County residents to provide needed resources and materials to enhance habitat around the County. This year’s Plant sale will offer California native and regionally appropriate plants for purchase at a fair price. We sell drought tolerant species, suitable for urban and rural home use and specifically for use in lawn replacement projects.

Lawn areas can use more water than all other home uses combined. Plants native to Solano County and similar areas evolved to survive in drought conditions, and require much less water to flourish than species evolved to live in wetter climates. A garden planted with a variety of native plants provides habitat and nectar sources throughout the year to support local and migratory beneficial insects, birds and wildlife. In urban areas, native gardens provide wildlife habitat and cover where none would otherwise exist.

Supporting residents in transforming lawn and high-water use areas into native plant-based drought tolerant plantings is a standing commitment for the RCD. There will be a workshop in the demonstration garden during the Plant Sale from 11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Staff will cover the nuts and bolts of landscaping with California native and regionally appropriate drought tolerant plants and creating meadows with grasses, sedges and rushes as an alternative to turf. Specific topics of include plant selection, mulch and mulching, and irrigation types and installation.
The California Coastal Commission recently awarded Solano RCD grant funding to implement a Lake Dalwigk Community-based Urban Greening Project. Working with a coalition of local and regional partners, we developed this project to enhance and restore a minimally-vegetated stormwater detention basin in central Vallejo. The work we’ll do will improve the ecological and hydrological function of the pond and enhance the aesthetics of the 44-acre park. Project work will include installation of a diverse palette of carefully selected native plants, including 2,200 shrubs; 240 trees; 27,600 rushes, sedges, grass plugs; and up to 8 acres of wildflower and grass seed. The new vegetation will provide cover and food resources for migratory birds and local wildlife, while also helping to mitigate climate change by capturing and storing atmospheric carbon.

Next, we’ll install ten interpretive stops around the lake, each with QR codes linked to environmental education resources, and information about the native plantings, local wildlife and birds, wetland function and importance, climate change mitigation, and storm water management practices. Two dog waste stations with bags and garbage cans will help to minimize nutrient pollution from dog waste and help keep the area clean and inviting. We’ll also install a new water fountain for park visitors.

The RCD and our partners are working to secure additional funding to support the installation of 1,600’ of new walking trail to complete the loop of existing trail around the lake and connect nearby neighborhoods to a newly installed Park & Ride facility along Curtola Parkway. The trail will improve access to public transit opportunities and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additional funding will also allow us to involve the local community by supporting 21 volunteer work events and 46 elementary and high school class restoration planting field trips. The folks who participate in these activities will provide at least 50% of the plant installation labor, giving the community a true stake in the project. We expect trail installation to begin in Summer 2018, and planting will begin the following fall and winter.
Pond C: A 30 Acre Wetland Basin Restoration Project in Dixon

By Katherine Holmes

This last year has been full of grant writing for us here at Solano RCD, and I’m delighted that one of the project sites that received funding is a 30 acre wetland basin in southeast Dixon. Known as Pond C, this basin was originally conceived as a partnership effort between the City of Dixon and Dixon RCD. Pond C was designed so that City storm water flows through the basin before it is discharged into Dixon RCD drainage channels. By allowing storm water to slow down as it meanders through the basin, Pond C causes sediment and other pollutants to drop out of the water column, greatly improving water quality.

Although Pond C was constructed in 2007, it has only been minimally vegetated with native plants. Consequently, its bottom and slopes are currently overrun with non-native weeds like yellow star thistle and rip gut brome. Vegetating the bottom of the basin with a dense stand of native emergent wetland vegetation will greatly increase Pond C’s filtering capacity, while planting native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees on the upland slopes will improve wildlife habitat.

The City of Dixon, Solano RCD, and Dixon RCD have received a $525,404 Urban Rivers Grant from the California Natural Resources Agency. This grant will fund comprehensive restoration efforts at Pond C, including the planting of 15,000 native rush and sedge plugs in the wetland basin and 2,000 native shrubs and trees on the upland slopes. Native grasses and wildflowers will also be seeded throughout the project site to replace the weeds. Twenty community planting events and eighteen student events will allow the citizens of Dixon to participate in the effort.

