

Subject **CSDA e-News: Join CSDA's Legislative Round-Up**
 From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
 To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <cassandras@csda.net>
 Date 2017-03-14 05:00



If you are on a mobile device or want to view this as a web page, please [click here](#).
 To ensure receipt of our email, please add CSDA@informz.net to your address book.
 Please do not reply to this automatic e-mail.



Little Hoover, CalPERS, Public Records Updates: Join CSDA's Legislative Round-Up

Register for CSDA's biannual [Legislative Round-Up webinar](#) during which the CSDA Advocacy Team will discuss the most significant bills, current policy issues, and how they will impact your district's ability to deliver essential services. The webinar will take place Thursday, March 30 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and is free for all CSDA members.

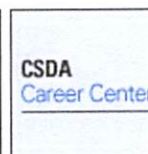
This year, CSDA is busy tracking legislation related to property taxes, mandatory union orientation, public works restrictions, and more. During the webinar, CSDA's lobbyists will provide updates on these key bills and how your district can join our advocacy efforts.

This is also your opportunity to hear more information about the Little Hoover Commission's study of special districts, including the potential to create a 10-year sunset provision for districts. CSDA will also share information about recent CalPERS decisions and legislation and the California Supreme Court's recent decision regarding the electronic communications and the Public Records Act. [Click here](#) to register.

Assembly Committee Holds Oversight Hearing of Healthcare Districts

Last week, the Assembly Local Government Committee held an oversight hearing of healthcare districts entitled The Evolution of Healthcare Districts. The hearing, called by Committee Chairwoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters), examined the various types of healthcare districts operating in California and the level of oversight and review they receive from Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO), as well as what role LAFCOs play in the consolidations and dissolutions of districts. [Read more...](#)

March 14, 2017



EDUCATION CALENDAR

March 15
 Proposition 26,
 Proposition 218 & Rate
 Setting
 Oakland

March 16
 Required Ethics AB1234

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2017 Special District Leadership Academy - SLO*When: April 23-26, 2017**Where: Embassy Suites San Luis Obispo*

Special district boards are the voices of the community. The truth is that every elected or appointed public official needs to worry about governance because governance is what boards do. It's what they bring to the table. Governance is taking the wishes, needs, and desires of the community and transforming them into policies that govern the district. Survival of special districts depends in large part on how well run the boards are.



Attendees will learn: How to work as a team; The roles of board and staff; Attributes and characteristics of highly effective boards; How culture, norms, values, and operating style influence the district; Specific jobs the board must perform; How individual values, skills, and knowledge help to shape how effective boards operate; The importance of moving from "I" to "we" as the governance team; The board's role in setting direction for the district; the boards role in finance and fiscal accountability; And more!

Early bird registration discount ends Friday, March 24, 2017 so [register](#) now!

Coaches Needed!

CSDA is requesting volunteers to help with our next speed coaching session on March 27, 2017 from 1:30 - 3:10 p.m. in Sacramento during the "So You Want to be a GM?" Workshop. If you are interested in participating, please email Madison Burton at madisonb@csda.net.

Thank you for your help in bringing this valuable program to our attendees!

MEMBER SERVICES

Looking for Infrastructure Funding?

CSDA members seeking funding for a wide variety of capital improvement projects know they can turn to the [CSDA Finance Corporation](#) for efficient financing solutions at competitive rates. If you are looking for information on government grants and loans in particular, we invite you to attend one of several free funding fairs hosted by the California Financing Coordinating Committee (CFCC). The next Funding Fair is scheduled on April 5 in Sacramento. Download the [flyer](#) or visit the [CFCC website](#) for other dates and locations.

DISTRICT PRESS

Cal-ICMA Launches Talent Initiative - Join CSDA's Focus Group!

Cal-ICMA has announced that it is launching a Talent Initiative to be undertaken by the Cal-ICMA Talent Development Team (formerly known as the Preparing the Next Generation Committee). The purpose of the Talent Initiative is to engage Chief Executives, HR Directors, and emerging leaders of cities, counties, and special districts in a conversation about three questions:

What are the kinds of talent challenges that confound cities, counties, and special

Compliance Training Webinar

March 20
Supervisory Skills for the Public Sector
 Marina

March 23
Hammering Out a Framework: Construction & Business Matters
 Fountain Valley

March 27
So You Want to be a General Manager?
 Sacramento

March 28
SDRMA Safety/Claims Education Day
 Sacramento

March 30
Legislative Round-up Webinar

April 4
How-To-Do-It for Special Districts with Revenue Needs
 Webinar

April 6
Leveraging Your State and Federal Relationships
 Webinar

April 23
2017 Special District Leadership Academy Conference
 San Luis Obispo

EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent employment positions posted to www.csda.net:

Construction & Maintenance I or II | Joshua Basin Water District

General Manager | Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District

districts local governments in California?

What obstacles hinder our efforts to address talent challenges?

What are the best practices from public and private, culture-building strategies, and other resources so we can better attract, retain and grow talent?

For more information, click [here](#).

CSDA has joined the Talent Initiative and is conducting a focus group on May 17. Check out the agenda [here](#), and if you would like to participate, RSVP to Madison Burton, staff assistant, at madisonb@csla.net or 877.924.2732.



[Senior Civil Engineer | City of San Pablo](#)

[Human Resources Analyst | Orange County Sanitation District](#)

[Meters \(Field Services\) Supervisor | Olivenhain Municipal Water District](#)

To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).

Open RFPs and RFQs:

RFP - Legal Services

RFQ - Environmental Consulting Services

RFP - Audit Services

NIB - Meter Replacement

RFP - 2017 Healthcare Services MSR

RFQ - Feasibility Study and Preliminary Civil Design Services

View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the [RFP Clearinghouse](#).

For information on posting an RFP or job opportunity, call 877.924.2732.

Healthcare District Hosts Free "Ask the Pharmacist" Meeting

The Grossmont Healthcare District will host a [free program](#) on "Ask the Pharmacist" from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 22. The program is part of the library's "Wellness Wednesday" series, normally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served. The event will take place at the district's Dr. William C. Herrick Community Health Care Library in La Mesa, CA.

New Transparency Certificate of Excellence Renewals

The [Big Bear Airport District](#), [Goleta Sanitary District](#), [Olivenhain Municipal Water District](#), and [West Valley Sanitation District](#) have been

renewed for the Transparency Certificate of Excellence through the [Special District Leadership Foundation \(SDLF\)](#). This program promotes transparency in the operations and governance of special districts and provides them with an opportunity to showcase their efforts in transparency. This is an SDLF-sponsored program, so it is free for districts to participate in and receive recognition by completing the application requirements.

Submit your application for the Transparency Certificate of Excellence by [clicking here](#) or contact Beth Hummel, program assistant, at (916) 231-2939 or by email at bethh@sdlf.org for more information.



Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member services by liking [California Special Districts Association on Facebook](#) and following [@specialdistrict on Twitter](#)!



California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

[Send to a friend](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Powered By [informz](#)

Subject **CSDA e-News: Register Now for the 2017 GM Leadership Summit!**
From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <cassandras@csda.net>
Date 2017-03-21 05:00



If you are on a mobile device or want to view this as a web page, please [click here](#).
To ensure receipt of our email, please add CSDA@informz.net to your address book.
Please do not reply to this automatic e-mail.



Register Now For the 2017 GM Leadership Summit!

2017 General Manager Leadership Summit
June 25-27, 2017, Hyatt Regency Newport Beach

Your job as a general manager and emerging leader of a special district demands you stay current on governance best practices, state laws, human resources, operations, pensions, budgeting, risk management, policies, procedures, and more!

The General Manager Leadership Summit is a perfect way for you to come together with other special district leaders from throughout the state to network and learn more about your specific job responsibilities. Return to your district after two days of specialized training and education, ready to take your board relationship, staff, and district to the next level.

Check out the website for a full schedule of events [here](#). Early bird registration for the GM Summit ends May 26, 2017. [Register now](#) before you miss it!

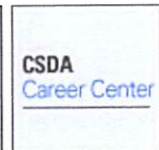
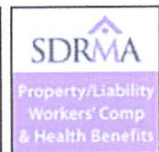
Need help paying for the Summit? [Scholarships are available now!](#)

CSDA Sponsors Bill to Promote Local Process for LAFCO Representation

CSDA is proud to announce the introduction of Assembly Bill 979 (Lackey), which simplifies the process for seating special district representatives on Local Agency Formation Commissions. Co-sponsored by CSDA and the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO), AB 979 would ensure a local opt in approach for special districts to gain representation on LAFCO.

AB 979 simplifies the existing process by allowing special districts to vote on LAFCO

March 21, 2017



EDUCATION CALENDAR

March 27
[So You Want to be a General Manager?](#)
Sacramento

March 28
[SDRMA Safety/Claims](#)

representation in a meeting of the county's independent special districts selection committee. Every independent special district would have the opportunity to participate in the election process, either in-person or by mail, casting one vote for or against the question. [Read more...](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Last Chance for Early Bird Registration!

Special district boards are the voices of the community. The truth is that every elected or appointed official needs to worry about governance because governance is what boards do. It's what they bring to the table. Governance is taking the wishes, needs, and desires of the community and transforming them into policies that govern the district. Survival of special districts depends in large part on how well run the boards are.



Learn new skills and grow as a leader in your district by attending the [Special District Leadership Academy](#) in San Luis Obispo on April 23-26, 2017 at the [Embassy Suites San Luis Obispo](#). Hurry and [register now](#) before you miss the early bird discount which ends this Friday, March 24!

Room reservations are available at CSDA rate of \$120 plus tax, single or double occupancy by calling (805) 549-0800 and using the group code XCO. There is complimentary self-parking at this location. The room reservation cut-off is this Friday, March 24. However, space is limited and may sellout before then.

MEMBER SERVICES

Invite a Non-Member to Experience CSDA - and the Coffee's on Us!

Do you know of a special district that is missing out on the benefits of CSDA membership? Tell them about our free [Trial Membership](#) program and you could earn a Starbucks gift card for the referral. Just make sure the completed application includes your name (some restrictions apply). Applications for the Trial Membership program are being accepted through March 31, 2017. [See details online.](#)

Call for Nominations: 2018-20 CSDA Board of Directors



In February, nomination information and forms were mailed to every CSDA voting member agency. The leadership of CSDA is elected from its six geographical networks. Each of the six networks has three seats on the board with staggered three-year terms. Candidates must be affiliated with an

independent special district that is a CSDA Regular Member in good standing located within the [geographic network](#) they seek to represent.

The CSDA Board of Directors is the governing body responsible for all policy decisions related to CSDA's member services, legislative advocacy, education and resources. The Board of Directors is crucial to the operation of the association and to the representation of the common interests of all California's special districts before the Legislature and the state administration. [Read more...](#)

DISTRICT PRESS

[Education Day](#)
[Sacramento](#)

March 30
[Legislative Round-up](#)
[Webinar](#)

April 4
[How-To-Do-It for Special](#)
[Districts with Revenue](#)
[Needs](#)
[Webinar](#)

April 6
[Leveraging Your State](#)
[and Federal Relationships](#)
[Webinar](#)

April 11
[Supervisory Skills for the](#)
[Public Sector](#)
[Vista](#)

April 19
[Public Engagement and](#)
[Budgeting](#)
[Webinar](#)

April 23
[2017 Special District](#)
[Leadership Academy](#)
[Conference](#)
[San Luis Obispo](#)

EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent employment positions posted to www.csdanet.org:

[General Manager | De Luz](#)
[Community Services District](#)

[Finance Director | Central](#)
[Basin Municipal Water District](#)

[Ferry Operations Manager |](#)
[Golden Gate Transit - Ferry](#)
[Division](#)

[Ferry Maintenance Manager |](#)
[Golden Gate Transit-Ferry](#)
[Division](#)

[Chief Executive Officer | Eden](#)
[Health District](#)

Institute for Local Government Workshop - Partnering with Community Based Organizations

Many local officials and staff report that the residents they see participating in their public meetings are a narrow slice of the whole community. To address this challenge, many local agencies use a strategy of nurturing relationships with community-based organizations to better reach and engage a broader cross section of residents. In this interactive workshop participants will hear about a variety of approaches and strategies for working with community partners to engage the community residents.

Examples of benefits local agencies cite from partnerships include the ability to: Extend the agency's education and outreach capacities so more residents are aware and informed; Balance the most involved advocates with perspectives representing more of the community; Reduce misperceptions and mistrust, and create less contentiousness; Identify broader community-based resources and recommendations; and Developing communication channels for keeping people informed over time.

