

<p>The Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD) mission is to enhance and promote the wise use of natural resources in the Amador Resources Conservation District.</p> <p>Amador RCD Priorities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agricultural Resources 2. Watershed Health 3. Education and Outreach 4. Administration and Capacity Building 	Amador Resource Conservation District WORK PLAN		
	2017-2018		
<p>Developed by the Amador Resource Conservation District Board of Directors, with assistance from project partners.</p>			
Priority 1. Agricultural Resources			
Goal 1.1: Enhance and protect rangeland			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
<p>1. Continue to promote NRCS programs for rangeland conservation practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host or partner in hosting 1 workshop annually. • Update website with NRCS program information. • Distribute NRCS video with ag related groups. • Promote NRCS videos on public television channel • Attend local groups with RCD/NRCS powerpoint. 		
<p>2. Keep apprised of Grazing Regulatory Action Project (GRAP) advancements and provide support to landowners to meet GRAP regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create mailing list of interested parties. • Attend meetings/annually. 		
<p>3. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop rangeland property owner mailing list. 		

demonstrations, etc. to promote rangeland health (i.e. nutrient management, erosion etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host or partner in hosting 1 workshop annually. 		
Goal 1.2 : Enhance and protect forestland			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Continue to promote NRCS programs for forest land conservation practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host or partner in hosting 1 workshop annually. (ex: fuels reduction) • Partner with Fire Safe Council, UCCE, etc. 		
2. Develop and pursue fuel load reduction projects with willing landowners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with Fire Safe Council. • Research and apply for funding related to replanting for wildlife habitat. 		
3. Work with local partners to develop and maintain a chipping program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use website to promote local programs. • Cooperate with and support local programs. 		
4. Continue involvement with SCRMC by attending meeting, participating in regional projects, and providing leadership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay annual dues. • Attend meetings. • Participate in regional grant applications and programs 		
5. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops, demonstrations, etc. to promote forested land health (i.e. fuel load reduction, erosion, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with FSC, UCCE, California Department of Forestry (CDF), California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA), ForestForm. • Keep apprised of small acreage landowners issues and possible need for assistance. 		

Goal 1.3: Enhance and protect farmland			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Continue to promote NRCS programs for farmland conservation practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host or partner in hosting 1 workshop annually. 		
2. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops, demonstrations, etc. to promote farmland health (i.e. irrigation efficiency, erosion, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide irrigation water management assistance to JVID. • Promote easements. • Provide soil survey information on the website. • Through SAWQA support vineyard and irrigated pasture with sediment and nitrogen management. • Support the Fish Friendly Farming program. 		
Goal 1.4: Promote the local agricultural economy			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Explore ecosystem services as a funding mechanism (i.e. cap and trade).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the carbon credit opportunities. • Organize information and distribute to the agricultural community when appropriate. • Attend carbon related informational meetings and report to the board. 		

<p>2. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops, demonstrations, etc. to promote the local agricultural economy (i.e. such as, marketing, meat packing, etc.).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance with Agricultural building exceptions. • Support the Mother Loads Meats project. • Host a site visit to the San Luis Obispo mobile meat processing facility. 		
<p>3. Develop and/or participate in a program to promote local agricultural products and geo-/argi-tourism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a program for ‘sustainable’ products. • Develop a map of farms in Amador and/or support current efforts in rural tourism. • Support ‘Farms of Amador’ in the website. • Work to promote Amador County to foster a strong agricultural economy. 		

Goal 1.5: Assist landowners with regulation compliance

Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
<p>1. Continue provide regulatory relief for irrigation lands operators through the Sacramento Amador Water Quality Alliance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend meetings. • Continue to facilitate the SAWQA program. • Advocate for the best interest of SAWQA members at Regional Water Board and Coalition level. • Hold stakeholder meetings when necessary. 		
<p>2. Keep apprised of Grazing Regulatory Action Project (GRAP) advancements and provide support to landowners.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend meetings. • Provide comment to GRAP program when necessary. 		

