



Shasta Tehama
Watershed Education Coalition
Spring 2019 Newsletter

SAVE THE DATE

**STWEC ANNUAL MEETING
TEHAMA COUNTY FARM BUREAU
275 SALE LANE, RED BLUFF CA 96080
MAY 8, 2019 8-11 a.m.**

Members are encouraged to attend the STWEC Annual Meeting:

Election of the Board of Directors – Two (2) seats are open for re-nomination and one vacancy. If you are interested in becoming a board member please be prepared to introduce yourself with a brief description of yourself. For more information contact STWEC at 530-527-4208.

Attending this meeting satisfies your 2019 educational requirement. This requirement can be met by attending the annual meeting, workshops, reading the newsletters or reviewing the website. The full meeting agenda will be posted the week of the meeting at www.stwec.org.

Member Notifications

**Congrats
to our Email Drawing
Winner!
Matt Koball you won
\$50 toward your 2019-
2020 membership dues!!**

Thank you to the membership for updating your email information with this years invoicing. This saves printing and postage cost and helps to control the cost of the membership dues. Just call STWEC 530-527-4208 to update your email.

**Have You Completed Your
Annual Reporting?
Log in and Report NOW!!**

**Shasta-Tehama
Watershed Education
Coalition**

Sign in to use the Data Management Tool

Enter Username 

Enter Password 

Sign In

[I forgot my username or password](#)

Cover Crop Demonstration Site



PAM Mustard Mix

Drought Annual Clover

Triticale Builder

Brassica Mix

LM Erosion



Principles for High Functioning Soils

1. Minimize Disturbance 2. Maximize Soil Cover 3. Maximize Biodiversity 4. Maximize presence of living roots.

Want more information on Cover Crops?

www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/soils/health/

Contact your Local NRCS Office to learn more about Soil Health Management Systems.

Cover Cropping Continue:

Cover crops can boost your profits and improve your bottom line over the years as their soil-improving effects accumulate. The benefit of cover crops can potentially include:

- ◆ Improvement to the soils physical and biological properties
- ◆ Reduce the need for herbicides and other pesticides
- ◆ Prevent soil erosion and conserve soil moisture
- ◆ Protect water quality and increase soil penetration
- ◆ Increase food for pollinators or/and provide additional grazing opportunities for livestock
- ◆ Decrease the need for nitrogen usage

Cover crops can lead to higher yielding cash crops and create beneficial outcomes for your ranch or farm.

NEED Funding for your Cover Crop Project??

California Department of Food and Agriculture features two grant programs:

1. Healthy Soils Program (HSP)
2. State Water Efficiency & Enhancement Program (SWEEP)

These opportunities provide financial assistance in the form of grants to implement farm management practices that include but are not limited to: cover cropping, no-till, reduced till, mulching, compost application, conservation plantings, pump conversions, solar installations that help irrigation system that reduce greenhouse gases and save water.

Update:

Nitrogen Management
Self - Certification
Continuing Education
Program Requirements

- NMP Self-Certified growers must complete three (3) hours of Continuing Education Units over a three-year period to maintain their certification.
- Due By January 2021

A comprehensive schedule of continuing education courses can be found on the CURES website at www.curesworks.org/cecourses/



Popular Rentals

The Rotowiper, herbicide applicator with or without operator. The New T770 BobCat with operator and mower deck or root grapple is available from the RCD of Tehama County. Please contact the RCD of Tehama County for more information 530-727-1280.



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Spring has arrived and summer is soon to settle upon our farms and ranches. We can all breathe easier now that the drought which has recently plagued California is finally past. Our reservoirs are close to full capacity and our snowpack is nearly one for the record. I believe we can expect that water availability has greatly improved compared to recent years. I personally am happy that the drought did not last thirty years as some predicted. We will all see what the future may bring. May your agricultural products be abundant!

Message from the President

As I prepare this message to the membership I am compelled to question how many of you like me, have noticed what appears to be numerous commercial irrigated agricultural operations (large or small) that are not members of our coalition and suspected of being out of compliance with the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. Our members are complying (and paying) to meet regulatory requirements and others are not. In my opinion, the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program has not adequately reached its full purpose. After fifteen years, Shasta-Tehama Sub-Watershed may still have a large number of the commercial irrigators who are not in the program. Hopefully this will change very soon, as it is anticipated that the Water Board's compliance enforcement will be ramped up in our area. A higher percentage of participation in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program is considered important to justly spread the burden and expense of the program among those who are governed under the regulation.

Board Vacancy

We are sad to announce that Paul Bertagna is retiring as a Director of the STWEC board. He has provided over a decade of invaluable service to STWEC members and staff. We will accept nominations for this vacant board position. Members may nominate themselves or other members. Nominations will be accepted at the annual meeting on May 8th or in advance by contacting STWEC at (530) 527-4208 or emmy@stwec.org. The board consists of 5 Directors, with both counties represented. The board meets bi-monthly at 8 am on the second Wednesday of each odd numbered month.

I wish to give special thanks to STWEC board member and past president Paul Bertagna for his many years of service to our agricultural community. Paul is retiring from the board and should be lauded for his tireless efforts to keep our membership costs down and his fight for reasonable regulation as it is imposed on all of us. Please try to attend our annual meeting in May to say farewell. Thank you Paul! What a learning opportunity it is to be a board member. Is it your turn to step up and participate?

As summer approaches, I implore all of us to think about our annual fire risks and prepare our properties for the fires that WILL occur. Vegetation and flammable material management is the key to reducing risk of disastrous fires that affect us all in one way or another. Please have a safe summer.



Ron Keown,
President STWEC Board of Directors



Shasta Tehama Watershed Education Coalition

PO Box 933
Red Bluff CA 96080

Phone: 530-527-4208

Up Coming Board Meeting:

Annual Meeting and Bi-Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 8 am | Attention New Location for May | Tehama County Farm Bureau 275 Sale Lane | Red Bluff, CA 96080