Wednesday March 22, 2017

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

[Register here.](#)

Mosquito Season Starting Early this Year

Tim Phillips, general manager of the Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control District, said all agencies trying to control the bugs are gearing up for major battle. "We are anticipating the busiest season we've had in years." The wet winter and warm spring, created perfect breeding conditions for the bugs. The various mosquito abatement districts are using aerial photography to identify ponds and swimming pools that could harbor the mosquitoes that carry West Nile Virus. They have a court warrant allowing them to enter any property where mosquitos are thought to be present. Read more [here](#).

To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).

Open RFPs and RFQs:

RFP - Incident response and inspection cost recovery billing and collection services

RFP - Redistricting services

NIB - Meter replacement

RFQ - Environmental consulting services

RFP - Audit services

View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the [RFP Clearinghouse](#).

For information on posting an RFP or job opportunity, call 877.924.2732.

New District of Distinction Reaccreditations

The Olivenhain Municipal Water District and Southgate Recreation & Park District have been reaccredited as a District of Distinction through the [Special District Leadership Foundation \(SDLF\)](#).

The District of Distinction accreditation is one of the most prestigious local government awards in the state and clearly validates the district's commitment to good governance and to ethical and sound operating practices.

Submit your application to become a District of Distinction by [clicking here](#) or contact Beth Hummel, program assistant, at (916) 231-2939 or by email at bethh@sdlf.org for more information.



Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member services by liking [California Special Districts Association](#) on Facebook and following [@specialdistrict](#) on Twitter!



California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889



FACEBOOK



TWITTER

[Send to a friend](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Subject **CSDA e-News: Win a Free Webinar!**
 From Neil McCormick <neilm@csda.net>
 To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <cassandras@csda.net>
 Date 2017-03-28 05:00



If you are on a mobile device or want to view this as a web page, please [click here](#).
 To ensure receipt of our email, please add CSDA@informz.net to your address book.
 Please do not reply to this automatic e-mail.



Win a Free Webinar!

Help CSDA reach 1,000 "likes" on Facebook and win a free webinar in 2017. Just visit the [California Special Districts Association's page on Facebook](#) and like us! You will be automatically entered in to a random drawing for a free CSDA webinar once we hit our target of 1,000 likes. By following CSDA on Facebook, you will receive important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member

services. [Like CSDA today!](#)

Don't Miss Out! Act Now to Receive Support with Sustainable Climate and Water Projects

The priority deadline to apply for CivicSpark project support is April 15. All special districts with a climate or water action project need are encouraged to [apply](#).

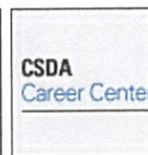
[CivicSpark](#) is an initiative between the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Local Government Commission to build the capacity for local governments to address climate change and water management needs. During the program's two years of existence, CivicSpark fellows have provided over 130,000 hours of support in implementing 80 sustainable projects to support climate and water priorities.

To learn more about the application process, watch an [informational webinar](#) or download the [presentation slides](#). To ensure your project receives support, submit your [application](#) by the April 15, 2017 priority deadline.

It's Not Too Late to Register: Join CSDA's Legislative Round-Up

Don't miss CSDA's biannual [Legislative Round-Up](#) webinar this Thursday. The CSDA Advocacy Team will discuss the most significant bills and current policy

March 28, 2017



EDUCATION CALENDAR

March 28
[SDRMA Safety/Claims Education Day](#)
 Sacramento

March 30
[Legislative Round-up Webinar](#)

issues and how they will impact your district's ability to deliver essential services. The webinar will also include detailed information about the Little Hoover Commission's current study of special districts. The webinar will take place this Thursday, March 30 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and [registration](#) is free for all CSDA members.

Boost Your District's Business Incentive Programs

Does your district provide business incentive programs to local businesses in your community? If yes, please take a [short survey](#) about these programs. California State Treasurer John Chiang recently developed a new web portal, California Business Incentive Gateway (CBIG), to connect business owners and entrepreneurs with financial incentives. Treasurer Chiang approached CSDA to see if there might be interest among special districts in registering their business incentive programs on CBIG. [Read more...](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Check Out These Amazing Webinars Happening in April!

How -To-Do-It for Special Districts w/ Revenue Needs

Presenter: John Bliss, SCI Consulting Group

A comprehensive overview of currently available and politically viable revenue approaches, including special taxes, benefit assessments, fees and charges, and grants will be presented as well as associated public opinion polling and community outreach. Case studies will be used as examples.

Leveraging Your State and Federal Relationships

Presenter: Christopher Townsend, Townsend Public Affairs

The course will provide members with an overview on how to best leverage federal and state advocacy trips to Washington, DC and Sacramento. The focus will be on proper preparation, building and maintaining relationships, creation of advocacy materials, and leveraging follow-up from the advocacy trips.



Public Engagement and Budgeting

Presenter: Institute for Local Government

This webinar will feature proven strategies that elected officials, community leaders and staff members can use to ensure their community's needs are met through the budgeting process by meaningfully engaging the community in the process.

Click [here](#) to register for any of these great webinars!

Last Chance to Become a Superior Supervisor!

When: April 11, 2017

Where: Vista Irrigation District

Presenting: CPS HR Consulting

This course for supervisors will discuss and explore the supervisory skills necessary to work with people in the public-sector environment. The course will cover what is expected of a supervisor, how to monitor and evaluation employees, and how to coach, mentor, and motivate employees. Through interactive exercises and engaging dialogue, you will learn how to create effective, productive and successful teams.

April 4
[How-To-Do-It for Special Districts with Revenue Needs Webinar](#)

April 6
[Leveraging Your State and Federal Relationships Webinar](#)

April 11
[Supervisory Skills for the Public Sector Vista](#)

April 19
[Public Engagement and Budgeting Webinar](#)

April 23
[2017 Special District Leadership Academy Conference San Luis Obispo](#)

EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent employment positions posted to www.cstda.net:

District Manager - Bethel Island
Municipal Improvement District

Chief Executive Officer - Eden
Health District

Meters (Field Services)
Supervisor - Olivenhain
Municipal Water District

General Manager - Kensington
Police Protection and
Community Services District

Construction & Maintenance I
or II - Joshua Basin Water
District

To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).

\$175 SDRMA member
 \$225 CSDA member
 \$340 non-member

Space is filling up! Don't miss your chance to [register](#) for this amazing workshop!

MEMBER SERVICES

Just Released: Brown Act Compliance Manual for Special Districts

The newest addition to CSDA's collection of useful publications is a guide to understanding the Brown Act. This manual includes an overview of the Brown Act as well as guidelines and tips for complying with various meeting agenda, notice, public participation, and public reporting requirements. CSDA thanks contributor Donald Davis, Esq. and the firm of Burke, Williams and Sorensen. To order your copy, visit the [CSDA Bookstore](#).

Nearly \$26 Thousand in Rebates Distributed this Week



The check is in the mail! Participants of CSDA's [District Purchasing Card](#) program received rebates totaling nearly \$26,000, with some agencies receiving checks on more than \$1,000 back. Especially developed by Bank of the West for CSDA members, the District Purchasing Card program aggregates the spend of all participating agencies

to determine the annual rebate rate. The more agencies using the card, the greater the rebate potential. First launched in 2012, the program is continuing to grow. Not yet a participant? Application forms and step-by-step instructions are available on the [CSDA website](#).

DISTRICT PRESS

Bring 1-1 Coaching in to Your Organization through ICMA Coaching Program

One to one (1-1) Coaching is a great way to involve your members, attract new members, and strengthen relationships within your organization. Here are some resources and suggestions from the ICMA Coaching Program to help you create 1-1 coaching in your organization:

- Review the [two-page outline](#) with easy steps and resources.
- Recruit a core group of coaches with a personal request from your leadership to targeted persons.
- [Send](#) the names, titles, and email addresses of your volunteer coaches so that we know who they are and can support their service.
- Encourage all of your members to attend the [April 19 webinar, "Being a Great Coach and a Winning Player in Your Organization."](#)

Coaching can benefit all employees at any stage in their careers.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and

Open RFPs and RFQs:

RFP - Audit Services

RFP - Water System Operation
& Maintenance Services

RFP - Unified Corridor
Investment Study

RFP - Redistricting Services

[View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the RFP Clearinghouse.](#)

For information on posting an RFP or job opportunity, call 877.924.2732.

member services by liking [California Special Districts Association on Facebook](#) and following [@specialdistrict](#) on Twitter!



California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889



[Send to a friend](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)



Subject **CSDA e-News: Proposed Bill Changes**
 From Neil McCormick <neilm@cdda.net>
 To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
 Reply-To <cassandras@cdda.net>
 Date 2017-04-04 02:01



If you are on a mobile device or want to view this as a web page, please [click here](#).
 To ensure receipt of our email, please add CSDA@informz.net to your address book.
 Please do not reply to this automatic e-mail.



Changes Proposed to DIR's SB 854 Contractor Registration Program

The Department of Industrial Relations' (DIR) budget trailer bill 502 makes significant changes to prevailing wage monitoring and enforcement statutes codified under SB 854 of 2014. The proposed budget trailer bill would increase the existing SB 854 contractor

registration threshold from \$1,000 to \$25,000 for new construction and \$15,000 for maintenance. It would also create new civil penalties for infractions of the contractor registration program, and give the State Labor Commissioner new authority to crack down on contractors, subcontractors, and public agencies that fail to fulfill program requirements. [Read more...](#)

Register for the Green California Summit and Expo

Join special district and other local government leaders in Sacramento at the 11th Annual Green California Summit and Expo to learn about strategies, best practices, and products focused on sustainability. The Summit, held April 26-27, provides a forum to learn new innovations in policy, technology, and practice. The Summit's Expo offers attendees a chance for hands-on exposure to technologies and services that can play a critical role in the planning, design, and execution of green projects. Attendees can also register for education sessions led by expert practitioners sharing their knowledge and successful actions. Early registration ends April 7.

Assembly Committee Introduces Legislation Governing Healthcare Districts

The Assembly Local Government Committee has introduced Assembly Bill 1728, which adds new mandates on all healthcare districts. The bill will implement changes

April 4, 2017



EDUCATION CALENDAR

April 4
How-To-Do-It for Special Districts with Revenue Needs Webinar

April 6
Leveraging Your State

the Committee believes are necessary following their oversight hearing of healthcare districts on March 8, 2016, entitled The Evolution of Healthcare Districts. The hearing, called by Committee Chairwoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters), examined the various types of healthcare districts operating in California and explored what level of oversight and review they receive from Local Area Formation Commissions (LAFCOs). [Read more...](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2017 Special Districts Legislative Days

Gain the edge on policy changes impacting your agency at the 2017 Special Districts Legislative Days, and take advantage of this opportunity to meet with legislators, key issue experts, and California's thought leaders:

- Exchange ideas with your legislators & discuss priority legislation at pre-arranged visits.
- Hear directly from state leadership on hot topics affecting local services and infrastructure.
- Explore how decisions are really made in the Capitol & how you can influence outcomes.
- Get answers to your questions at issue-focused, industry-specific roundtable sessions.

Your engagement is an essential component of CSDA's advocacy efforts in Sacramento to defend special district finances and educate policymakers on the effective service delivery provided by special districts - together there is strength in numbers!

Don't miss out on your chance to meet with legislators and impact your district in a positive way! Early bird registration for Legislative Days ends April 14, 2017. [Click here](#) to register now.



Interested in becoming an exhibitor or sponsor of this event? [Click here](#) for more information.

MEMBER SERVICES

CalTRUST Funds a Great Option for Investing Property Tax Proceeds

CalTRUST, the CSDA-endorsed investment pool, provides special districts and other local agencies with a safe, convenient means of maintaining liquidity while diversifying investments. The CalTRUST Government Money Market Fund (MMF) and CalTRUST Heritage MMF provide same-day liquidity, while the CalTRUST Short-Term Fund provides next-day liquidity, and the CalTRUST Medium-Term Fund gives investors weekly liquidity. Together, the CalTRUST Funds give investors a highly-efficient means of allocating funds across the 0-5 year maturity range and a cost-free means of re-allocating among the funds as local circumstances change.

With total assets now over \$2.8 billion and yields consistently higher than LAIF, CalTRUST Funds are an ideal option for special districts when it comes to the investment of property tax proceeds. To learn how your agency can participate, visit www.caltrust.org or call 888.422.8778.

