

# AG RELATED COMMUNITY RESOURCES

## CONTACT LIST

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### California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers (CANGC)

The California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers is a professional organization dedicated to the promotion and advancement of the nursery industry for its members and the public it serves. The CANGC membership includes grower and retail nurseries, businesses allied with the lawn and garden industry, individuals employed by members and students in horticultural education, researchers, colleges and garden writers. CANGC is the forum for those in the horticultural field to exchange information and generate support for marketing, research and legislative and regulatory advocacy.

**Website:** [www.cangc.org](http://www.cangc.org)

[www.superiorcangc.org/pages/about/contact.htm](http://www.superiorcangc.org/pages/about/contact.htm)

### California Certified Organic Growers (CCOF) – Sierra Gold Chapter

CCOF promotes and supports organic food and agriculture through a premier organic

certification program, trade support, producer and consumer education, and political advocacy. The Sierra Gold Chapter represents growers and processors throughout the Mother Lode area from Nevada County south to Tuolumne County. Our growers market their produce through a wide variety of methods including; farm stands, farmer's markets, CSA baskets, internet sales, and wholesale. Truly, the only thing they all have in common, besides location, is their dedication to organic farming methods. Our new website can help you find locally grown organic products and learn more about certified organic farming and community supported agriculture.

**Website:** [www.sierraorganicgrowers.com](http://www.sierraorganicgrowers.com)

### California FarmLink

California FarmLink helps link beginning farmers seeking land with retiring farmers or landowners who wish to keep their land in production. Technical assistance is available to help both parties structure farm leases and purchases, to help beginning farmers with business planning and financing, and to help

families pass their farms from one generation to the next. Workshops and trainings are regularly offered on these topics as well. California FarmLink also operates two equity-building programs, the Farm Opportunities Loan program and an Individual Development Account (matched-savings program) for farmers.

**Website:** [www.californiafarmlink.org](http://www.californiafarmlink.org)

**Contact:**  
Kendra Johnson, Yolo-Sacramento Area Coordinator  
530.756.8518 x32

[kendra@californiafarmlink.org](mailto:kendra@californiafarmlink.org)

### Foothill Farmers' Market Association

Incorporated in May of 1989, the Foothill Farmers' Market Association (FFMA) is a member-driven organization dedicated to promoting local agriculture through Certified Farmers' Markets and educational programs. The FFMA currently sponsors fourteen markets, six days a week, in Placer and Nevada Counties. The largest markets serve two thousand customers each market day



**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

Placer County

**WEB SITE:** [ceplacervevada.ucdavis.edu](http://ceplacervevada.ucdavis.edu)

Nevada County



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Auburn, California 95603  
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United States Department of Agriculture, University of California, Placer and Nevada Counties cooperating.

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Grass Valley, California 95945  
(530) 273-4563  
FAX (530) 273-4769  
E-Mail: [cenevada@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cenevada@ucdavis.edu)

during the peak season. The Foothill Farmers' Markets provide an organized, low-cost venue for producers to sell their products directly to consumers and build clientele.

**Website:**

[www.foothillfarmersmarket.com](http://www.foothillfarmersmarket.com)

**Contact:**

Carol Arnold, General Manager  
530.863.7487  
[foothillfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:foothillfarmersmarket@gmail.com)



### Gold Country Sheep Producers Association

The Gold Country Sheep Producers Association is an organization of both sheep producers and those simply with an interest in the sheep industry. Our membership goal is to promote the welfare of the sheep industry through education, communication and development.

**Website:**

[www.goldcountrysheepproducers.org](http://www.goldcountrysheepproducers.org)

**Contacts:**

Karin Sinclair, President  
916.803.1777  
[ksinclair7375@hotmail.com](mailto:ksinclair7375@hotmail.com)

Dan Macon, Secretary/Treasurer  
530.305.3270  
[flyingmule@wavecable.com](mailto:flyingmule@wavecable.com)

### High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Council

The mission of High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Council (HSRC&D) is to provide regional leadership and assistance to communities to strengthen the local economy, rural heritage, conservation and management of our natural resources. The Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program is administered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which provides a coordinator and administrative assistant to work with Council to plan activities and projects. HSRC&D assists with grant writing, project coordination &Z management.

