

## What is the RCD?

The Sonoma RCD is a special district organized under state law and a public resource agency with no enforcement or regulatory function. Since the 1940s, the RCD has worked closely with local rural and agricultural landowners and partners in responding to natural resource and watershed management needs in Sonoma County. Our primary focus is to provide soil and water conservation technical assistance to landowners owning over 24,250 rural and agricultural parcels, including over 5,100 farms and ranches in our district.



**S O N O M A**  
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

*“The RCD is a tremendous resource for Sonoma County’s rural and agricultural landowners. As a trusted liaison between regulatory agencies and local property owners, the RCD leverages millions of dollars to promote sustainable agriculture and healthy watersheds in our region and is a critical partner for our local communities.”*

David Rabbitt  
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

### Contact Us

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**S O N O M A**  
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The RCD creates and procures funding for conservation programs that proactively address natural resource concerns on the diverse rural and agricultural landscapes of Sonoma County.



The LandSmart™ initiative is carried out through partnerships with landowners striving to achieve productive lands and thriving streams.

### LandSmart™ Plans

LandSmart™ Plans are a tool that landowners and land managers can use to identify and prioritize management practices according to their individual needs, goals and timelines.

### LandSmart™ On-the-Ground

LandSmart™ On-the-Ground provides technical and financial assistance to rural and agricultural landowners with implementing best management practices to achieve resource and land management goals, from erosion control to fish habitat improvement projects.

### LandSmart™ Water Resources

LandSmart™ Water Resources provides local solutions for water security to rural landowners and agriculturalists. Water management options include alternative water source development, irrigation efficiency, storm water management, and groundwater and surface water monitoring.

### LandSmart™ Education

LandSmart™ Education creates connections and inspires conservation by offering community members the opportunity to directly engage with the renowned agricultural landscape of Sonoma County. Programs include the FARMS Leadership Program for high school youth, Agricultural Heritage Series public outings and LandSmart™ workshops.

### Why the RCD?

We can provide information to assist you in making the best possible resource decisions about your land. If you are a rural or agricultural landowner we can support you to increase profitability, decrease waste, maintain or increase the value of your land, reduce potential for liability, sustain the productivity of your land, and identify individual site-specific resource issues. The services we offer are tailored to address the needs of the landowner as well as natural resources in order to sustain the environmental and economic needs of our communities.



### Board of Directors

There are nine RCD Directors who volunteer their time to the benefit of local landowners and their resource issues. Directors are local landowners in the district that are engaged with rural, agricultural, and natural resource conservation issues and businesses.

### Our funding

Operating and program funds are drawn from local taxes, grants, partnerships and local donations.



The RCD has been very successful in leveraging minimal local tax funds to bring in financing for natural resource projects from sources such as the Natural Resources

Conservation Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, State Water Resources Control Board, California State Coastal Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District, CalEPA, California Department of Conservation, City of Santa Rosa, and others.