DISTRICT PRESS

and Federal Relationships Webinar

April 11
Supervisory Skills for the Public Sector
Vista

April 19
Public Engagement and Budgeting
Webinar

April 23
2017 Special District Leadership Academy Conference
San Luis Obispo

May 11
How to Find, Apply, and Secure Grant Funding
Webinar

May 16
2017 Special Districts Legislative Days
Sacramento

May 23
Governments Engaging Youth
Webinar

EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent employment positions posted to www.csdanet.org:

District Manager - Bethel Island
Municipal Improvement District

Chief Executive Officer - Eden
Health District

Meters (Field Services)
Supervisor - Olivenhain
Municipal Water District

General Manager - Kensington
Police Protection and
Community Services District

Construction & Maintenance I
or II - Joshua Basin Water
District

CalPERS and CalSTRS Diversity Forum in May



CalPERS and CalSTRS are co-hosting a Diversity Forum on May 10, 2017 at the Sacramento Convention Center and would like extend an invitation for you to participate. Diversity and inclusion is an organizational imperative for our workforces and the marketplace in which we invest. We believe the combined experiences, perspectives and talents of our employees and those we work with strengthen our high-performance work culture and organization.

This one-day forum will bring together investment and corporate executives to share ideas on how to better capitalize on a modern diverse workforce through research and best practices. Our keynote speakers include Helena Morrissey, Chair of the Diversity Project, a London-based organization whose mission is to promote an inclusive culture in the investment profession, and John Thompson, Chair of the Microsoft Corporation, who will offer his perspective on diversity in the workplace.

We welcome your support and attendance and hope that you can join us in May.

Bay Area District Opens for Public Tour in April

As heavy rain poured down this winter, wastewater flows grew to four times normal volume at Dublin San Ramon Services District's (DSRSD) treatment plant. Learn how DSRSD weathered the storms at a public tour of the treatment plant on Wednesday, April 12, at 1:00 p.m. The free tour lasts 60 to 90 minutes and is open to adults, teens, and children ages 10 and up. The facility is located at 7399 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton. Reservations are required: visit www.dsrds.com/tour or call 925-875-2399.

California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889



[Send to a friend](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).

Open RFPs and RFQs:

RFP - Audit Services

RFP - General Legal Counsel Services

RFP - Unified Corridor Investment Study

RFP - Redistricting Services

View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the [RFP Clearinghouse](#).

For information on posting an RFP or job opportunity, call 877.924.2732.

Powered By  informz

Subject **Join Southern Network Leaders at Legislative Days!**

From Chris Palmer <chrisp@csda.net>

To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Reply-To <chrisp@csda.net>

Date 2017-04-06 07:00



If you are on a mobile device or want to view this as a web page, please [click here](#).
To ensure receipt of our email, please add 'CSDA@informz.net' to your address book.



Rose,

You are invited to join special district officials from the Southern Network for CSDA's annual District NetWorks Café as part of Special Districts Legislative Days on May 16-17 in Sacramento. I look forward to meeting with you at this important networking event.

Every year, special district leaders from our Southern Network meet up for coffee during Legislative Days. It is an opportunity to build relationships and share ideas. To participate, please register for Legislative Days today, and get access to the full slate of speakers and activities:

- Legislators Panel: The program kicks off with a panel of state legislators who will speak about policies affecting your district.
- Capitol Office Visits: After lunch and a briefing from CSDA's top-notch lobbyists, we take our message to the State Capitol to meet with legislative offices to highlight our legislative priorities.
- Hosted Reception: The first evening concludes with a hosted legislative reception to further interact with legislative staff and elected officials.
- Little Hoover Commission: The Chairman of the Little Hoover Commission, Pedro Nava, will be the keynote speaker on day two.
- Policy Panel: Following Nava's remarks, CSDA staff will lead a panel to discuss how districts can respond to the Commission's report on special districts due out later this year.

The Early Bird Pricing for the event ends on April 14. Sign up for Legislative Days and then finish your taxes!

Registration information is available [HERE](#).

See you in Sacramento!

California Special Districts Association | 1112 I Street | Suite 200 | Sacramento, CA 95814



FACEBOOK



TWITTER

If you do not wish to receive e-mail newsletters from CSDA, [click here to unsubscribe](#). Please note: unsubscribing from individual mailings will unsubscribe you from all mailings, including the CSDA *e-News* - one of CSDA's major benefits and sources of news to our members.



Subject **eResource - This Week's NACD News Briefs**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-03-07 15:13

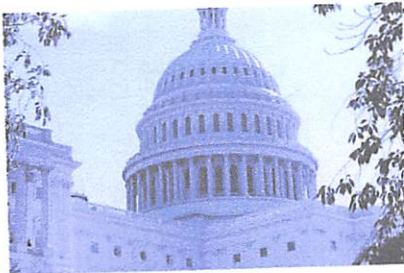


NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO RSVP FOR FLY-IN



There are only two weeks until NACD's 2017 Legislative Fly-In, and today is the last day [to RSVP!](#)

While NACD works hard to be your advocate in Washington, D.C., nothing can replace in-person meetings between you – the conservation district officials who do the critical work of implementing and promoting conservation on the ground – and your members of Congress.

If you have any questions about where you should stay, how to get around the city, or the best way to schedule meetings with your members of Congress, please visit our [Fly-In webpage](#) or reach out to Director of Government Affairs [Coleman Garrison](#).

SOIL HEALTH CHAMPIONS PROMOTE CONSERVATION AT COMMODITY CLASSIC



Last week, NACD President Brent Van

--> Archived Webinar: National Conservation Planning Partnership

Last week, NRCS hosted a webinar to discuss revisions to the Conservation Planning Policy and policy implementation steps for the Transition Plan.

[Click here](#) to scroll through the webinar's slide deck, [here](#) for the recording, and [here](#) to download relevant documents.

Minnesotan ag, rural leaders visit NACD

Last Wednesday, participants in the Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership program visited NACD at our Washington, D.C., office. [MARL](#) is a two-year educational program that helps Minnesota producers and agribusiness professionals develop leadership skills.



Dyke, CEO Jeremy Peters, and two Soil Health Champions – Kenneth McAlister of Texas and Donavon Taves of Louisiana – met with a cross section of the Commodity Classic's over 9,200 attendees.

Kenneth (pictured to the right of Brent) and Donavon spoke with producers about soil health management practices and offered locale-specific advice on water management. Are you interested in learning more about the Soil Health Champions Network? [Visit our website](#) and check out the SHC spotlight below!



CHAMPION OF THE MONTH

Michael Crowder, general manager of Barker Ranch, is one of six NACD Soil Health Champions from Washington state. In addition to serving on the Benton Conservation District's board (his local district) and as a state leader for the Washington Association of Conservation Districts, Michael serves as NACD's second vice president.



(Michael is pictured here, at far left, with his fellow NACD officers for 2017-2019. Between Secretary-Treasurer Kim LaFleur and President Brent Van Dyke is Lee McDaniel, NACD's immediate past president. To the far right is Tim Palmer, first vice president.)



Pictured above, from left to right, is Rich Duesterhaus, NACD director of programs and partnerships; Mark Ennings, territory manager for Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.; Loren Molenaar, owner and operator of Molenaar Farms in Raymond, Minn.; Greg Bohrer, program manager for the Environmental Initiative; Darren Newville, district manager for East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District; and Coleman Garrison, NACD director of government affairs.

Job posting: Massachusetts state association executive director position open

The Massachusetts Association of Conservation Districts is seeking a motivated professional to serve as its executive director. The executive director guides the implementation of the association's policies and programs and oversees MACD staff and contractors.

Applicants should have significant non-profit organizational experience and be willing and able to travel routinely throughout Massachusetts and occasionally out of state. This part-time position can be based out of a home office. To apply, email your cover letter, resume, and three references to jefflmacd@gmail.com. The full

Situated along the Yakima River, Barker Ranch receives an average of six to eight inches of rain annually. The majority of the ranch is enrolled in the NRCS Wetland Reserve Program, and its primary goal is to ensure year-round habitat for migratory waterfowl such as ducks, geese, and sandhill cranes. To this end, Michael uses both wetland and upland vegetation management for wildlife habitat, incorporating cattle to manage vegetation and no-till farming practices in wildlife food plots.

To read more about Michael Crowder and his operation, check out [his profile online](#). If you or someone you know is a leader in soil health and would like to become a member of this growing, progressive network, please contact NACD North Central Region Representative Beth Mason at beth-mason@nacdnnet.org or 317-946-4463 for more information.

position description is available at www.massacd.wordpress.com.

South Dakota's state Envirothon competition gets a new look



South Dakota's Envirothon competition has a new logo (pictured)! For more information on the SD Envirothon, head to the state program's website: www.sdenvirothon.org.

Contact Us

509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- NACD Fly-In - March 21, 2017
- Stewardship and Education Week - April 30 - May 7, 2017
- Northern Plains Region Meeting - June 5 - 7, 2017

- NACD Summer
Conservation Forum and
Tour - July 15 - 18, 2017
-

NACD | 509 Capitol Court NE Washington, D.C. 20002 | (202) 547-6223 | www.nacdnet.org

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. If you are having trouble viewing this email, you may [also view it online](#). To opt out of all communications, [click here](#).

Email Marketing By

[Forward email](#).

 Tell Friend



Subject **eResource - This Week's NACD News Briefs**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-03-14 14:50

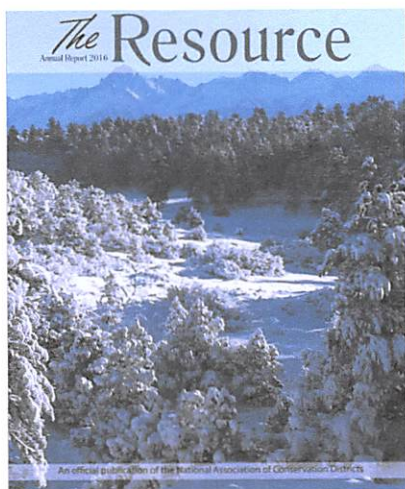


NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

THE RESOURCE IS IN YOUR INBOX... AND ON ITS WAY TO YOUR MAILBOX!



In 2016, your national association worked hard to reform and strengthen forestry and wildfire policy; to recognize and empower soil health leaders across the country; to ensure adequate federal funding for voluntary, incentive-based conservation; and to provide you a

nationwide network full of resources and opportunities.

The winter edition of NACD's quarterly publication The Resource, as well as the 2016 Annual Report, can be [downloaded by clicking here](#).

Every local conservation district and state association will receive two hard copies of the 2016 Annual Report/winter Resource soon. To read past editions of The Resource, visit our website:

-->

USDA calls for ACEP-WRE proposals

Last week, USDA announced it will grant up to \$15 million in technical and financial assistance for producers to restore and enhance critical wetland habitat on working lands. The Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP), housed under the farm bill's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), is administered by NRCS.

Through WREP, states, local units of governments, non-governmental organizations, and tribes can collaborate with NRCS and help enroll eligible land into easements. Proposals must be submitted to NRCS state offices by April 24. More information is available on the [NRCS ACEP webpage](#).

**Spaces still available for
Thursday NACD webinar**

<http://www.nacdnet.org/news-and-events/publications/the-resource/>.

NACD FLY-IN IS ONE WEEK AWAY, POLICY ISSUE PAPERS NOW AVAILABLE



In advance of next week's annual Spring Legislative Fly-In, NACD has published the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) issue papers participants will use during their Capitol Hill visits. You can read them [here on our website](#) along with an updated agenda for fly-in activities.

As the agriculture and conservation community brace for significant budget cuts in the President's FY18 budget due out any day, and with reauthorization of the next farm bill underway, now is a critical time for conservation districts to make our voice heard in Washington, D.C.

All the issue papers and any other critical fly-in materials will be printed for attendees and handed out in folders on Tuesday, March 21 at the legislative breakfast. As you prepare for your meetings with lawmakers, please email Director of Government Affairs [Coleman Garrison](#) your meeting schedule so we have an accurate count of how many folders we'll need.

NACD PUBLISHES WHITE PAPER ON WILDFIRE

The frequency and intensity of wildfires has increased across the United States almost like clockwork. In their wake, these fires leave deteriorated soils, increased flooding risk, unproductive forests, and communities forced to rebuild.