We’re very pleased to be working on such an exciting project with great partners. If you are interested in signing up for Pond C volunteer efforts, please contact Katherine Holmes at katherine.holmes@solanorcd.org

Pond C Biofiltration and Habitat Project Site Plan

New Project Features
- Wetland basin plug planting areas
- Seasonal riparian floodplain seeding area and solitary tree/shrub plantings
- Upland woodland seeding area and solitary tree/shrub plantings
- ADA trail
- Project boundary
- Bond Sign

Lateral 2 carries stormwater to Cache Slough and the Delta

Existing culvert and screw gate transfers stormwater from Lateral 2 into Pond C

Existing culvert and flap gate transfers stormwater from Pond C back to Lateral 2

Public access

Existing gravel road

Existing gravel road

700 ft

Google earth
Back in 2014, Hearn Livestock entered into a partnership with the Solano RCD to enhance habitat features on the Petersen Ranch just north of Rio Vista. Funding for the project came through grants that targeted natural resource conservation on working landscapes from the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR), the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Five separate areas along irrigation drainage ditches were identified on the ranch by the Hearns as problematic to manage for weeds and suitable to test the practices of “wildlife friendly farming” through native plant establishment. In addition to the installation of riparian vegetation along those drainages, the project aimed to develop critical ranch infrastructure such as cross fencing and water troughs that were needed to more efficiently and effectively rotate animals throughout the fields of irrigated pasture.

While the process of establishing the layers of native vegetation (native grasses and wildflowers, trees and shrubs) was challenging during these drought years, the persistence of weed control and a little supplemental irrigation enabled us to deliver on the vision of creating habitat corridors across part of the ranches’ irrigation network (Figures 1 and 2).

Solano RCD is excited to continue this collaboration with our conservation partners and Hearn Livestock. We’ll be working with the Delta Conservancy through Proposition 1 funding and with NRCS through their Environmental Quality Incentives Program. During this second phase of the project, the RCD and our partners will work with the landowner to design and implement additional conservation measures that will improve their ability to manage water, soil, livestock, and wildlife habitat resources on the property. This effort will build on the success of riparian habitat buffers previously installed by Solano RCD and connect to the natural riparian habitat features of Lindsey Slough in the North Delta of Solano County.
Agricultural Used Oil & Filter Recycling Services

NO COST • CONVENIENT • RESPONSIBLE

If you have barrels of used oil or filters taking up space in your barn, please call:

707-678-1655 x111

or email amy.king@solanorcd.org

Si tienen barriles de aceite usado o filtros que ocupan espacio en su granero, por favor llame.

There are 2 options available:

1. Pick up a free 12 quart container to collect used oil and bring to a recycling facility. Limit 5 per operation. Available while supplies last.

2. If you have quantities or containers that are difficult to bring to a recycling center, we can offer no-cost pick up service at your ranch.

Call today for details and a brief survey: 707-678-1655 x111

Hay 2 opciones disponibles:

1. Recupere un contenedor de 12 cuartos de galón para recolectar aceite usado y llevarlo a una instalación de reciclaje. Limite 5 por operación. Disponibles mientras duren los suministros.

2. Si usted tiene cantidades o contenedores que son difíciles de llevar a un centro de reciclaje, podemos ofrecer servicio sin costo de recogida en su rancho.

Llame hoy para detalles y una breve encuesta: 707-678-1655 x111

NO oil wasted.
NO filter left behind.
Ni una gota de aceite desperdiciada.
Ni un filtro descartado por ahi.

Funded by a grant from CalRecycle

CalRecycle Solano RCD
WHERE TO DROP OFF USED OIL IN SOLANO COUNTY

There are several Certified Used Oil Collection Centers located in and around Solano County. Always call ahead to make sure the center has the capacity to accept your quantity and type of used oil. None of these locations can accept oil that has been mixed with other chemicals, foods, or liquids. Always properly label and transport used oil containers by following the Environmental Protection Agency’s guidelines for transporting used oil.

