



SONOMA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Affiliated with California Farm Bureau Federation and American Farm Bureau Federation

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Agricultural and Rural Lands Fire Recovery and Resource Town Hall

*Resource Agencies Will Provide Information to
Rural Landowners on October 30th 2017 at 5:30 p.m.*

Santa Rosa, CA - In response to the recent wildfires in Northern California that have devastated the agriculture community in addition to multiple urban neighborhoods, Sonoma County Farm Bureau is convening state and county leadership to address concerns and provide information to rural property owners.

The Agricultural and Rural Lands Fire Recovery and Resource Town Hall will convene on Monday, October 30th, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. The town hall will be held at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in the Garrett Building and doors open at 5 p.m.

The Agricultural and Rural Lands Fire Recovery and Resource Town Hall will take the opportunity to assemble key groups and resource agencies. Information provided will be tailored to the agricultural community as the rural community begins to recover.

Karen Ross, Secretary of California Department of Agriculture, will be speaking about recovery efforts for local agriculture. Secretary Ross is touring multiple affected agricultural operations in Sonoma County ahead of the event.

All property owners, directly affected or not, are invited to learn about the long process of recovery and rebuilding. A portion of the event will include an opportunity to ask questions. Sonoma County Farm Bureau will take this opportunity to continue collecting information on how the rural community has been affected.

“We are deeply saddened by the recent tragedy that has struck our community. We recognize the unprecedented loss of homes and businesses in not only urban areas, but also in our rural community, and the immediate need to provide agriculture with as much information as possible,” said Kim Vail, executive director of Sonoma County Farm Bureau.



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Partnering organizations that will be represented on October 30th include: American AgCredit, Community Alliance of Family Farmers / The Farmer's Guild, Gold Ridge Conservation District, Sonoma County Department of Agriculture, Sonoma County Farm Trails, Sonoma County Sheriff, Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, Sonoma County Winegrowers, Sonoma Resource Conservation District, UCCE Sonoma County, USDA Farm Service Agency, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and USDA Rural Development.

Sonoma County Farm Bureau has been working to support the agricultural community over the last three weeks. Sonoma County Farm Bureau is working with the Sonoma County Emergency Operations Center and Sonoma County Animal Services to coordinate donations of feed and supplies for livestock. Sonoma County Farm Bureau also partnered with the Sonoma Grape Growers Foundation to establish a housing recovery fund for ag workers and their families who were displaced from their homes.

About Sonoma County Farm Bureau

Sonoma County Farm Bureau, a non-profit grassroots organization, was founded in 1917 and has been representing the interests of farmers and land owners in Sonoma County for 100 years. Sonoma County Farm Bureau is a membership driven organization dedicated to protecting and progressing agriculture in Sonoma County.