<p>3. Keep apprised of Groundwater Sustainability Act (GSA) advancements and provide support to landowners to meet GSA regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue GSA conversation with Amador County interests (JVID, Amador Water District, and Amador County) • Hold stakeholder meeting when necessary. • Represent local landowner concerns. 		
<p>4. Effectively engage with local constituents and regulatory agencies in conversations regarding the impacts and benefits of proposed regulations on the environment, landowners, and agriculture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold local stakeholder meetings on relevant issues when necessary. • Host and/or partner in meetings to educate landowners of current issues. 		
<p>Priority 2. Watershed Health</p>			

Goal 2.1: Improve and maintain water quality and quantity			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops, demonstrations, etc. to landowners, the community, and contractors on water conservation practices. (i.e. rain water harvesting, greywater re-use, rain garden installations, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host and/or partner in rain harvesting workshops/and or trainings. • Host and/or partner in greywater workshops/and or trainings. • Host and/or partner in low impact design (LID) workshops/and or trainings. • Outreach to contractors and installers about the above noted practices. 		
2. Develop and/or participate in projects that improve and/or protect water quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide water quality workshops through the SAWQA program. • Work with JVID to provide education opportunities and install irrigation water management practices. • Work with grape growers when appropriate to install BMPs or implement other water quality programs. • Develop a non-landowner program to address water quality issues. • Develop small acreage ag./ag.res./equestrian program to reduce impacts of practices. 		

<p>3. Develop and/or participate in projects that reduce erosion and monitor sediment in water ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop small acreage ag./ag.res./equestrian program to reduce impacts of practices. 		
<p>Goal 2.2 : Protect and enhance wildlife habitat</p>			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
<p>1. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops, demonstrations, etc. to landowners, the community, and contractors on habitat improvement practices. (i.e. hedgerows, native plantings, integrated pest management, etc.).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install or partner on the installation of a hedgerow demonstration project. • Partner with Master Gardeners on a plan/seed sale. • Educate the public to discourage feeding wild animals that my hard ecosystem structure(ex. deer and turkey) • Provide education materials on the website. 		
<p>2. Develop and/or participate in projects that enhance and/or protect wildlife habitat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install or partner on the installation of a hedgerow demonstration project. • Work with partners to develop projects. 		
<p>Goal 2.3: Reduce and control noxious weeds</p>			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
<p>1. Conduct an assessment of noxious weed infestations in the District.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a map of completed and needed weed abatement projects. 		
<p>2. Coordinate with local organizations to provide a regional approach to weed abatement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide workshops to the public about weeds abatement. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with Public Works on weed abatement issues. Apply for funding for weed abatement projects on private lands. 		
3. Develop and/or partner on weed abatement projects on public and private lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for funding for weed abatement projects on private lands. Create informational pamphlet identifying common weeds and effective maintenance techniques. 		

Goal 2.4: Reduce and control fire fuel hazards			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Develop and pursue fuel load reduction projects on public and private lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with Fire Safe Council, UCCE, etc. Coordinate with Fire Safe Council. Research and apply for funding related to replanting and fuels management. 		
2. Work with local partners to develop and maintain a chipping program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use website to promote local programs. Cooperate with and support local programs. 		
3. Continue involvement with Sierra Coordinated Resource Management Council (SCRMC) by attending meeting, participating in regional projects, and providing leadership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay annual dues. Attend meetings. Participate in regional grant applications and programs 		

<p>4. Provide education opportunities in the form of technical assistance, workshops, demonstrations, etc. to promote forested land health. Such as, fuel load reduction, erosion, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with FSC, UCCE, California Department of Forestry (CDF), California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA), ForestForm. • Keep apprised of small acreage landowners issues and possible need for assistance. 		
<p>Priority 3. Education and Outreach</p>			
<p>Goal 3.1: Inform the general public of ARCD’s mission and goals while increasing awareness of natural resource issues.</p>			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
<p>1. Maintain website with resources that support ARCD goals in addition to up to date ARCD information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly update website with agendas and minutes. • Follow transparency regulations. 		
<p>2. Increase ARCD visibility with social media outlets and newsletters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and distribute at least 1 newsletter annually. • Promote NRCS videos to local television stations. 		

<p>3. Seek opportunities to have the RCD information, logo and/or photographs in community publications and visible at community events.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and submit at least one newsletter regarding RCD efforts or resource issues to local publications annually. • Create promotional materials (ex. re-usable shopping bags) • Create and distribute a “Living in the landscape” handbook and/or calendar to promote resource issues and land stewardship. • Distribute these documents to relators to new landowners and the general public. • Promote NRCS videos to local television • Work with Mother Load Land Trust to develop signage on Community Farm property. 		
<p>4. Support, organize, and/or sponsor natural resource related films, panel discussions, symposiums, workshops, and forums related to topics of interest to the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain regular contact with philanthropic local organizations and provide RCD updates at meetings. • Support ACRA let workshops on the Community Farm. 		
<p>5. Develop and maintain e-mail list.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a “Join ARCD email list” on the website. 		
<p>6. Develop and maintain volunteer list.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a list of volunteer needs. • Advertise needs to the public. • Maintain volunteer list. 		

