

Water Awareness Month – May 2026

WHEREAS, Water Awareness Month was established during California’s 1987–1992 drought to promote efficient water use and stewardship. Water is a natural resource essential to life, health, agriculture, the economy, and the environment, and the people of Napa County share a collective responsibility to conserve and protect water resources for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 the Napa County Board of Supervisors adopted Conservation Regulations to protect water quality, soils, waterways, and natural resources through erosion control standards, stream setbacks, limits on development on steep slopes, and requirements promoting vegetation retention and watershed protection while supporting continued agricultural use; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Board of Supervisors adopted the Water Quality and Tree Protection Ordinance (Chapter 18.108 of Napa County Code) to strengthen protections for tree canopy, watersheds, wetlands, streams, and drinking water supplies; promote fire and forest management; and support resilient land use and sustainable agriculture under defined environmental standards; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors established the Napa County Groundwater Sustainability Agency in 2019 and successfully developed and received state approval for the Napa Valley Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan in January 2023, providing a science-based roadmap for sustainable groundwater management. The Board also adopted Resolution 2022-178 affirming the Human Right to Water Policy on December 6, 2022, including the Protection of Public Health, The Environment Consistent with Public Trust Principles, and All Beneficial Uses, to Ensure Prudent Water Resource Management and Efficient Use, for the Benefit of Present and Future Generations. Napa County wishes to promote awareness, conservation, and responsible water stewardship throughout the county as an ongoing means of assuring that we can all enjoy the benefits of our limited water resources; and

WHEREAS, the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Flood District) spearheads and maintains restoration projects in the Napa River Watershed. The Countywide Watershed Management Program, which supports the creation and maintenance of a healthy environment around streams and the Napa River, protects homes and businesses from flooding and erosion related issues. The Flood District also administers municipal water supplies from the State Water Project for the City of Napa, American Canyon, and Calistoga. The Flood District also provides leadership, funding, and collaboration between Napa County and its cities and town promoting effective compliance with the Municipal Stormwater Permit program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Napa County Board of Supervisors, State of California, hereby recognizes May 2026 as **Water Awareness Month** in Napa County and urges all residents, businesses, industries, institutions, and public agencies to conserve and protect water resources through responsible and efficient water use.

Amber Manfree, Chair

Liz Alessio, Vice Chair

Joelle Gallagher, District 1

Anne Cottrell, District 3

Belia Ramos, District 5