Join NACD's Urban and Community RPG this Thursday, noon to 1:00pm Eastern, for a webinar on The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company's Water Positive Landscapes initiative – a program that demonstrates how consumers and communities can make a positive impact on local water resources.

Registration is free, but please RSVP by emailing Senior Advisor [Deb Bogar](#) with your name, title, district or business name, and state.

Local conservation district represents NACD at NFU meeting

The Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District (RCRCD) in southern California waved the conservation flag at the National Farmers Union annual convention last week in San Diego.



In 2016, RCRCD received a grant through [NACD's Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative](#) to build technical assistance capacity for urban agriculture conservation projects. With the funds, the district plans to engage community gardeners by hosting "farmer forums" on irrigation system conversions, soil management and health, and integrated pest management. It will also conduct land inventories and promote conservation practices and their benefits by

NACD published a white paper last week chronicling the voices of district officials and partners who recently participated in five, NACD-hosted listening sessions on wildfire. [Click here to read the white paper](#), "Forest Health and Wildfires: The Role of Conservation Districts."

SENATE VOTES TO SEND BLM BACK TO DRAWING BOARD

Last Tuesday, the Senate passed House Joint Resolution 44 – legislation disapproving of the Bureau of Land Management's "Planning 2.0" rule.

"The House and Senate have now reaffirmed the importance of protecting local governments' voice in the planning process," NACD President Brent Van Dyke said [in an NACD release](#). "NACD is very pleased that both chambers agree the BLM should go back to the drawing board to craft a more inclusive planning policy."

Now that the joint resolution has passed the House and Senate, NACD expects it will be signed into law by President Donald Trump. To read more about NACD's concerns with Planning 2.0, head to our Newsroom for [press releases](#), [letters](#), and [comments](#).



NACD URBAN AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE: VALENCIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, NM

The Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is partnering with the Valencia County Community Development, residents of Meadow Lake and El Cerro Mission, Valencia 4-H (New Mexico State University Extension), and Valencia County Magistrate Court to implement the East Valencia Urban Gardens Program (EVUGP).

disseminating a guide book and utilizing social media.

Winning bidder McDaniel is enjoying Case-IH tractor



NACD Immediate Past President Lee McDaniel is pictured here in his Maryland farm shop with "Big Red," his new 250 Magnum CVT tractor. Lee bid on and won 100 hours of use of this Case-IH tractor at NACD's 2017 Live Auction in Denver. Fun fact: Big Red was in the Inaugural Parade for President Donald J. Trump in January.

You can become a Friend of NACD for just \$25 a year

The Friends of NACD program has a flexible membership structure to accommodate any budget. Do you think conserving America's natural resources is important? Do you want to show your support for voluntary conservation?

[Head to our website](#) to learn more about the perks of membership and how you can sign up to become a Friend today!

Field-to-Market farmer spotlight nomination period extended



The program's goal is to improve public health outcomes in the county while conserving local landscapes and building local food systems. Its target communities are located south of Albuquerque and classified as food deserts. While a few families in the county raise small livestock, very little fresh produce is grown locally, and many residents don't have access to grocery stores.

To address local food access in these communities and to build a model for community centered agriculture, the partners began constructing two community gardens this spring in the communities of El Cerro Mission and Meadow Lake. These gardens will provide residents of all ages the space to grow their own healthy foods and exchange gardening and conservation strategies with their neighbors.

Additionally, the EVUGP is offering residents who produce food on private or public "farmlettes" free workshops in English and Spanish, as well as one-on-one technical assistance. Through the district's Financial Assistance Program, Valencia SWCD helps residents install rainwater harvesting systems for their

Are you working with a farmer who demonstrates outstanding stewardship and is helping to advance sustainable agriculture? Nominate them to be recognized as a champion of conservation through the [2017 Farmer Spotlight series](#) nomination process, which closes on March 26, 2017. To submit a nomination, [complete the 2017 Farmer Spotlight nomination form](#); winners will be announced at the June General Assembly meeting.

Contact Us

509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- NACD Fly-In - March 21, 2017
 - Stewardship and Education Week - April 30 - May 7, 2017
 - Northern Plains Region Meeting - June 5 - 7, 2017
 - NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour - July 15 - 18, 2017
-

gardens, complete soil testing, create pollinator gardens, and much more.

For more information about this [NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative](#)-funded project, visit the Valencia SWCD's website:
<https://www.valenciaswcd.org/>.

NACD | 509 Capitol Court NE Washington, D.C. 20002 | (202) 547-6223 | www.nacdnet.org

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. If you are having trouble viewing this email, you may [also view it online](#). To opt out of all communications, [click here](#).

Email Marketing By

[Forward email.](#)

 Tell Friend



Subject **eResource - This Week's NACD News Briefs**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-03-21 15:22



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

DISTRICT OFFICIALS, CONSERVATION LEADERS WAVE FLAG ON CAPITOL HILL

Over 150 conservation leaders and locally-elected conservation district officials joined NACD in Washington, D.C., today for the national association's [Spring Fly-In](#).



Chairman Pat Roberts of the Senate Agriculture Committee told the group this morning at the Capitol that "conservation districts are the perfect example where we see coordination in government at its best." Sen. Roberts also encouraged NACD to advocate for conservation funding in the next farm bill, saying "federal investment in these programs has a proven

-->

**Now taking printing
requests for Healthy Soils
are Full of Life! materials**

NACD's 2017 stewardship and education materials are now eligible for print-on-demand services from Goetz printing. [Click here](#) to be redirected to our website to learn more.

**Do you know someone who
should be inducted?**

NACD's Hall of Distinction honors past and present conservation officials who have contributed to national or NACD-led conservation campaigns in extraordinary ways. You can learn more about the honor and how to induct your conservation hero into the Hall of Distinction [here on NACD's website](#).

**Want to learn more about
RCPP?**

track record of success.” To read Sen. Roberts full statement on the need for conservation in the farm bill, [click here](#).

This evening, the group met at the Longworth House Office Building for a reception sponsored by the National Conservation District Employees Association and the National Watershed Coalition. For NACD’s official press release on today’s events, [click here to be redirected to NACD’s Newsroom](#). On our [Spring Fly-In webpage](#), you’ll also find a downloadable press release template that districts are welcome to make their own and distribute how they see fit.

NACD MAKES FY18 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

A sizable portion of support for voluntary conservation programs is allotted as discretionary funding during the federal annual appropriations process. Every year, NACD recommends funding levels for conservation programs housed under USDA, the Interior Department, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

NACD sent House and Senate lawmakers its Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget requests for key voluntary conservation programs last week. You can access the letters here on [NACD’s Federal Policy webpage](#). Have questions? Contact Director of Government Affairs [Coleman Garrison](#).

FORESTRY NOTES DELIVERED, ARE YOU SUBSCRIBED?



Forestry Notes is a monthly publication NACD produces in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. Each edition includes prime examples of district-led forestry projects and partnerships focused on finding and implementing solutions to modern forestry

challenges.

NRCS is hosting an informational webinar on the Regional Conservation Partnership Program to help potential applicants with their pre-proposals, due April 21, 2017. To join the conversation tomorrow (Wednesday, March 22) RSVP to RCPP@wdc.usda.gov and tune in from 2:00 to 3:00pm Eastern [by following these instructions on the NRCS website](#).

Call for proposals: USFS Urban and Community Forestry Challenge

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council has issued a call for 2018 grant proposals provided through the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program. You can download a copy of the funding application and instructions [here on USFS’s website](#). Applications are due Wednesday, May 24, 2017.

You can become a Friend of NACD for just \$25 a year

The Friends of NACD program has a flexible membership structure to accommodate any budget. Do you think conserving America’s natural resources is important? Do you want to show your support for voluntary conservation?

[Head to our website](#) to learn more about the perks of membership and how you can sign up to become a Friend today!

Contact Us

509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547 6223

The March edition of Forestry Notes was delivered to thousands of inboxes this morning. Was yours one of them? If you'd like to receive Forestry Notes, [subscribe on our website here](#).

[email us](#)

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Stewardship and Education Week - April 30 - May 7, 2017
- Northern Plains Region Meeting - June 5 - 7, 2017
- NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour - July 15 - 18, 2017

IT'S FREE AND EASY! SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE NACD PUBLICATIONS TODAY



On NACD's homepage you'll find a yellow banner below the rotating header - do you see it in the screen shot above? It says "Subscribe Here!"

Clicking there will take you to [a list of our regular publications](#) and – toward the bottom – a form where you can **input your contact information** and **update your subscription preferences**.

Do you have content or delivery suggestions for any of NACD's publications? Please feel free to send them to Director of Communications [Whitney Forman-Cook](#).

NACD | 509 Capitol Court NE Washington, D.C. 20002 | (202) 547-6223 | www.nacdnet.org

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. If you are having trouble viewing this email, you may [also view it online](#). To opt out of all communications, [click here](#).

Email Marketing By

[Forward email](#)

[Tell Friend](#)

www.neoncrm.com

Subject **eResource - This Week's NACD News Briefs**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-03-28 15:18



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

DO YOU BELIEVE IN VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION? BECOME A GRASSROOTS ADVOCATE



Between [President Trump's proposed budget cuts to conservation](#) and his administration's push to "encourage private sector conservation planning," it's more important than ever that conservation leaders contact their members of Congress.

NACD has created a [new Grassroots Advocacy webpage](#) stocked with information and templates to help you contact Congress and advocate for issues important to conservation districts.

Right now, it is critical Congress hears directly from you why Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) funding is crucial to this country's conservation delivery system. If CTA were to be eliminated or severely reduced, it would drastically hinder the ability of conservation districts and our partners to

-->

Celebrate Stewardship Week in your community!

NACD's 62nd Stewardship Week is only a month away! April 30 to May 7, we'll be celebrating the 2017 theme "[Healthy Soils are Full of Life!](#)" If your district has plans to celebrate, [let us know](#), and we'll add your event to a map of Stewardship Week celebrations across the country.

If you haven't made plans for Stewardship Week yet, [visit this page](#) for ideas. There you'll find links for a sample public service announcement, a template news release, a proclamation, and all of 2017's [downloadable education materials](#).

Mark your calendar: Webinar on high tunnels

NRCS is hosting an informational webinar on high tunnels April 26 from 2:00 to 3:00pm Eastern. Presenter Dr. Lewis Jett, a horticulture extension specialist

deliver conservation assistance in communities nationwide. [For more talking points, click here.](#)

NACD SPRING FLY-IN ENERGIZES GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN

NACD's Spring Fly-In attendees discussed the future of voluntary conservation at an evening reception on Capitol Hill last week – were you able to attend? (If not, [here's a short recap of the event.](#)) Chairman Frank Lucas, R-Okla., and Ranking Member Marcia Fudge, D-Ohio, of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry both spoke, highlighting the importance of conservation programs over the long-term and urging attendees to continue the good fight now and through the next farm bill negotiations.

Conservation district officials and other conservation leaders from across the country met with more than 140 congressional offices, stressing the need for adequate conservation technical assistance funding and the importance of farm bill conservation programs. [Click here to read their talking points.](#)



Pictured above is Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester, D-Del., with 11 of the 13 men and women from Delaware that attended the fly-in. First-term Rep. Blunt Rochester serves on the House Agriculture Committee and several of its subcommittees. From left to right, in the first row, is David Baird, Abby Baird, Rep. Blunt Rochester, Gwen Pierce, Debbie Absher, and Robert Palmer. In the back row is Robert Baldwin, Tim

for the University of West Virginia, will explain how high tunnel cropping systems can address issues with salinity, nutrient management, and pest management.

[Click here to listen in.](#) Education credits for Certified Crop Advisors and Conservation Planners are available. Contact Holli.Kuykendall@gnb.usda.gov with questions.

Call for abstracts: SAF National Convention

The Society of American Foresters is looking for the best and brightest to share their knowledge through oral presentation, panel discussion, or science flash showcasing research, case studies, or management applications. This is your time to show off the exceptional work you have done in science and application at SAF's national convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. But you have to act fast! The deadline to [submit your proposal](#) is March 31.

Call for proposals: FWS Coastal Program

Through its Coastal Program, the Fish and Wildlife Service provides direct technical and financial assistance to coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. [Applications are due September 30.](#)

**Application deadline
approaching for RCPP**

Riley, Mike Brown, Norman Pierce, Edwin Alexander, and Kevin Donnelly.