**Drop Off Locations**

The following locations accept up to 55 gallons at a time:

**Recology Hay Road**
6426 Hay Road, Vacaville

**Pisani’s**
2 E. Grant Ave, Winters ......................... (530) 795-9966

The following locations accept up to 5 gallons at a time:

**BENICIA**
Big Sky Enterprises**
401 W. Channel Road................................. 510 541-2128
Jiffy Lube**
2026 Columbus Parkway............................ 707 745-5073

**DIXON**
Recology Dixon Recycling Center**
302 N. 1st Street................................. 707 678-4026
O’Reilly Auto Parts
405 N. First Street................................. 707 693-1200

**FAIRFIELD**
7 Flags Express Lube & Oil Change**
2270 N. Texas Street................................. 707 426-2000
AutoZone #3303**
1706 N. Texas Street................................. 707 428-4256
Firestone Store**
1340 Travis Boulevard............................. 707 426-1706
Jiffy Lube**
1330 Holiday Lane................................. 707 429-9200
Momentum Hyundai
2775 Auto Mall Parkway.............................. 707 402-5700
Momentum Nissan
2545 Auto Mall Parkway............................. 707 402-3200
O’Reilly Autoparts**
1800 W Texas Street................................. 707 430-0113
O’Reilly Autoparts**
2211 N Texas Street................................. 707 422-0433

**PICK-N-PULL Fairfield**
4659 Air Base Parkway............................ 707 425-3783
Republic Services/Solano Garbage Co.**
2901 Industrial Court............................... 707 437-8900
Steve Hopkins Honda**
2499 Auto Mall Parkway............................. 707 427-1000
Hopkins Acura of Fairfield
2459 Auto Mall Parkway............................. 707 427-1000

**SUISUN CITY**
AutoZone #5693**
288 Sunset Avenue................................. 707 428-3994
O’Reilly Auto Parts**
193 Sunset Avenue................................. 707 422-8086
Republic Services/Solano Garbage Co.**
2901 Industrial Court............................... 707 437-8900

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**Asbury Environmental Services/World Oil Environmental**
Website: asburyenv.com
1-800-727-2879 or 707-693-6000
E-mail: info@asburyenv.com

**Ramos Environmental Services**
Website: ramosenv.com
916-371-5747
E-mail: info@ramosenv.com

**TRAVIS AFB**
Firestone Store Building**
170 Travis Avenue................................. 707 741-7900

**VACAVILLE**
AutoZone**
2480 Nut Tree Road................................. 707 446-3958
Cherry Pit**
812 E Monte Vista Avenue....................... 707 451-1233
Firestone Store #3585
1200 E Monte Vista Avenue...................... 707 447-5301
Jiffy Lube
1013 E Monte Vista................................. 707 446-3035
O’Reilly Autoparts**
181 Depot Street................................. 707 447-2456
O’Reilly Autoparts**
2020 Alamo Drive................................. 707 454-0770
Recology Vacaville Solano Recycling Center**
855 1.25 Davis Street.............................. 707 448-2945
Speedee Oil Change & Tune Up**
221 Peabody Road................................. 707 455-8518

**VALLEJO**
AutoZone**
730 Admiral Callaghan Lane..................... 707 557-4453
Auto Zone**
3020 Sonoma Boulevard........................... 707 553-1820
Jiffy Lube**
4300 Sonoma Boulevard........................... 707 644-2710
Momentum Kia
4325 Sonoma Boulevard............................ 707 651-7000
O’Reilly Autoparts**
3580 Sonoma Boulevard........................... 707 644-0489
O’Reilly Autoparts**
1844 Springs Road................................. 707 643-1096
Oil Change
794 Admiral Callaghan............................ 707 645-9688
Pep Boys
128 Plaza Drive................................. 707 648-1032
Speedee Oil Change & Tune-Up**
1675 Tuolumne Street.............................. 707 642-9242
Recology Vallejo
2021 Broadway................................. 707 551-2621
Team Chevrolet Cadillac
301 Auto Mall Parkway............................. 707 643-9000

**E-mail: info@ramosenv.com**
916-371-5747
Website: ramosenv.com

**Ramos Environmental Services**
New HCF Grant Funds Phenology Citizen Science Field Trips For Third Grade Watershed Explorers

By Kathleen Robins

Last fall, the Greater Vallejo Recreation District partnered with Solano RCD to develop a project to enhance our Watershed Explorers program. This spring, we were awarded funding from California State Parks’ Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) to pilot a second field trip for the RCD’s Watershed Explorers Program. The new grant award will introduce a hands-on phenology citizen science component to the existing Watershed Explorers curriculum, involving student observation, recording, and data reporting to the USA Phenology Network. The proposal leverages HCF funding as an incentive to local partners to provide long term support for environmental education programming.

