project(s) on the website and we will fulfill requests as soon as possible.

Visit our website

www.zerofoodprint.org/compost more information and the project request form



CDEFA State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP)

Administered by: CDEFA & UCANR



Funds projects that reduce water use, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve irrigation efficiency



- California farmers, ranchers and Federal and California Recognized Native American Indian Tribes are eligible to apply.
- The farm location and the business mailing address must be in California.
- The irrigation project must be on a California agricultural operation.
- An agricultural operation cannot submit more than one application per unique tax identification number.



The maximum grant award is \$200,000 and the maximum grant duration is 24 months.



Use the link provided here www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep and subscribe to be informed when applications will be accepted.

Contact Esther Mosase,
enmosase@ucanr.edu for more
information. Visit our website
www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep to apply.



Conservation & Sustainability Programs

California Underserved and Small Producers (CUSP) Program

Administered by: CA Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) with support from California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD)



Funds can be used to reimburse small-scale and historically under-served producers for expenses incurred as a result of drought, flooding, the COVID-19 pandemic or other disasters



Agriculture must be the primary source of income for the applicant. Farmers must make no more than \$400,000 per year in gross farm sales.



Award amounts of \$1,000 – \$20,000 per farmer. At least 50% of funds will be awarded to socially disadvantaged farmers, immigrant farmers, and undocumented farmers.



Applications will be processed through CARCD and awards will be available on a rolling basis through at least Spring 2024

To apply contact:

Elizabeth Garcia, RCD of Greater San Diego
elizabeth.garcia@rcdsandiego.org |

619-562-0096



Water Efficiency Technical Assistance (WETA) Program

Administered by: CA Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) with support from RCD of Greater San Diego County



Free irrigation evaluation and subsidies for pump efficiency test, as required for CDFA State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEET) grant application



Commercial farmers and producers in the RCD of Greater San Diego service area who are interested in making their operation more water efficient



Up to \$500 subsidy on pump efficiency test



- Evaluations available year round
- CDFA SWEET

To set up a free evaluation, contact:
Andy Williamson, RCD of Greater San Diego
andy.williamson@rcdsandiego.org | 619-

562-0096



Planning Programs

SALC Planning Grants

Administered by: CA Department of
Conservation with support from
UCANR



Offers funding to develop and implement plans for the protection of agricultural lands at risk of conversion to non-agricultural uses



Cities, counties, LAFCOs, Federally and non-Federally recognized California Native American Tribes, councils of governments, municipal planning organizations, regional transportation planning or groundwater sustainability agencies, special districts with land use or transportation planning authority



\$250,000 for one applicant or \$500,000 for two or more applicants with extensive outreach community engagement or infill housing planning elements



Pre-proposals are due in July and full applications are due in mid-September each year

To apply contact Chandra Richards,
cmrichards@ucanr.edu or 619-786-2620
or the Department of Conservation at
salcp@conservation.ca.gov

Carbon Farm Planning

Administered by: RCDGSDC, CA
Dept of Food & Agriculture,
and NRCS



Carbon Farm Plans help a land manager to prioritize practices and envision a path to increased productivity.



Agricultural producers and grazing land managers with multi-year land tenure



- Site Assessment
- Carbon Farm Plan Development
- Assistance with Application for Funding
- Conservation Practice Monitoring



Resource Conservation Districts in San Diego County are trained to assess needs, develop plans, pursue funding and implement practices

To apply contact Joel Kramer at
joel.kramer@rcdsandiego.org or visit
www.rcdsandiego.org/programs/carbon-farming/



Working Lands for Pollinators

Administered by: Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County, NRCS, and USFWS



In partnership with NRCS and Partners for Fish & Wildlife, the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County is offering technical assistance and some funding to expand pollinator habitat conservation/restoration on working land.



Private owners of working lands (agriculture and/or rangeland)



- Technical Assistance for 10 interested land owners - no financial funding, includes a site assessment and plan of action and resources to increase pollinator habitat on property
- Funding and Technical Assistance for 3 interested land owners - Purchase of native seed and up to \$1,000 to prepare site for habitat



Email the pollinator team at Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego at pollinators@rcdsandiego.org to set up a site visit and see if you are a candidate for technical assistance and/or funding.



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Administered by: NRCS



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



Funding to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits



- Applicant must be engaged in agriculture production
- Eligible land includes cropland, nurseries, rangeland, forestland, and other farmlands



USDA is offering \$41.8 million through EQIP to help agricultural producers in Arizona, California, Colorado, and Oregon



Visit the website below to review current EQIP cutoff dates, eligibility information, and special initiative opportunities.

Email raul.alvarado@usda.gov
or isabel.garcia@usda.gov
www.nrcs.usda.gov/EQIP



Fire Safety Programs

No-Cost Chipping Program

Administered by: Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County & Fire Safe Council of San Diego County



The Fire Safe Council of San Diego County created this program to get rid of this hazardous vegetative debris, turning it into a useful, weed-suppressing mulch. Get your piles ready, and our crew will come to your property to chip the debris on site.



Any homeowner/landowner in San Diego County



Grant funds from San Diego River Conservancy, San Diego Gas and Electric, and the United States Forest Service to administer the program. We service roughly 100 homes per quarter with these funds.



Applications are accepted year-round as funding permits. Applicants are scheduled at a first-come, first-serve basis.

The application can be found online at <https://firesafesdcounty.org/no-cost-chipping/> or applicants may call our office at 619-562-0096



Defensible Space Assistance Program

Administered by: Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County & Fire Safe Council of San Diego County



The Fire Safe Council of San Diego County's Defensible Space Assistance Program is designed to assist homeowners that need to create defensible space, and are not able to do so because of physical, economic or other barriers.



The population targeted for the DSAP program is those who are not able to do this work for themselves because of physical, economic, or other barriers. You must be the legal owner of the property and meet an income requirement which can be found on our website.



Grant funds from San Diego River Conservancy, San Diego Gas and Electric, and the United States Forest Service to administer the program. We service roughly 100 homes per quarter with these funds.



Applications are accepted year-round as funding permits. Applicants are scheduled at a first-come, first-serve basis.

The application can be found online at <https://firesafesdcounty.org/no-cost-chipping/> or applicants may call our office at 619-562-0096



Other Assistance Programs

- **Private Resource Management Plan Program**
- **Organic Materials Recycling Assistance**
- **Healthy Soils Program Assistance**
- **Become an Organic Grower**
- **Agricultural Water Quality Program**
- **Pest Exclusion and Pest Detection Programs**
- **Integrated Pest Control Program**
- **Taking Your Farm Organic**
- **Audubon Conservation Ranching Program**
- **Farm Operating and Ownership Loans**
- **Emergency Loan Program**
- **Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)**
- **Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees & Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)**
- **Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program**
- **Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)**
- **UC Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program**
- **Organic & Transitional Education and Certification Program**
- **Emergency Conservation Program**
- **Dairy Margin Coverage and Supplemental Dairy Margin Coverage**



Thank you!

Please take the post-event survey so we can continue to improve our workshops

For additional questions, please email Stephanie.Neal@sdcounty.ca.gov