PERDUE CLEARS FIRST HEARING, OFFERS INSIGHT INTO STANCE ON CONSERVATION

President Trump's Agriculture Secretary nominee Sonny Perdue answered several questions specific to conservation at his first nomination hearing last Thursday. In response to a question from Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, the former Georgia governor said he came from a part of the world that sees "farmers as good stewards."

"They want to care for the land," Perdue continued. "Instead of prescriptive type regulations, let's give them the ability to do that and incentivize them to be even better than they have in the past."

In another exchange with Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., Perdue said "NRCS is a big part of American agriculture."

The Senate will hold a business meeting tomorrow to vote on whether or not to send Perdue's nomination to the floor. This meeting will be a formality – Perdue may not even be in attendance – and NACD expects the full Senate will confirm Perdue before Easter recess.

NATIONAL OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER NOMINATIONS

NACD now supports the National Outstanding Young Farmer Program – America's oldest farmer recognition initiative. Conservation districts can partner with NOYF, too. A quarter of NOYF's recognition criteria for honorees is conservation-based, meaning districts can help NOYF identify and recognize outstanding young conservation farmers.

A one-page flier – listed under "National Outstanding Young Farmer Program" on NACD's [Partner webpage](#) – provides a description of the program. To make a nomination, complete the [two-page form](#) online (or on NACD's Partner webpage) and mail it by August 1 to

Is your conservation district or state association interested in participating in a Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) project? Pre-applications will be accepted by NRCS now until April 21.

To learn more about RCPP proposal requirements and best practices, consider tuning into the upcoming webinar on April 5, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM Eastern, or head to the [NRCS website](#).

Application deadline approaching for WREP-ACEP

USDA announced it will grant up to \$15 million in technical and financial assistance for producers to restore and enhance critical wetland habitat on working lands. The Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership (WREP), housed under the farm bill's [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program](#) (ACEP), is administered by NRCS.

Through WREP, states, local units of governments, non-governmental organizations, and tribes can collaborate with NRCS and help enroll eligible land into easements. Proposals must be submitted to NRCS state offices by April 24. More information is available on the [NRCS ACEP webpage](#).

Contact Us

509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

NACD Events Calendar

[Rich Norz](#) at 116 South Branch Rd, Hillsborough, New Jersey 08844.

DID YOU KNOW?



Interesting Facts & Anecdotes
from your District Operations and Member Services Committee

As part of a six-month series on district operations, the Did You Know? monthly feature in eResource will highlight chapters of the NACD District Outlook Task Force report: "Blueprint for Locally-Led Conservation – A Strategy for District Success and Sustainability" ([available here](#) on our website). **This month's chapter tackles training.**

Conservation districts don't just represent rural communities - they have a broad membership representing rural, suburban, and urban conservation interests. Districts also employ a diverse array of folks with different skill sets and backgrounds. To ensure and maintain uniformity and a level of competency in the conservation delivery system, it is important that all employees receive administrative, public outreach, legislative, and technical training. ([Read the rest of this chapter summary on NACD's blog](#)).

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Stewardship Week - April 30 - May 7, 2017
- Northern Plains Region Meeting - June 5 - 7, 2017
- NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour - July 15 - 18, 2017

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: 'URBAN WATERSHEDS' WEBINAR

Tune in Thursday, April 20 at noon for an NACD-hosted, Scotts Miracle-Gro-sponsored webinar on using GIS in urban watersheds. Representatives from Franklin SWCD in central Ohio will explain how they have prioritized locations for stormwater management practices using extensive GIS datasets – and how the City of Columbus is following in their footsteps.

Registration is free, but please RSVP to NACD Senior Advisor [Deb Bogar](#) with your name, title, district or business name, and state.

NACD | 509 Capitol Court NE Washington, D.C. 20002 | (202) 547-6223 | www.nacdnet.org

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. If you are having trouble viewing this email, you may [also view it online](#). To opt out of all communications, [click here](#).

Email Marketing By

[Forward email](#)

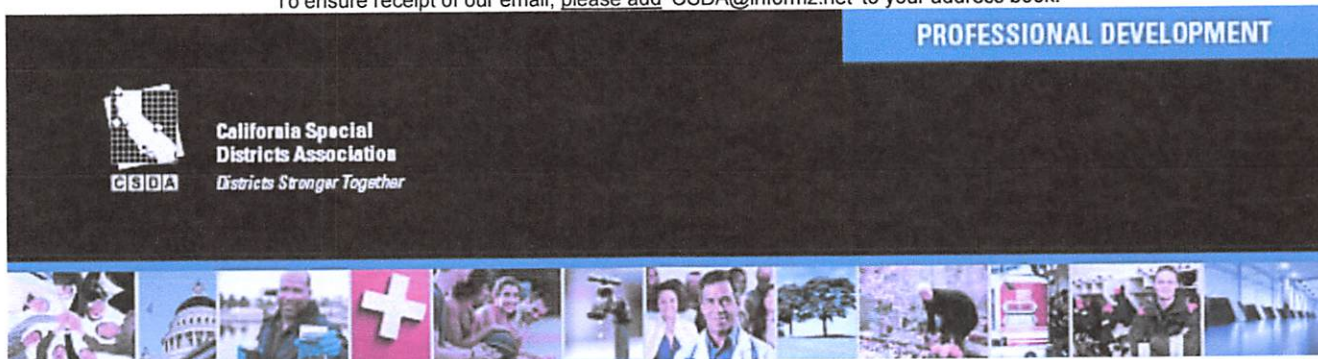
[Tell Friend](#)



Subject **First Speakers Confirmed for Legislative Days**
From Neil McCormick <neilm@csla.net>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Reply-To <meganh@csla.net>
Date 2017-03-08 10:00



If you are on a mobile device or want to view this as a web page, please [click here](#).
To ensure receipt of our email, please add 'CSDA@informz.net' to your address book.



2017 Special Districts Legislative Days

Little Hoover Commission Chair Pedro Nava, and Assembly Local Government Committee Chair Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, are confirmed to speak at Legislative Days, May 16-17 at the Grand Events Center in Sacramento. [Register now](#) to attend.



The Honorable Pedro Nava
Little Hoover Commission Chair



The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Assembly Local Government Committee Chair

Gain the edge on policy changes impacting your agency at the 2017 Special Districts Legislative Days, an interactive and informative two-day legislative conference in our State's Capitol. Representatives from all types of districts attend Legislative Days to exchange ideas with California's top-decision makers and discuss priority legislative issues at pre-arranged Capitol office visits and a private reception. Hear directly from state leadership on hot topics affecting local services and infrastructure. Get your questions on key policy issues answered during expert panels. Explore how decisions are really made in the Capitol and help shape their outcome.

Early Bird Registration for 2017 Special Districts Legislative Days ends April 14, 2017. [Register today to receive the discount!](#)

Room reservations are available at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, 1230 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 at the rate of \$189 plus tax, single or double occupancy by calling 1-800-325-3535 and asking for the CSDA rate. Conference attendees may also reserve their rooms [online](#). The CSDA rate includes high-speed guest room internet access. The room reservation cut-off is Friday, April 14, 2017, however, space is limited and may sell out before that date.

Visit legislatedays.csdanet.net for all of the details and download the complete [2017 Professional Development Catalog](#) for more information on all CSDA conferences, workshops, webinars, and on-demand webinars.

[California Special Districts Association](#) | 1112 I Street | Suite 200 | Sacramento, CA 95814

[FACEBOOK](#)[TWITTER](#)

If you do not wish to receive e-mail newsletters from CSDA, [click here to unsubscribe](#). Please note: unsubscribing from individual mailings will unsubscribe you from all mailings, including the CSDA e-News - one of CSDA's major benefits and sources of news to our members.

Powered By  informz

Subject **NACD Winter Resource and 2016 Annual Report**

From NACD <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

Sender NACD <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-03-10 08:20



If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may [see it online](#)

Tell Friend



Good morning NACD members and partners,

NACD's staff couldn't be more excited to deliver this action-packed edition of The Resource to your inboxes. Like all of NACD's winter Resources, this one includes a detailed annual report.

In 2016, your national association worked hard to reform and strengthen forestry and wildfire policy; to recognize and empower soil health leaders across the country; to ensure adequate federal funding for voluntary, incentive-based conservation; and to provide you a nationwide network full of resources and opportunities.

The winter edition of NACD's quarterly publication – The Resource – as well as the 2016 Annual Report [can be downloaded by clicking here](#).

In this issue, you'll find hyperlinks throughout that will redirect you to specific pages on our website. You'll also find a highlight reel of NACD's 2016 activities; several district and Soil Health Champion spotlight stories; columns from NACD's president, immediate past president, and CEO; and four 2017 outlooks on NACD communications, development, membership, and government affairs.

Every local conservation district and state association will receive two hard copies of the 2016 Annual Report/winter Resource soon. If you have any questions about this issue or story ideas for the spring 2017 edition, don't hesitate to contact me at whitney-forman-cook@nacdn.net.org.

All the best,

Whitney Forman-Cook
Director of Communications
National Association of Conservation Districts
509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
www.nacdnet.org

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add our email to your address book or safe list.

To unsubscribe from future mailings [please click here](#)

Powered By [Z2 Systems, Inc.](#)

Subject **eResource - This Week's NACD News Briefs**
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-04-04 15:37



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

The NACD eResource

Weekly News Briefs from NACD

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP AMPLIFY THE VOICE OF CONSERVATION

Between [President Trump's proposed budget cuts to conservation](#) and the administration's push to "encourage private sector conservation planning," it's more important than ever that conservation leaders contact their members of Congress.

NACD has created a [new Grassroots Advocacy webpage](#) stocked with information and templates to help you contact Congress and advocate for issues important to conservation districts.

Right now, it is critical Congress hears directly from you why Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) funding is crucial to this country's conservation delivery system. If CTA were to be eliminated or severely reduced, it would drastically hinder the ability of conservation districts and our partners to deliver conservation assistance in communities nationwide. Whether you serve on your local district board, are a landowner who has benefited from technical assistance, or are just someone who cares about conserving our natural resources, Congress needs to hear from you. For more talking points, [click here](#).

-->

How will you celebrate Stewardship Week?

NACD's 62nd Stewardship Week will take place April 30 to May 7. Will you join us in celebrating the 2017 theme "Healthy Soils are Full of Life!"? If your district has plans to celebrate, let us know, and we'll add your event to a map of Stewardship Week celebrations across the country.

If you haven't made plans for Stewardship Week yet, visit this page for ideas. There you'll find links for a sample public service announcement, a template news release, a proclamation, and all of 2017's downloadable education materials.

Spots still available: 'Urban Watersheds' webinar

Tune in Thursday, April 20 at noon for an NACD-hosted, Scotts Miracle-Gro-sponsored webinar on using GIS in urban watersheds. Representatives from

NACD ATTENDS NEW ENGLAND LEADERSHIP MEETING



NACD Northeast Region Representative and Policy Specialist Eric Hansen (pictured) attended the New England Leadership Meeting last week in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The meeting brought together conservation leaders from across the six New England states – Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island – to discuss

on-going district work and challenges.

The meeting also included presentations on region-wide resource concerns, including Lake Champlain and the Long Island Sound.

STATE ENVIROTHON COMPETITIONS KICK-OFF ACROSS NATION

Over the next 14 weeks, 45 states and 9 Canadian provinces will hold their own Envirothon competitions leading up to the international [NCF-Envirothon](#) this July. This week, state Envirothon competitions will be held in three states: Alabama, April 6-8; Texas, April 8-10; and Wisconsin, April 7. Last week and earlier this week, state-wide winning teams were named in [South Dakota](#) (Rapid City FFA Team), [Georgia](#), and [Arizona](#) (Tri-City College Prep School Team, pictured).

Franklin SWCD in central Ohio will explain how they have prioritized locations for stormwater management practices using extensive GIS datasets – and how the City of Columbus is following in their footsteps. Registration is free, but please RSVP to NACD Senior Advisor [Deb Bogar](#) with your name, title, district or business name, and state.

How could your district use a SARE grant?

USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program has awarded \$245 million to more than 6,100 research and education projects aimed at improving profitability and stewardship within the agriculture community. Grants through SARE are available now and are awarded on a regional basis. [Click here to learn more.](#)

You have options to renew expiring CSP contracts!

NRCS is accepting applications for agricultural producers wanting to renew existing [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) (CSP) contracts. The renewal is for an additional five years if they agree to adopt additional activities to achieve higher levels of conservation on their lands. Applications to renew expiring contracts are due by May 5.