**Website:**

[www.highsierra-rcandd.org/](http://www.highsierra-rcandd.org/)

**Contact:**

Kay Joy Barge, Program Coordinator  
530.823.5687 ext. 5  
[Kay.Joy@ca.usda.gov](mailto:Kay.Joy@ca.usda.gov)

### Mountain Mandarin Growers' Association

The purpose of the Mountain Mandarin Growers' Association (MMGA) is to promote and advertise Mountain Mandarin Growers' agricultural products, establish a reputation for high quality of Mountain Mandarin products in wholesale and retail markets, work to maintain and/or accentuate the natural beauty and rural atmosphere of the agricultural areas of Placer County and improve the growing, harvesting, packaging, storage and presentation for sale of

Mountain Mandarin products. The MMGA meets monthly to discuss production, marketing, and other issues related to the industry.

**Website:**

[www.mountainmandarins.com](http://www.mountainmandarins.com)

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is an agency in the Department of Agriculture. Our mission is to maintain and improve the condition of natural resources on private lands. NRCS emphasizes voluntary science-based technical assistance to address the proper use of soils, water, plants, air, and animals. NRCS also administers cost-share programs to assist financially. NRCS conservationists and engineers spend time working with local farmers, ranchers, and timberland owners. NRCS also works in close cooperation with the Placer County Resource Conservation District.

**Website:** [www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov)

**Contact:**

530.823.6830

### Placer Ag Futures Project

The Placer Ag Futures Project is a farmer/rancher-led effort to ensure that Placer County has a vibrant, diverse and successful agricultural community in 2037. The project represents a collaborative program designed to education current and potential new farmers and ranchers, to reach out to the larger

community, and to connect farmers with land resources.

**Contact:**

UC Coperative Extension  
530.889.7385

### Placer County Community Biomass Box Program

Placer County has implemented a biomass box program to provide fire prevention assistance. The idea is to promote defensible space by all business and homeowners during the early spring through until fall and then to provide "biomass boxes" to allow the public to have their material removed easily and at little or no cost. This program accommodates communities from the Tahoe region all the way down to the west end of the County. Our regional waste management partners pick up the materials and transport them back to be loaded onto larger trucks which are then hauled to the nearest Biomass utilization facility.

**Contact:**

Brett Storey, Biomass Program Manager 530.886.5334  
[bstorey@placer.ca.gov](mailto:bstorey@placer.ca.gov)

### Placer County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures

The Placer County Department of Agriculture/ Weights and Measures is primarily a regulatory agency enforcing State laws and regulations at the local level. Regulatory programs include Pesticide Use Enforcement, Pest Detection/Pest Exclusion, Plant

Nursery Inspection, Direct Marketing/Certified Farmers' Markets, Organic Farm Registration, Pest and Weed Eradication, Seed Inspection, Weighing/ Measuring Device Inspections, and Commercial Weighmaster Inspections. In addition, the Department assists Placer County citizens with wildlife -related issues. The Agricultural Marketing Program works to promote Placer County agriculture and increase public awareness of and support for eating fresh, local in-season produce. The Department also reviews and comments on development projects potentially affecting agriculture in the County, proposed rezoning of agricultural land, and land use permit issues related to agriculture.

**Website:** [www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Agriculture.aspx](http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Agriculture.aspx)

**Contact:**

Christine Turner, Agricultural Commissioner 530.889.7372

### Placer County Agricultural Marketing Program

Marketing fresh local farm and ranch products is the primary function of the Placer County Agricultural Marketing Program. There are a wide variety of services provided; ranging from developing, publishing, and distributing marketing materials to fostering positive working relationships with local and regional media. Placer County Agricultural Marketing Program works to bring locally grown products to the attention of the non-agricultural community by working directly with growers to

develop marketing materials, promote direct distribution, and assist with development of value-added products.

**Website:** [www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Agriculture.aspx](http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Agriculture.aspx)

**Contact:**

Agricultural Department  
530.889.7372

### Placer County Department of Public Works, Agricultural Sign Program

Placer County now allows off-premises agricultural directional signs within County road right-of-way at 14 intersections in the County. Sign panels are white with a standard dark green lettering and measure six inches by thirty-six inches. Individual sign panels may include the name of the business or commodity, and either distances to the business site or months of operation. The current cost for an agricultural sign is \$150.00 per panel (\$300.00 for double sided applications). Installation and maintenance of these signs shall be done by the Placer County Department of Public Works. After an application is filed, sign fabrication and installation will occur within 30 days.

\*Approved location list and Sign Request form available from the Department of Public Works in the CDRC building at the intersection of Bell Road and Richardson Drive.