With this funding, we’ll be able to engage at least 20 classes per year over the five-year grant period in an additional fall field trip that teaches participants about phenology and introduces them to participation in hands-on citizen science. In addition to the 7,432 children who will participate in Watershed Explorers during this period, 2,600 students will participate in an additional field trip at Glen Cove Waterfront Park in Vallejo, Benicia State Recreation Area in Benicia, Rockville Hills Park in Fairfield, Lagoon Valley Park in Vacaville, Sandy Beach Park in Rio Vista, and Glen Valley Pond in Dixon- the same sites they will visit in the spring during the regular Watershed Explorers Program.

This new project builds on the successful work of a previous HCF grant, and will maintain the gains of the original grant while expanding the curriculum to help students to see and experience more while they’re in their parks, and involving them in active stewardship activities. The first pilot field trips will take place in fall of 2018. Watch for a phenology page on our website to see what the Watershed Explorers discover.

For more information about this program or our education program in general, please contact Marianne Butler at marianne.butler@solanorcd.org or 707.678.1655 x 114

Phenology is the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events and how these are influenced by seasonal and interannual variations in climate, as well as habitat factors. Watershed Explorers observe a toyon bush during a field trip.

Solano RCD Educator Wendy Low leads third graders on a hike in their local park.

Solano RCD Educator Carla Murphy discusses habitat and stewardship concepts with Watershed Explorers.
Printed on 100% Recycled Paper

It’s Time for the Solano RCD Fall Plant Sale! Saturday, October 14, 8 - 12

Solano RCD Staff Directory

Marianne Butler Education Program Director
567-674-5611 • Marianne.Butler@solanorcd.org

Jeff Carlson Restoration Field Technician
707-678-1655 x 3 • Jeff.Carlson@solanorcd.org

Miles DaPrato Restoration Project Manager
707-678-1655 x 120 • Miles.DaPrato@solanorcd.org

Jerah Frye Restoration Field Technician
707-678-1655 x 115 • Jerah.Frye@solanorcd.org

Katherine Holmes Assistant Executive Director
707-678-1655 x 107 • Katherine.Holmes@solanorcd.org

Amy King Watershed Project Manager
707-678-1655 x 111 • Amy.King@solanorcd.org

Allison Martin Education Program Manager
707.678.1655 x 116 • Allison.Meador@solanorcd.org

Sarah McKibbin Restoration Project Manager
707-678-1655 x 122 • Sarah.Mckibbin@solanorcd.org

Laura Morgan Education Program Coordinator
707-205-7836 • Laura.Morgan@solanorcd.org

Andrea Mummert Conservation Project Manager
707-678-1655 x 112 • Andrea.Mummert@solanorcd.org

Caitlyn Morrissey Office Manager
707-678-1655 x 101 • Caitlyn.Morrissey@solanorcd.org

Chris Rose Executive Director
707-678-1655 x 106 • Chris.Rose@solanorcd.org

Education Staff:
Deborah Bartens, Jill Bolduc, Don Broderson, Natalie Dumont, Wendy Low, Carla Murphy, Kevin Young-Lai

Solano Resource Conservation District
Fall Plant Sale
October 14, 2017
8:00 am-12:00 pm
at the Conservation Education Center
6390 Lewis Road, Vacaville
Featuring an excellent selection of well-priced California native & regionally appropriate plants

Get the Lay of the Land by e-mail!
If you would like to start receiving the Lay of the Land as a pdf in your email in-box instead of as a mailed paper copy, please contact Caitlyn Morrissey at Caitlyn.Morrissey@solanorcd.org