Application deadline approaching for RCPP

Is your conservation district or state association interested in participating in a Regional Conservation Partnership



If you or someone you know has participated in or volunteered for Envirothon, NACD wants to hear your stories! Please contact Director of Development [Melisa Augusto](#) to learn how you can have your story featured in an upcoming edition of eResource.

DO YOU NEED PHOTOS OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES? SARE'S GOT 'EM!



USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program has accumulated over 1,500 [images of cover crops and soil health](#). You are free to download and disseminate these photos as part of your district's educational outreach efforts. In addition to SARE's [Cover Crop Image Library](#), the program also offers educators and producers free, ready-made PowerPoint presentations on cover crop topics and soil health illustrations. You can [check them all out here](#).

Program (RCPP) project? Pre-applications will be accepted by NRCS now until April 21.

To learn more about RCPP proposal requirements and best practices, consider tuning into the upcoming webinar on April 5, 2017 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM Eastern, or head to the [NRCS website](#).

REPI reports to Congress

The Department of Defense's (DoD) Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program has released its [2017 report to Congress](#). The report summarizes and reviews the program's 14-year lifespan and its many accomplishments, including protecting 464,668 acres in 89 locations across 30 states, often through partnerships with conservation districts.

Contact Us

509 Capitol Court NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Stewardship Week - April 30 - May 7, 2017
 - Northern Plains Region Meeting - June 5 - 7, 2017
 - NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour - July 15 - 18, 2017
-

And for resources on cover crops from SARE, [click here](#).



CHAMPION OF THE MONTH

Together, the Willis family joined the NACD Soil Health Champions Network back in 2015 – each playing a role in their operation and also promoting soil health in their community, state, and region. Ron and Nancy, along with their sons Michael and Matthew, farm near King City, Missouri, with a diverse crop rotation of corn, soybeans, wheat, cereal rye, oats, and winter barley. Their specific rotation choices have served to break up certain cycles of pests and weeds. Additional practices include no-till farming for erosion control and build-up of organic matter and cover crops – which can be grazed in the fall and winter.



This past November, Michael was a guest speaker at the Kansas Rural Center's annual conference held in Manhattan, Kansas – [sharing his experience](#) using a roller-crimper for cover crop control on terraced ground as part of a [Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education \(SARE\)](#) grant he received. Later in February, Ron and Michael participated in a producer panel at a cover crop and soil health meeting in St. Joseph, MO – speaking directly to their peers on what worked well on their farm when implementing cover crops and no-till.

To get to know a bit more about the Willis family and their operation, be sure to check out [their profile online](#). If you or someone you know is interested in soil health and would like to become a member of this

growing, progressive network, please contact NACD North Central Region Representative Beth Mason at beth-mason@nacdnnet.org or 317-946-4463 for more information.

Need to update your contact information or change your subscription preferences? [Click here](#) to manage your profile.

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. If you are having trouble viewing this email, you may [also view it online](#). To opt out of all communications, [click here](#).

[Forward email](#).

 Tell Friend

Email Marketing By

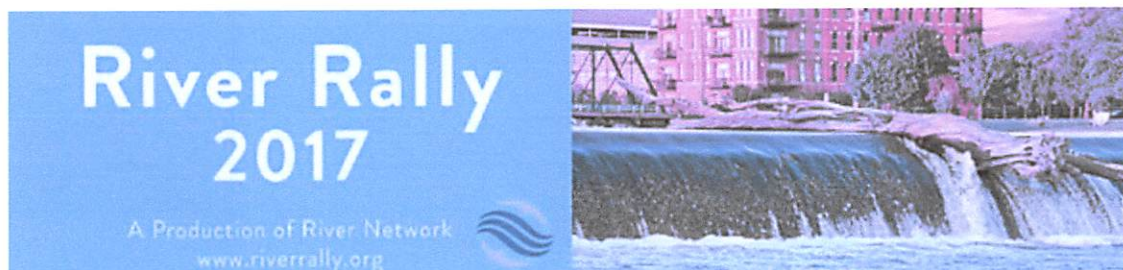


Subject **River Rally 2017: Protecting and Restoring Flows**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-03-14 13:48



River Rally 2017 - Protecting and Restoring Flows

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) to receive a **Member Discount Code** for 25% off River Rally 2017.
Early Bird Registration ends April 7th!

Become a Member Today!

Go deeper into this year's Rally line up by downloading our [2017 River Rally Program Brochure](#)

Can't make it to the event, but want to support the next generation of river and water champions? Make a donation to River Network today!

Dear Rose

Rivers without enough water, or with flows so impaired that they no longer resemble nature's patterns, wreak havoc on ecosystem health and function.

What can we do to protect and restore flows through market-based mechanisms? How do road stream crossings impact stream ecosystems? Can linking land use and water supply be effective for water neutral development? Does groundwater pumping affect aquatic ecosystems? How can dam removals improve flows? How can you identify, document and improve hydrologically altered waters? How do state-wide collaborations help keep rivers wet? Which wetlands should you focus on protecting in the midst of a changing climate?

These questions will be answered in 9 workshops available under our theme, "Protecting and Restoring Flows" at River Rally 2017.

Join us at this year's conference to explore how your choices today

DONATE NOW

can positively impact rivers, streams and the life that depends on them.

Remember to register by April 7th to take advantage of Early Bird rates.

Rally Ho!

Your Friends at River Network

Register Now



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn



Instagram

Copyright © 2017 River Network, All rights reserved.
This email is being sent to friends and supporters of River Network.

Our mailing address is:
River Network
P.O. Box 21387
Boulder, CO 80308

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Subject **River Rally: Connecting Communities to Rivers and Recreation**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-03-21 11:01



River Rally 2017 - Connecting Communities to Rivers and Recreation

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) to receive a **Member Discount Code** for 25% off River Rally 2017. **Early Bird Registration ends April 7th!**

Become a Member Today!

Go deeper into this year's Rally line up by downloading our [2017 River Rally Program Brochure](#)

Can't make it to the event, but want to support the next generation of river and water champions? Make a donation to River Network today!

Dear Rose

Our nation's rivers are incredible assets for us. How do we make sure they will remain healthy and vibrant for generations to come?

The River Rally 2017 program theme "Connecting Communities to Rivers and Recreation" will explore topics such as:

- How to build momentum, outreach and community engagement for the **Wild and Scenic Rivers Act 50th Anniversary** in 2018
- Helping more people to access rivers and lakes
- How water trails, river parks, river clean-ups, citizen science, school and career programs work to connect more diverse communities with rivers and recreation
- How designation as a Wild and Scenic River can help protect a river's recreational access
- And many more!

DONATE NOW

Join us for one or all of the 12 workshops under this theme, as well as the Wild & Scenic Film Festival, to learn and be inspired to help more people build life-long connections with rivers and explore relationships with water beyond what comes out of their taps.

Remember to register by April 7th to take advantage of Early Bird rates.

Rally Ho!

Your Friends at River Network

Register Now



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn



Instagram

Copyright © 2017 River Network, All rights reserved.

This email is being sent to friends and supporters of River Network.

Our mailing address is:

River Network
P.O. Box 21387
Boulder, CO 80308

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Subject **River Rally: Don't Miss Early Bird Registration!
Only 10 Days Left!**

From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>

To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-03-28 13:52



River Rally 2017 Early Bird Registration Deadline is April 7th!

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) to receive a Member Discount Code for 25% off River Rally 2017.

There are only 10 days remaining to receive the early bird rate on [River Rally 2017](#)! Don't miss out!

**Become a
Member Today!**

Register Now

You must be a current member as of April 30th to qualify for this year's River Rally member discount.

Now more than ever, we are here to help you harness your power and the power of our network to protect and restore healthy rivers and affordable, clean water for everyone. That is what River Rally 2017 is all about.

Join us this May in Grand Rapids to get inspired, grow your tool box, and connect with peers and mentors. Visit the [River Rally](#) page on our website to learn more!

Can't make it to the event, but want to support the next generation of river and water champions? Make a donation to River Network today!

DONATE NOW

Rally Ho!

Your Friends at River Network



Copyright © 2017 River Network, All rights reserved.
This email is being sent to friends and supporters of River Network.

Our mailing address is:
River Network
P.O. Box 21387
Boulder, CO 80308

[Add us to your address book](#)

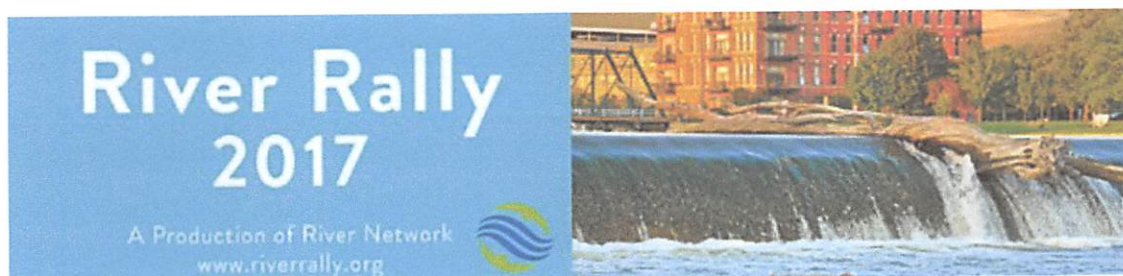
[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Subject **River Rally: Don't Miss Out On Early Bird Pricing. Only 4 Days Left!**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-04-03 13:10



River Rally 2017 Early Bird Registration Ends This Friday, April 7th!

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) to receive a Member Discount Code for 25% off River Rally 2017.

There are only 4 days remaining to receive the early bird rate on [River Rally 2017](#)! After April 7th, rates will go up by \$50. Don't miss out!

**Become a
Member Today!**

Register Now

You must be a current member as of April 30th to qualify for this year's River Rally member discount.

Now more than ever, we are here to help you harness your power and the power of our network to protect and restore healthy rivers and affordable, clean water for everyone. That is what River Rally 2017 is all about.

Join us this May in Grand Rapids to get inspired, grow your tool box, and connect with peers and mentors. Visit the [River Rally](#) page on our website to learn more!

Can't make it to the event, but want to support the next generation of river and water champions? Make a donation to River Network today!

Subject **River Rally: Only 3 Days Left For Early Bird Pricing!**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-04-04 13:10



River Rally 2017 Early Bird Registration Ends This Friday, April 7th!

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) to receive a Member Discount Code for 25% off River Rally 2017.

[River Rally 2017](#) is right around the corner! Don't forget to sign up by Friday, April 7th to get early bird pricing! That is only 3 days away, don't miss out!

**Become a
Member Today!**

Register Now

You must be a current member as of April 30th to qualify for this year's River Rally member discount.

Join us in Grand Rapids for three days of learning, inspiration, and fun! Beyond content-rich workshops and keynotes, we offer field trips, mentoring sessions, the Wild and Scenic Film Festival, morning yoga, an open mic talent show, and the 2017 River Heroes Banquet and Awards Ceremony. Visit the [River Rally](#) page on our website to learn more!

Can't make it to the event, but want to support the next generation of river and water champions? Make a donation to River Network today!

DONATE NOW

Rally Ho!

Your Friends at River Network



Facebook



Twitter



LinkedIn



Instagram

Copyright © 2017 River Network, All rights reserved.

This email is being sent to friends and supporters of River Network.

Our mailing address is:

River Network
P.O. Box 21387
Boulder, CO 80308

[Add us to your address book](#)

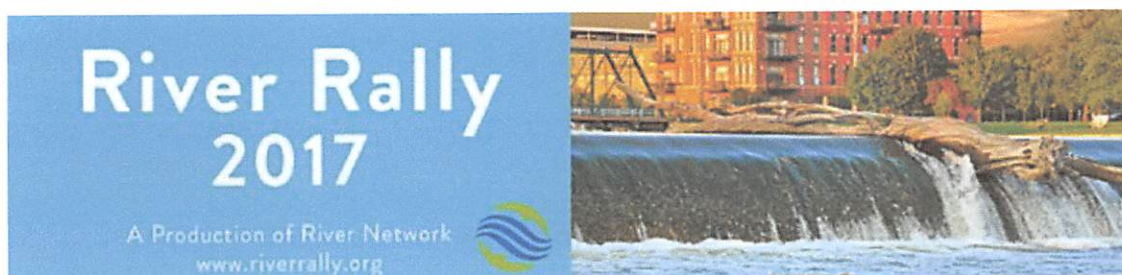
[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Subject **River Rally: Only 2 Days Left For Early Bird Rates!**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-04-05 12:10



River Rally 2017 Early Bird Registration Ends This Friday, April 7th!