**Contact:**

Stephanie Holloway  
530.745-7551  
[SHollow@placer.ca.gov](mailto:SHollow@placer.ca.gov)

## Placer County Farm Bureau

The Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization dedicated to protecting the family farm through representation, education and promotion. California family farms feed the world with the safest, most abundant food supply anywhere, and the Farm Bureau strives to protect and improve the ability of farmers and ranchers engaged in production agriculture to continue to provide a reliable supply of food and fiber through responsible stewardship of California's resources.

### Contact:

Sandy Schwartzler, Executive Director 916.663.2929  
[pcfb@ncbb.net](mailto:pcfb@ncbb.net)



## Placer County Resource Conservation District

The Placer County Resource Conservation District is an independent, self governing body dedicated to natural resource management and conservation. The RCD provides technical assistance or direction to private landowners on ways to conserve and/or enhance natural resources such as water, soil, plants, livestock and/or wildlife. Assistance includes pasture management, irrigation system management or design review,

and topsoil erosion control recommendations.

### Website:

[www.placercountyrcd.org](http://www.placercountyrcd.org)

### Contact:

530.885.3046  
[pcrcd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pcrcd@sbcglobal.net)

## Placer County Wine & Grape Association (PCWGA)

Placer County Wine and Grape Association (PCWGA) is a non-profit organization committed to informing and educating the public about Placer County wines, wineries, grape growers, and grapes. The association was established in 1999 by a small group of local wine makers and grape growers to promote the making of wine and the growing of wine grapes on both a commercial basis and as a hobby. PCWGA provides educational programs to its members and the public; encourages the use of ecologically sound and sustainable agricultural practices; and serves as an advocate for the wine and grape industry in public and government matters.

### Website:

[www.placerwineandgrape.org/](http://www.placerwineandgrape.org/)

## Placer Farm Supply

Since 1950 Placer we have provided farmers and ranchers with the best available products and prices. Our goal is to help your business grow and be more profitable. From the weekend rancher to the everyday farmer we can provide you with anything you need from raising animals,

managing pests & weeds to installing fencing. Not only do we provide for farmers and ranchers we do our best to accommodate ALL agricultural venues from orchards, vineyards, commercial growers to the backyard gardener.

### Website:

[www.placerfarmsupply.com](http://www.placerfarmsupply.com)

### Contact:

Pam Fanini, General Manager  
 916.663.3741

## Placer Land Trust

Placer Land Trust works with willing landowners and conservation partners to permanently preserve and protect open spaces and working farms and ranches for future generations in Placer County.

### Website:

[www.placerlandtrust.org](http://www.placerlandtrust.org)

### Contact:

530.887.9222  
[info@placerlandtrust.org](mailto:info@placerlandtrust.org)

## Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program

The Placer Legacy Program, administered by the Placer County Planning Department, is a conservation program that seeks to conserve important open space and agricultural resources in Placer County. The Placer Legacy objectives include:

- Maintain our heritage of agriculture as a thriving part of the local economy

- Protect our plentiful and uniquely diverse plant and animal communities
- Protect and expand our outdoor recreation areas
- Protect special areas of scenic and historical significance
- Establish open-space buffers between communities
- Promote and ensure public safety

An important part of the program includes land acquisitions through the use of conservation easements and the purchase of fee title. Since 2000, Placer Legacy and its partners have protected over 7,300 acres.

**Website:** [www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/CommunityDevelopment/Planning/PlacerLegacy.aspx](http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/CommunityDevelopment/Planning/PlacerLegacy.aspx)

**Contact:**

Loren E. Clark, Assistant Director of Planning 530.745.3000  
[lclark@placer.ca.gov](mailto:lclark@placer.ca.gov)

### **PNSSNS Subwatershed Group**

The PNSSNS Subwatershed Group is one of ten subwatersheds in the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition authorized to provide a discharge waiver as required by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. If you operate an ag-related business and have water discharge from your property, including storm season runoff, then you are required to obtain a discharge waiver. Our mission is to pay for water testing, educate members on better management practices to keep our

waters clean, inform our members of troubled waters, and work with other groups to maintain clean waters.

**Website:** [www.cleanwaters.info](http://www.cleanwaters.info)

**Contact:**

Linda Watanabe 916.645.1774  
[cleanwaters@netscape.com](mailto:cleanwaters@netscape.com)

### **PlacerGROWN**

PlacerGROWN, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has been conducting outreach, building networks and promoting activism around farming and the local food system in Placer County since 1994. The mission of the organization is to enhance the viability of agriculture in Placer County by bringing local producers and the community together for the support and growth of agriculture. We assist local producers in marketing their products, provide educational information to both consumers and producers and form alliances with other organizations to achieve a thriving local agricultural system, farmland preservation and resource conservation.