<p>7. Update and maintain ARCD power point presentation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create powerpoint for multiple audiences. • Present at local organizations. • Present at the Board of Supervisors meetings annually. 		
<p>8. Offer training courses to practitioners/installers of “on-the-ground” restoration, improvement, protection, and enhancement practices (i.e. installation of erosion control practices, road grading and maintenance practices, rain water harvesting, greywater re-use, rain garden installations, etc.)</p>	<p>See the below listed sections for detailed Key Actions. 1.1.3, 1.2.5, 1.3.2, 1.4.2, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.4.4</p>		
<p>Goal 3.2: Increase awareness of natural resource issues in youth education programs.</p>			
<p>Strategies</p>	<p>Key Action Step(s)</p>	<p>Person / Area Responsible(s)</p>	<p>Comment(s)</p>
<p>1. Continue to develop the Community Garden and Community Farm program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue partnership with Amador County Recreation Agency. • Research and apply for funding. • Update the Community Farm Plan with a sustainable funding plan. • Create a ‘Friends of the Community Farm’ group. 		
<p>2. Continue to provide support for youth education opportunities (i.e. Forestry Challenge)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local education opportunities with volunteers, staff and/or funding. Such as: Farm Day for 3rd graders, 4H outreach, Forestry Challenge, Speak off, and Scholarships. 		

<p>3. Support, organize, and/or sponsor natural resource field days to educate youth groups about natural resource issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with schools and forest service (and other organizations) to organize field trips. • Research and apply for funding. 		
<p>4. Outreach to schools to provide in-class natural resource education via presentations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a program in which Board Members attend environmental education classes and present a lesson. • Create a water conservation presentation that explains the embedded cost of water. 		

Goal 3.3: Inform rule makers and partner agencies of the RCDs mission and goals while increasing awareness of natural resource issues.

Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
<p>1. Regularly attend Amador County Board of Supervisors meetings to present ARCD updates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Board of Supervisors meetings. 		
<p>2. Support, organize, and/or sponsor field days for rule makers and agencies to educate about natural resource issues in the District and ARCD projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host or partner on Farm Tours to education the public or decisions makers on specific issues (such as: noxious weeds). 		
<p>3. Participate in relevant resource management stakeholder groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in Amador Calaveras Consensus Group. • Participate in MAC IRWM. 		

Priority 4. Administration and Capacity Building

Goal 4.1: Meet state requirements of a functioning RCD

Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Develop an annual plan annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host stakeholder meetings. • Host working group meetings. • Develop annual plan. 		
2. Complete an annual report at the end of each fiscal year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track ARCD activities. • Compile into an annual report. 		
3. Review ARCD Strategic Plan annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review ARCD Strategic Plan. 		
4. Adopt, and revise as needed, necessary board policies to comply with Division 9 requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize ARCD filing system. 		
Goal 4.2 : Obtain funding for current and future programs and projects			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Develop annual plan to guide staff in ARCD program and project priorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and edit annual plan status at least annually. 		
2. Develop and maintain relationship with funding organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach to organizations such as: Amador Community Foundation Rancheria Rotary Lyons 		

3. Develop an archive of funding opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a working list of at least 15 opportunities annually. 		
4. Diversify revenue and investigate fee for service opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research revenue sources. • Investigate partnership with CalAM group for fuels reduction consolations. 		
5. Work on a regional basis with neighboring RCDs and conservation organizations to create programs that meet local interests and are competitive for grant funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue involvement in SCMCA • Continue involvement in SAWQA • Attend RCD regional meetings. • Pursue partnership with regional RCDs to develop programs and projects. 		
6. Participate in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) planning as a stakeholder representing agricultural and environmental interests; develop and submit projects to the IRWM for funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide at least 3 projects to the MAC IRWM annually or when appropriate. 		

Goal 4.3: Develop and maintain a document management system

Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Work with NRCS to obtain additional office space for ARCD documents so that all ARCD documents can be stored in one location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate for space in the NRCS office for RCD files. 		
2. Develop organization system for ARCD records.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate and consolidate all RCD files. • Scan important RCD documents. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a file storage system and organization for past and future documents. • Create a shared cloud based drive for pertinent RCD documents (to be used by staff and board). 		
3. Develop and adopt an ARCD retention policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review regulations for file retentions • Develop a retention policy that meets all regulations. 		
Goal 4.4: Maintain partnership with NRCS			
Strategies	Key Action Step(s)	Person / Area Responsible(s)	Comment(s)
1. Promote NRCS programs through ARCD programs and education opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See related Key Actions in previous sections. 		
2. Host annual working group meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a working group list of land owners. • Host annual work group meeting to assist NRCS. 		