[View this email in your browser](#)



Join or renew your [River Network Membership](#) to receive a Member Discount Code for 25% off River Rally 2017.

Only 2 days left... Don't miss out, sign up by Friday, April 7th to get early bird pricing on [River Rally 2017!](#)

Become a Member Today!

Register Now

You must be a current member as of April 30th to qualify for this year's River Rally member discount.

Join us in Grand Rapids for three days of learning, inspiration, and fun! This year's conference will feature six amazing themes that are sure to be thought provoking and engaging on many levels.

1. Tackling the Drinking Water Crisis and Water Affordability
2. Restoring Urban Rivers and Achieving Resiliency
3. Connecting Communities to Rivers and Recreation
4. Protecting and Restoring Flows
5. Growing Organizational Momentum and Impact
6. Reducing Pollution and Safeguarding Clean Water

Visit the [River Rally](#) page on our website to learn more!

Want to support the next generation of river and water champions?

Make a donation to River Network today!

DONATE NOW

Rally Ho!

Your Friends at River Network



Copyright © 2017 River Network, All rights reserved.
This email is being sent to friends and supporters of River Network.

Our mailing address is:

River Network
P.O. Box 21387
Boulder, CO 80308

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Subject **River Currents: Earth Month Special Edition**
From River Network <info@rivernetwork.org>
To Rose <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>
Date 2017-04-03 08:18

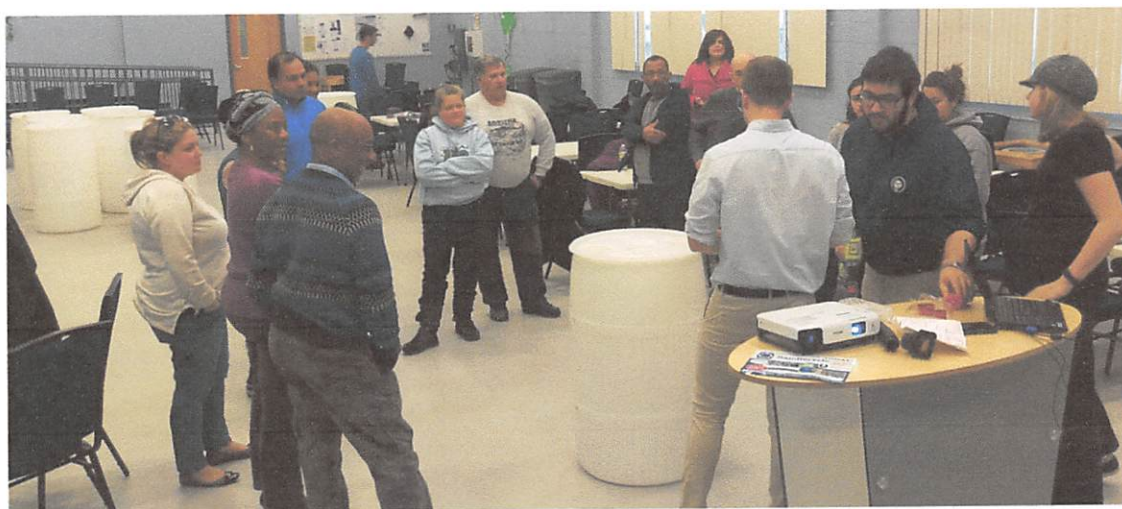


April 2017 – Rain Barrels, River Heroes, and Rally, OH MY!

[View this email in your browser](#)



UPDATES ON OUR WORK



Participants learn how to build a rain barrel with a used Coca-Cola syrup drum at Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership's rain barrel workshop in Perth Amboy New Jersey © Heather Fenyk (LRWP)

Reduce Your Water Footprint With The National Rain Barrel Program!

Earth month is here! April showers bring more than just May flowers. This month also presents an opportunity for you to conserve water with your very own upcycled rain barrel!

The National Rain Barrel Program, coordinated by River Network and supported by the Coca-Cola Foundation, supplies community groups with guidance and free materials for hosting public rain barrel building workshops. This year, more than 50 interactive workshops will teach people to build their own rain barrels from donated Coca-Cola ingredient drums. The resulting 1,400 rain barrels will save money on water bills, reduce polluted stormwater runoff, save water for times of drought, and decrease demand on municipal water systems.

You can learn more and connect with a rain barrel workshop in your area by visiting the [Reduce Your Water Footprint](#) page on our website. Join River Network, our Member groups, and Coca-Cola in creating a [#ReducedWaterFootprint](#) with the [#NationalRainBarrelProgram](#).

Is Your River Network Membership Current?

Be sure to [renew or sign up](#) by April 7th to receive your River Rally Member discount code for 25% off registration and take advantage of Early Bird rates.

UPCOMING EVENTS & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

River Rally 2017 - May 8-11, Grand Rapids, MI
– Don't miss out on Early Bird rates! [Register here](#) by April 7th.

March 16, 2017 (1:00 - 2:30 EST) - DEI webinar series: The What, Why, and How of Relevancy, Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity (part 1 of 2)

June 1, 2017 (1:00 - 2:30 EST) - DEI webinar series: Grappling with Unconscious Bias for More Inclusive Water Protection and Restoration (part 2 of 2)

At River Rally, Help Us Recognize River Champions Who Have Passed

Later this month, we will announce this year's River Hero and Compton Award winners, people whose efforts to protect and restore our rivers and waters have been extraordinary in scope, scale, impact and heart. The River Heroes Banquet and Awards Ceremony will take place on the final evening of River

Rally, Thursday, May 11.

At the beginning of the banquet, we will honor river and water champions who died in the past year. If you would like to recognize an individual who has passed on, please send their name, photo, and a sentence or two about their efforts to [our membership coordinator](#) by April 15th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

In honor of Earth Month, we are highlighting personal actions that you can take to help protect and restore your local waters. Here are few ideas:

Calculate Your Water Footprint: [Read More >](#)

Attend a Rain Barrel Workshop hosted by a River Network member in your area: [Read More >](#)

Post a photo of your freshly installed rain barrel on our National Rain Barrel page: [Read More >](#)

Pledge to conserve water in other ways through Change the Course: [Read More >](#)

Make your voice heard! Help protect the Clean Water Rule: [Read More >](#)

What have you done to reduce your water footprint? Post your photos and ideas to our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [Instagram](#) pages. Invite your friends to take action for clean water and healthy rivers too!

YOUR MEMBER BENEFITS

Our member benefits help our community access knowledge, discounts, peers, mentors, capacity, and funding opportunities. Here's one way you can benefit from membership:

Post Your Events For Free!

Do you have an upcoming event? Organizational Members can submit their community events to be posted on [River Network's Community Events calendar](#) for free. Submit an event using [this form](#).

Not a current River Network Member? Renew or join today! >>>

RIVER NETWORK MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Gunpowder RIVERKEEPER® monitoring a BMP Failure of the Columbia Gas Transmission Mb-Line Interstate Natural Gas Pipeline crossing the Upper Gunpowder Falls River. © Gunpowder RIVERKEEPER®

GUNPOWDER RIVERKEEPER:

Gunpowder Riverkeeper's work links and protects the forests, the fish and the faucet. The Gunpowder River supports varied recreational

WHY THEY'RE MEMBERS:

"The board just finished a fantastic planning session with River Network's Mary Ellen Olcese that covered board development, fundraising and

interests, habitat for native and wild trout, drinking water for 1.5 million Baltimore-Metro Area residents and important tidal habitat for Rockfish, Perch and blue crabs. They champion enforcement and compliance of environmental laws within the watershed to protect and conserve the river for all users. Meaningful public participation results in better projects-those that are protective of drinking water, property interests, sensitive species, recreational and aesthetic values.

Website: <http://gunpowderriverkeeper.org>

programmatic priority planning. Through this process, Gunpowder RIVERKEEPER® gained a better understanding of the capacity challenges that the organization has had to overcome to be successful. The result was a harder outline on future planning processes to allow for continued growth so we can continue to protect the 450 square mile Gunpowder watershed in Carroll, Baltimore and Harford Counties, Maryland which includes 53 miles of River and 217 miles of tributaries."

---Theaux M. Le Gardeur, Gunpowder
RIVERKEEPER

MORE FROM RIVER NETWORK

Upcoming [Community Events](#)

[River Voices](#)

Best practices and impact stories for
[Clean Water](#), [Ample Water](#), and [Strong
Champions](#)

[Our Blog](#)

[Career Opportunities](#)



Copyright © 2016 River Network, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

PO Box 21387, Boulder, Colorado 80308

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

Subject **Forestry Notes: House panel hears importance of farm bill forestry programs**

From NACD Forestry Notes <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

Sender NACD Forestry Notes <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-03-21 03:59



House panel hears importance of farm bill forestry programs

As part of an ongoing farm bill series, the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry held a hearing last week on farm bill forestry initiatives. Earlier this month, the subcommittee heard testimony from NACD CEO Jeremy Peters on the importance of farm bill conservation programs.

Last Thursday's hearing took a comprehensive look at all the forestry initiatives included in the farm bill – not just those that fall under the forestry title. The

-->

Forestry News

New forest conservation program in north Louisiana said to benefit both industry and environment [\[link\]](#)

Mighty American chestnut poised for return to America's forests [\[link\]](#)

The benefits of helping Great Plains trees [\[link\]](#)

Good Neighbor Authority brings federal, state partners together in Washington [\[link\]](#)

Calendar

March 28 - 30

[International Mass Timber Conference](#)

Portland, Oregon

April 10-12

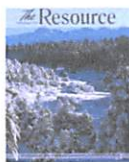
subcommittee received testimony from public and private sector representatives, as well as conservation and forestry association leaders. [Read more>>>](#)



NACD releases 'Forest Health and Wildfires: The Role of Conservation Districts'

The frequency and intensity of wildfires has increased across the United States almost like clockwork. In their wake, these fires leave deteriorated soils, increased flooding risk, unproductive forests, and communities forced to rebuild.

Knowing the best work is done locally, NACD, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, conducted five forest health listening sessions across the western United States. This white paper chronicles the voices of district officials and partners who participated in these sessions. [Read more>>>](#)



NACD's winter Resource and 2016 Annual Report is here!

In 2016, NACD worked hard to reform and strengthen forestry and wildfire policy; to recognize and empower soil health leaders across the country; to ensure adequate federal funding for voluntary, incentive-based conservation; and to provide members with a nationwide network full of resources and opportunities.

The winter edition of NACD's quarterly publication The Resource, as well as the 2016 Annual Report, can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).

Join NACD's forestry network!

The NACD Forestry Resource Policy Group (RPG) is actively seeking representatives from each state and territory to participate in NACD's forestry network. The goal of the network is to assist NACD in carrying national forestry news and program opportunities to the local level, and allowing local conservation districts a channel to share local forestry resource concerns, questions, and comments with regional Forestry RPG representatives and national NACD staff.

The nationwide forestry network will have just one annual planning call and there is no travel required. Best yet, you won't be bombarded with emails, we promise. To participate, email NACD Forestry Specialist Mike Beacom at mike-beacom@nacdnet.org.

Forestry Briefs

Ohio - Conservation districts sponsor community festivals

The Williams Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Northwestern Ohio are among the sponsors of the Annual Maple Syrup Festival and Northwest Ohio Woodland and Wildlife Family Festival. The two events are being co-located at the Williams County Fairgrounds in late March. Woodland events include a portable sawmill demonstration and a presentation on the "dos and don'ts" of chainsaw and logging safety. Ohio Division of Forestry staff will answer tree and forestry questions, as well. [Click here](#) to read more.

International Biomass Conference

Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 5-7

NACD Northern Plains Region Meeting

Yankton, North Dakota

June 15-18

NACD Summer Meeting

Des Moines, Iowa

June 20-22

NACD Forestry RPG Summer Meeting

Deadwood, South Dakota

June 27-29

2017 North American Agroforestry Conference

Blacksburg, West Virginia

August 6-9

NACD Southeast Region Meeting

Greenville, South Carolina

August 13-15

NACD Northeast Region Meeting

Burlington, Vermont

September 10-11

NACD Southwest and Pacific Region Meeting

Tucson, Arizona

September 18-21

NASF Annual Meeting

Charleston, West Virginia

November 15-19

SAF Annual Convention

Albuquerque, New Mexico

January 27-31

California - RCD hosts workshop for tree care

The Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (RCD) hosted a workshop in March to help teach residents how to care for trees during drought. The free workshop, held at Cal State San Bernadino's Demonstration Garden, offered tips for pruning and tree care, and included a tree and plant giveaway and rain barrel raffle. The RCD hosted a similar event last November. [Click here](#) for more.