**Website:** [www.placergrown.org](http://www.placergrown.org)

**Contact:**

530.889.7398  
[placergrown@gmail.com](mailto:placergrown@gmail.com)

### **Sierra College Agriculture Department**

The Agriculture (and Environmental Horticulture) programs at Sierra College provide a unique synthesis of

scientific and practical knowledge for individuals interested in career preparation, college transfer opportunity, and working professionals making career changes or needing to update skills in the rapidly changing fields of horticulture and agriculture. Full semester length courses and short term intensive course are offered on specific horticultural and agricultural topics such as: Introduction to Small Scale Horticulture Production, Viticulture, Winemaking, Budding and Grafting, Pruning & Training Fruit & Nut Trees, Soils, Pasture Management and Agricultural Welding.

**Website:** [www.sierra.cc.ca.us/Programs/divisions/SciMath/agriculture/index.html](http://www.sierra.cc.ca.us/Programs/divisions/SciMath/agriculture/index.html)

**Contact:**

916.660.7900

### **Sierra Economic Development Corporation (SEDCorp)**

Sierra Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit, regional economic development organization formed in 1969 to support the counties of El Dorado, Placer, Nevada, and Sierra in promoting the economic vitality of the region. One of our core services is providing access to capital for small businesses that might otherwise be denied the funds they need to operate and expand. We are the SBA's only microlender in northeastern California, we are also an intermediary re-lender for the USDA, and we manage CDBG-backed loan programs for several

local jurisdictions. We have a new product specifically intended to support the agricultural community with minimized paperwork and fast turnaround. We also provide business counseling and technical assistance.

**Website:** [www.sedd.org](http://www.sedd.org)

**Contact:**

Brent Smith, President/CEO  
530.823.4703 [brent@sedd.org](mailto:brent@sedd.org)

**Sierra Foothills Mobile Poultry Processor (MPPU)**

The Sierra Foothills MPPU offers a complete poultry processing facility that can be transported to your property. The MPPU is a trailer containing all of the equipment and facilities necessary for processing all types of poultry. Entirely self-contained, it can be transported to your farm to process chickens, ducks, pheasants, turkeys, geese, and other poultry. Poultry processed in the MPPU can be sold directly to consumers at farmers' markets, through community supported agriculture, and from the farm. Youth poultry exhibitors can also offer processed poultry to their junior livestock auction buyers. The MPPU is owned by the High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Council and managed jointly by High Sierra, UC Cooperative Extension and Sierra College.

**Contact:**

Roger Ingram, UC Cooperative Extension 530.889.7390  
[rsingram@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rsingram@ucdavis.edu)



**UC Small Farm Program**

The Small Farm Program is a statewide University of California research and outreach program tailored to the needs and opportunities of small-scale farmers. Through farm advisors throughout the state and the Small Farm Center at UC Davis, the program provides information to farmers related to specialty niche crops, direct marketing, agritourism, farm management, food safety, farmers markets, added value products, cooperatives and organic production.

**Website:** [www.sfc.ucdavis.edu](http://www.sfc.ucdavis.edu)

**Contact:**

530.752.8136  
[sfcenter@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sfcenter@ucdavis.edu)

**USDA Risk Management Agency**

The role of USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) is to help producers manage their business risks through effective, market-based risk management solutions. RMA's mission is to promote, support, and regulate sound risk management solutions to preserve and strengthen the economic stability of America's agricultural producers. As part of

this mission, RMA operates and manages the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC).

**Website:** [www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/ca\\_rso/](http://www.rma.usda.gov/aboutrma/fields/ca_rso/)

**Contact:**

530.792.5874

**University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), Placer and Nevada Counties**

The University of California Cooperative Extension, also known as the Farm Advisors' office, serves California through the creation, development, and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural, and human resources. UCCE provides information and technical assistance to horticultural, livestock, and natural resources producers. Assistance with crop selection, costs of production, soil fertility management, pest management, crop water requirements, livestock, range management, and invasive weeds is available through your county Farm Advisors' office.

**Website:** <http://ceplacer.ucdavis.edu/>

**Contact:**

Roger Ingram, Livestock & Natural Resources Advisor  
[rsingram@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rsingram@ucdavis.edu)

Cindy Fake, Horticulture & Small Farms Advisor  
[cefake@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cefake@ucdavis.edu)

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