



# *Water Conservation*

SUSTAINABLE CERTIFICATION



# *Collaboration*

FOR A WIN, WIN, WIN

- Education on sustainable winegrowing since 1994
- 20+ years of regulatory relief in Region 3
- Reduce administrative burden for farmers and regulators.



# Water Conservation



## VINEYARD APPLICANTS MUST:

- Use low-volume irrigation system (drip or micro-sprinkler).
- Evaluate system for distribution uniformity.
- Inspect, clean, & flush system regularly.
- Use irrigation scheduling tools to inform decisions:
  - Soil based monitoring devices;
  - Plant based monitoring devices;
  - Evapotranspiration calculations & budget.
- Maintain winter covercrop.
- Generate annual water budget to track total water from:
  - Rainfall;
  - Frost protection;
  - Irrigation.

# Water Protection

## VINEYARD APPLICANTS MUST:

- Use backflow prevention device on well(s)/water source(s).
- Protect wellheads from chemical contamination.
- Perform quality analysis tests.
- Use at least two practices to minimize non-point source pollution of surface waters.
- Plant vegetated perimeter buffers at least 25ft from setback of streams/wetland areas.
- Know watershed & subwatershed.
- Provide PURs - SIP Certified prohibits use of high-risk pesticides.





# Water Conservation

## WINERY APPLICANTS MUST:

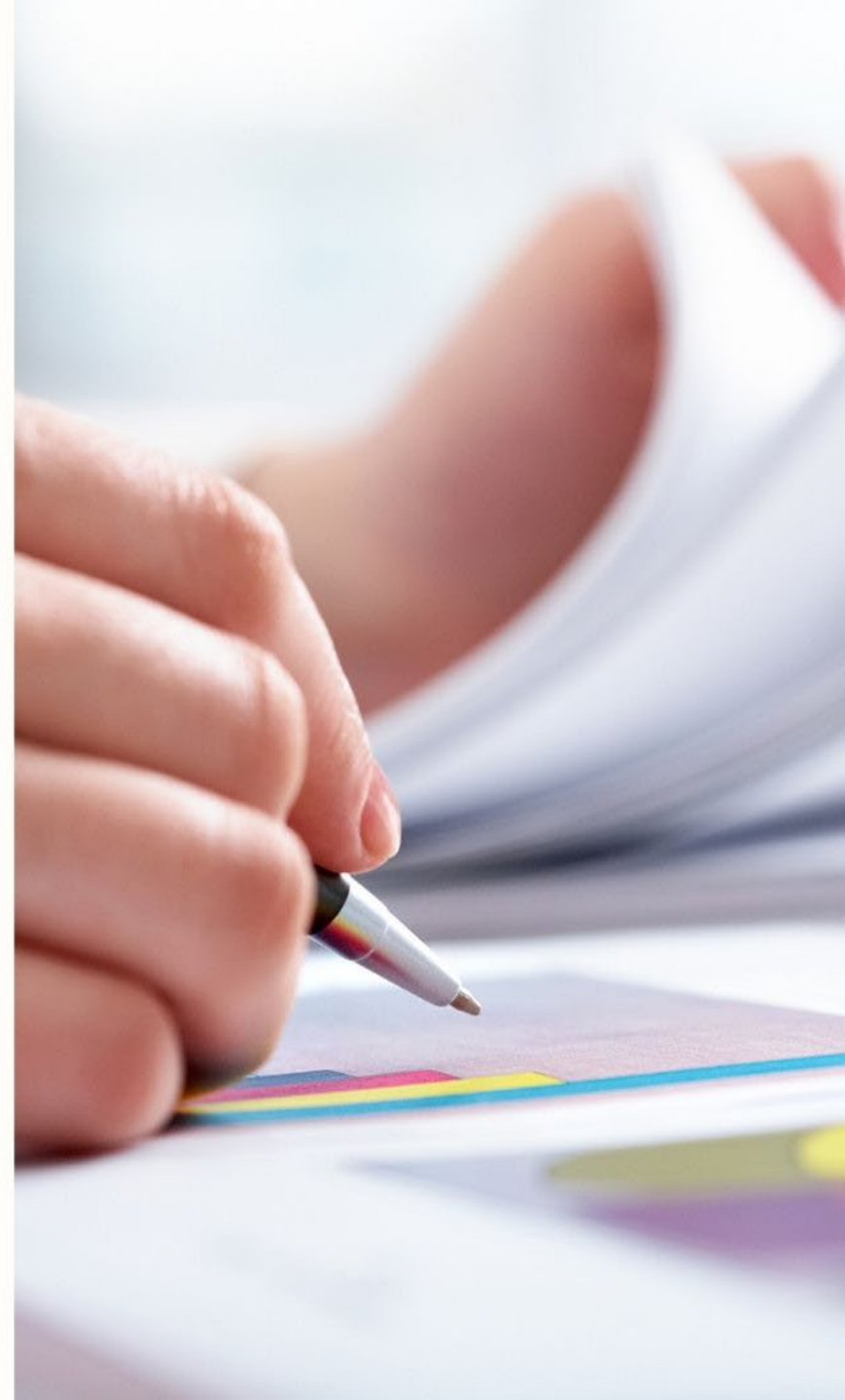
- Record monthly water use for winery and tasting room.
- Conduct monthly inspections for leaks.
- Have a separate meter for the winery.
- Inspect & maintain water treatment system.
- Record amount of water used in cleaning & sanitation.
- Pre-clean crush operations, equipment, & floors before wash-down.
- Use high-pressure low-volume nozzles with shut-off valves.



# *Water Protection*

WINERY APPLICANTS MUST:

- Have a wastewater measurement plan.
- Inspect sumps/traps monthly.
- Map storm drains & their output destinations.
- Use at least 3 practices to prevent erosion in landscaping.





# Program Updates

## A LIVING DOCUMENT

- SIP Certified's Standards are reviewed...
  - Annually by a technical advisory committee of:
    - Experienced growers;
    - Agricultural professionals;
    - Environmental representatives.
  - Every 5 years by representatives from:
    - University & Extension system;
    - State and federal agencies;
    - Agricultural professionals;
    - Environmental & social organizations.



# *Adding New Practices*

## AG ORDER 4.0 EXAMPLE

- Map discharge points.
- Testing discharge for nutrients.
- Visually analyze turbidity.







# Verification

FREE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Third-party auditors:
  - Review documentation.
  - Visit property for visual inspection.
- Blinded reports are reviewed by Certification Advisory Committee.



# Collecting Data

## SIP CERTIFIED DATABASE

- Applicants provide site-specific data:
  - Irrigation
  - Compost
  - Fertilizer
  - Nitrogen
  - Yield
- Staff export and analyze data, & contact outliers.



*Thank you!*

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