



Monthly Newsletter February 2020

The Tulare County RCD Board meetings are open to the public and typically held on the second Wednesday of each month at noon in the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Conference Room inside the USDA building:
3530 W Orchard Ct
Visalia, CA 93277

[Tulare County RCD Website](#)



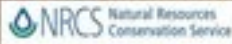

RCPP Tree Mortality Crisis

**RCPP CRISIS TO OPPORTUNITY:
SIERRA NEVADA
TREE MORTALITY**

Financial assistance is available for dead tree removal and other forest health practices through NRCS.

RCPP program allows for EQIP (Environment Quality Incentive Program) funds to be used within the 100 foot defensible space zone and has no acreage minimum for applicants.

Working together for you...

Tulare County Resource Conservation District
3530 W. Orchard Ct.
Visalia, CA 93277
Direct Line for RCPP Program: (559) 754-3155
Email: info@tularecountyrcd.com
www.tularecountyrcd.com

Technical Assistance for Forest Health and EQIP Funding

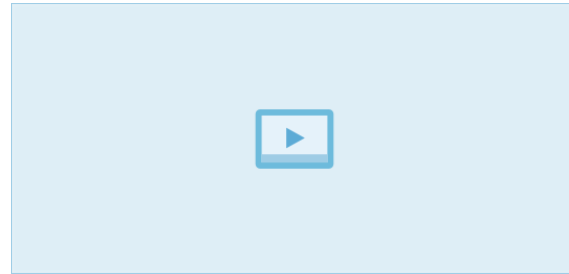
The RCD is currently providing technical assistance to private non-industrial forest landowners in the form of site visits, creation of forest management plans, and promoting participation in the NRCS EQIP funding through the RCPP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program).

Direct Line for your Tulare
County RCPP assistance:
(559) 754-3155

The RCPP Crisis to Opportunity: Sierra Nevada Tree Mortality program makes funding available for work within the 100-foot Defensible Space. This program

recognizes that the high cost of removing hazard trees and the overwhelming need to take action on private lands can prevent necessary management from occurring. Allowing work to be performed within the defensible space on nonindustrial private forest land is a key piece of supporting the health and safety of the Central Sierra's forested communities. It is crucial to note, the high cost of tree removal and treatment near structures. While the EQIP payments cover a portion of the cost, the total removal cost per tree within the 100-foot zone may be more than \$1000 per tree.

The Mariposa RCD has done an excellent job at creating a video explaining the importance of a "100-Foot Defensible Space" on your property & Tulare County RCD would like to thank them for allowing us so share it in our newsletter.



[Mariposa RCD YouTube Channel](#)

Forest Health & Fire Prevention

Tulare County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

The Tulare County RCD was awarded nine projects by Cal-Fire for various types of fuel management. The "CWPP" is one of those nine...

This project will create a new, comprehensive, CWPP for all of Tulare County's wildland areas. There are at least four different CWPPs in the County, all of which are outdated. Since they were written many projects have been completed or are outdated because of tree mortality issues. The geographic area of this CWPP includes private, state, and



federal lands in eastern Tulare County, approximately east of Lake Kaweah and Springville, excluding urban and agricultural lands; and west of a line generally formed by the Kern and Little Kern Rivers and major geographic features. Elevation ranges from approximately 900 to 10,000 feet. The CWPP covers approximately 762,440 acres, 20,000 structures, and could lead to a large number of acres treated, based on our experience with the last CWPP. Through collaboration with the USFS, BLM, Cal-Fire, USFWS, CDFG, and other leaders within Tulare County the community will be informed about the goals, objectives and progress of the project. There will be field tours and at least one public meeting.

Local Event

2020 World Ag Expo

The 2020 World Ag Expo was on February 11th, 12th, and 13th. There were 1,442 exhibitors and over the three days there was 106,357 attendees!



The Tulare County RCD was in attendance as well as a participant in the booth that is attained by NRCS annually. At the NRCS booth producers can learn about the many different programs available and where you can go to apply for them.

Attendees came from all over the world (56 different countries) to network and learn about the newest ag equipment, services and technology.



Throughout the duration of the 3 days there were more than 130 educational seminars and demonstrations/workshops covering topics that ranged from irrigation to hemp, livestock to international trade.

The World Ag Expo is already taking

exhibitor applications for next years event. It is the central hub for agriculture related networking and technology.

Click the link below to learn more about the World Ag Expo.



[World Ag Expo](#)

Projects From the Past: 2004

Air Quality & Farm Bill Assistance California Association Resource Conservation Districts

In 2004 the Tulare County Resource Conservation District was able to provide employees for NRCS to assist on a variety of projects including CMP (Conservation Management Practices) Plans, and a variety of Farm Bill Programs such as WRP (Wetland Reserve Program), EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program), WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program).



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

*Our local NRCS is located in the
USDA office at 3530 W Orchard
Court, Visalia, CA 93277 and their
phone number is (559) 734-8732.*

[NRCS Website](#)