Michigan - Conservation district staff to speak at DNR forestry forums

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), with help from an NRCS grant, is offering "Wildlife Through Forestry" forums in the Upper Peninsula this winter and spring. The program is designed to help private landowners meet wildlife habitat objectives with the help of a management plan. Staff from the Ontonagon-Gogebic Conservation District were among the panelists asked to discuss the development management plans and available financial assistance for their preparation and implementation. [Click here](#) for more.

2018 NACD Annual Meeting

Nashville, Tennessee

Send news items by the 15th day of the preceding month to: Managing Editor at mike-beacom@nacdn.net

NACD Address:
509 Capitol Court,
NE
Washington, D.C.
20002
(202) 547-6223

[email us](#)

A joint project of NACD, U.S. Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters for the purpose of keeping America's conservation districts informed. Our services and programs are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap or religious affiliation. This publication is funded in whole or in part through a grant awarded by the U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry.

Need to update your contact information or change your subscription preferences? [Click here](#) to manage your profile.

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrkd.org. If you are having trouble viewing this email, you may [also view it online](#). To opt out of all communications, [click here](#).

[Forward email](#)

[Tell Friend](#)

Email Marketing By



Subject **"This Is Our Future" is changing the world and Fast Company knows it**

From Mike Sweeney <mikesweeney@california.nature.org>

To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-03-27 14:19



Hello everybody,

Today's technology and computer science fields are creating unprecedented ways to understand complexity--and California is at the center of it all. The Nature Conservancy is harnessing this innovation for conservation and this past year was a particularly exciting one.

We are honored to be featured as a finalist in Fast Company's World Changing Ideas Awards for our initiative to use artificial intelligence to safeguard our global seafood supply! We placed as finalists in 2 categories: World Changing Ideas and Photography and Visualization for our virtual reality film.

We were selected from more than 1,000 entries and featured as finalists alongside big-name brands like Microsoft and GE, and innovative startups like Otto and Hyperloop One.

In fact, our biggest tech breakthroughs this year have come from artificial intelligence (or "AI"), specifically the areas of machine learning and computer vision. This is the same technology that lets you search for images online or ask Alexa to order batteries. We're seeing potential in AI to solve conservation conundrums on land and at sea.

What if we could see what was happening on fishing boats?



U.S. West Coast groundfish fishery..

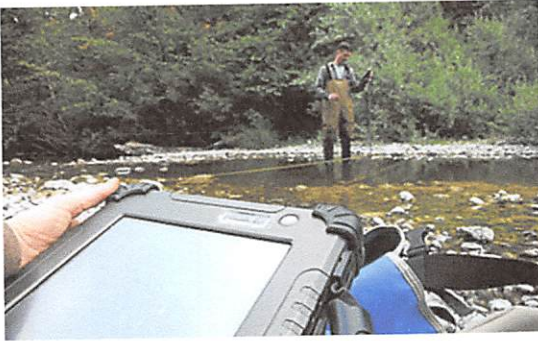
To halt overfishing, we need more data. Less than five percent of fisheries have the capacity to find out how many fish are being caught, let alone assess the health of fish populations. The Conservancy has been driving the implementation of electronic monitoring (EM) systems, which use onboard cameras, GPS and sensors to automatically record catch. So far, we've installed ~25 systems on tuna vessels in Micronesia and Melanesia, as well as 6 systems on boats in the

Electronic monitoring alone won't solve the problem. Each fishing trip creates thousands of hours of footage that has to be reviewed--but AI can handle that. By combining EM with computer vision software, we can turn the raw data into

actionable information almost instantly. In November, we partnered with Kaggle and kicked off a competition to develop AI algorithms to analyze EM footage and we've already attracted over 2,000 teams. Read more on [Fast Company](#) and learn about the campaign on [our website](#).

-->

What if we knew how much water was in our rivers in real time?



It's no secret that California's water system is broken. One of the biggest problems is that our state has vastly oversubscribed its water, meaning more water is promised to users than is actually available every year. This poor water accounting threatens plants and animals that rely on our streams and rivers. To solve this issue, we need to know exactly when and where nature needs water, and how much water is diverted for human uses.

We partnered with the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct a study using stream gauges and machine learning to "predict" what natural flows should look like for every stream segment in California, if they were not impacted by dams and diversions. Combined with new data on human water use (driven by recent state legislation), this information helps us target where and when conservation organizations and resource management agencies should focus their efforts to deliver water to our freshwater ecosystems.

-->

What if protected lands could tell us how they're doing?



One of the great challenges facing conservationists is how to monitor protected areas efficiently and effectively. In California, we manage over 500,000 acres of conservation lands. Every year, we spend about \$400,000 on monitoring these properties, but with AI we believe that number could drop significantly.

We're in the early stages of a research project with Orbital Insight, a geospatial big-data company run by a former NASA robotics engineer. This project will use AI for monitoring the Conservancy's fee properties and conservation easements, with the goal of detecting changes to the land, cutting down on the need for field visits. We could reduce our costs, our carbon footprint and unproductive travel time. While the savings are good for the Conservancy's bottomline, the technology could be transformative for everyone from small land trusts to huge federal agencies that are stretched to keep tabs on every place they manage.

-->

Top: Tuna fisherman stringing bait. © The Nature Conservancy (Jonne Roriz)
Middle: Measuring stream flow. © The Nature Conservancy
Bottom: Orange groves near the Santa Clara River. © The Nature Conservancy (Melinda Kelley)
© K. Knowles, Conservation Land Group.

-->



Mike Sweeney -->

Executive Director, California Chapter
The Nature Conservancy
201 Mission Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Follow me on Twitter [@mppsweeney](https://twitter.com/mppsweeney)



Find us on [Facebook](#), on [Twitter](#) or at ConserveCA.org

Copyright © 2017. All Rights Reserved.

To unsubscribe from future newsletters, please click on the unsubscribe link below.
[unsubscribe](#)

Subject **NACD Special Webinar on Urban Agriculture Conservation Grants**

From Debra A. Bogar <deb-bogar@nacdnnet.org>

Sender Debra A. Bogar <deb-bogar@nacdnnet.org>

To Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>

Date 2017-03-29 11:17



If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may [see it online](#)

Tell Friend



Once again, NACD has teamed up with partners to help districts provide much needed conservation technical assistance for urban agriculture in predominantly developed and developing areas. A new round of funding is now available through the NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation (UAC) Initiative. NACD is accepting grant proposals for UAC conservation technical assistance; up to 20 districts will be selected for a one-year project. The Request for Proposals and Frequently Asked Questions documents were released last week and are available at www.nacdnet.org/about-nacd/what-we-do/urban-and-community/.

A special NACD webinar to review the RFP and respond to members' questions is scheduled for 12:00-1:00pm Eastern time on Thursday, April 6. To best prepare for the Q&A, NACD asks that districts send any questions they have to Deb Bogar at deb-bogar@nacdnnet.org by mid-day April 5.

There is no cost to participate, but space is limited. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register, email Debra Bogar at deb-bogar@nacdnnet.org with your name, title, district name, state, and email address. Information to access the webinar will be sent by email. The webinar will be recorded and posted at www.nacdnet.org/about-nacd/what-we-do/urban-and-community/ after the event.

Sincerely,

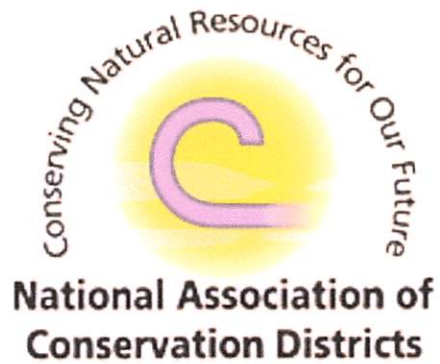
Debra A. Bogar

Senior Advisor
National Association of Conservation Districts

This email was sent to rose.corona@teamrcd.org. To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add our email to your address book or safe list.

To unsubscribe from future mailings [please click here](#)

Powered By [Z2 Systems, Inc.](#)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
URBAN AGRICULTURE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
509 CAPITOL COURT NE
WASHINGTON DC 20002

1. FUNDER BACKGROUND

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is the nonprofit organization that represents America's almost 3000 conservation districts¹, their state or territory associations, and the elected/appointed officials who serve on their governing boards along with their staff.

NACD's mission is to serve conservation districts by providing national leadership and a unified voice for natural resource conservation. Among the goals of the organization are to:

- ✓ Represent conservation districts as their national voice on conservation issues;
- ✓ Analyze programs and policy issues that have an impact on local conservation districts;
- ✓ Build partnerships with federal and state agencies and other organizations in order to carry out conservation district priorities and programs;
- ✓ Provide useful information to conservation districts and their state associations; and
- ✓ Offer needed and cost-effective services to conservation districts.

NACD was founded on the philosophy that conservation decisions should be made at the local level with technical and funding assistance from federal, state and local governments and the private sector. As the national voice for all conservation districts, NACD supports voluntary, incentive-driven natural resource conservation programs that benefit all citizens.

2. INITIATIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Initiative is to increase the capacity to provide agriculture conservation technical assistance in communities where the land use is predominantly developed or developing land. Community health and sustainability will be enhanced by engaging citizens in agricultural conservation initiatives which benefit local residents with a focus on underserved populations² and areas known as food deserts³.

The objective is to provide financial assistance to conservation districts for leadership and support in community agricultural conservation initiatives including technical expertise in project design and natural resource management (e.g. soil health, water quality) that result in long-term natural resources protection for urban agricultural production through citizen engagement and partnerships.

According to the Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems' May 2014 report on *The Local Food Movement: Setting the Stage for Good Food*, "the local food movement in the United States has evolved over the past 25 years, including a more recent convergence with movements supporting food access and health, food justice, environment, food sovereignty, and racial equity."

Part of this evolution is the rapid expansion of urban agriculture across the nation. 'Urban agriculture' is defined by USDA National Agriculture Library as "taking the form of backyard, roof-top and balcony gardening, community gardening in vacant lots and parks, roadside urban fringe agriculture and livestock grazing in open space".

In order for urban agriculture to grow sustainably, conservation practices must be incorporated at all levels. This is a vital and viable role for the nation's conservation districts.

This NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation Initiative seeks to advance conservation districts' role by providing technical assistance funding for about 20 projects in predominantly developed and developing areas with a special emphasis on underserved areas.

The aforementioned MSU report summarized it well by stating *"We have a tremendous opportunity to thoughtfully rebuild a food system by increasing local, good food commerce across all populations, especially those marginalized by race, ethnicity, gender, size of business/farm, or economic class. Local food advocates, along with advocates of food access and health, food justice, environment, food sovereignty, and racial equity all must understand and embrace their unique yet interdependent roles in realizing this opportunity."* Through this Initiative, NACD plans to encourage conservation districts to understand and embrace their role too.

3. PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

All of the following sections must be included in each proposal with clear and concise information for the Selection Team. Each category is limited to a 500 word count; any text over that will NOT be read by the Selection Team. Before writing these, applicants should review the Proposal Evaluation Criteria in Section 5.

A. Cover Page

Provide the district name and address, contact person name/phone number/email address, project title, project description in 50 words or less, and grant amount requested.

B. Applicant Eligibility

Only conservation districts¹ as established under their state enabling legislation are eligible to apply for and manage these funds if awarded. Applicants are strongly encouraged to design the project with additional partners in order to ensure long-term sustainability.

C. Project Description

Describe the community population and location, the potential for community and partners' support, the urban agriculture conservation assistance needs, and how the project will address those needs. Include the additional benefits of the project such as stormwater infiltration, community engagement, etc.

D. Geographic Focus

While the Initiative is national in scope, priority will be given to those projects that focus on predominantly developed and developing areas with a special emphasis on underserved² areas including food deserts³.

E. Project Goals and Timeline

This is a one-year initiative running approximately August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018. List the specific goals of the project along with the proposed timeline for each.

F. Project Sustainability

Describe how the project will be continued after the initial grant has ended. Include up to 5 letters of support from potential partners. Proof of the project sustainability is a critical criteria.