

Programs and Assistance Available from our Partners.....

Ag Water Efficiency Program

The Solano RCD in partnership with the Solano County Water Agency and other local partners, have re-invigorated the Solano Agricultural Water Efficiency Program, providing education and technical support to producers year-round.

Any producers interested in improving their water use efficiency or interested in brainstorming irrigation or nitrogen management solutions on your property can contact the program. Our team can walk the site with you and conduct hands-on distribution uniformity testing as well as evapotranspiration uniformity via drone spectroscopy data. From there, we can suggest potential water efficiency solutions, land management practices and financial assistance programs for your property. If you use a well for your farm or ranch and are interested in finding areas of cost-savings in your operation, consider having a professional conduct a pump efficiency test on your well system. The Solano Ag Water Efficiency Program will cover the cost of the test.

NOTE: On a first-come, first-served basis, the Solano RCD can also provide M.K. Hansen AM400 soil moisture loggers to any producer who is in need of a replacement logger or wants to begin testing their soil moisture levels.



Pesticide Disposal Program

The Solano RCD, in partnership with the County of Solano, Dixon RCD and CalRecycle, are working to identify a sustainable model for our agricultural community to safely manage and dispose of hazardous materials. A pilot program was created to assist producers with the disposal cost of pesticides that have expired or are no longer legal to apply. This pesticide disposal program will last until grant funds are depleted, or on December 31, 2023, whichever comes first. The size and quantity of disposal will be based on U.S. Department of Transportation limits which limit individuals to transport up to 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous material in 5-gallon containers, or smaller, per visit to a permitted hazardous waste facility. However, any size and quantity exceeding these limits are not excluded from this pesticide disposal program but will be subjected to further review.



For questions about the Ag Water Efficiency or Pesticide Disposal Program or to schedule a visit and analysis, please contact Kevin Young-Lai at: (707) 678-1655 x123 or email kevin.young-lai@solanorcd.org

Hello From NRCS, Solano County ~ Teri Knight, District Conservationist

Below are some NRCS Farm Bill program delivery funding statistics at the end of fiscal year 2022 (ended September 30). We have been under a Continuing Resolution with more limited funds for customers than past years. In Solano County, we contracted with 9 agricultural producers, obligating \$932,400. In Area 2 (Solano included), 309 producer projects were funded, totaling \$15.9M. Statewide, a total of \$92.9M was spent on 1413 projects under Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP-EQIP) funding. Additionally, we added 19 easements across the state, obligating another \$23.4M. More important is the recent passage of Inflation Reduction Act (IRA 2022) that will bring a large amount funding to agricultural conservation starting in 2023. To prepare for the new funding, NRCS will have it's first application deadline for fiscal year 2023 on December 9th. We have a current allocation of \$97M in funds from congress for this first application deadline. This early deadline is intended to help us manage the initial workload while we learn and prepare for funds from IRA. These details are coming, so stay tuned. Please let us know how we may assist you in Solano County. NRCS Vacaville office (707) 448-0106

STAFF

Kelly Huff, District Manager

Martha McKeen, Program Coordinator

Joanna Yac, Office Manager



DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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DIXON, CA 95620
707.678.1655

THE OFFICE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

STOP IN AND SEE US!
OR
VISIT US ONLINE AT
DIXONRCD.ORG



Annual Report

December 1, 2022



DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Dixon RCD News
Dixon RCD Mission
To provide leadership and make available technical, financial and educational resources to local land users for drainage, water quality, and habitat management through competent, cost effective services and partnerships.

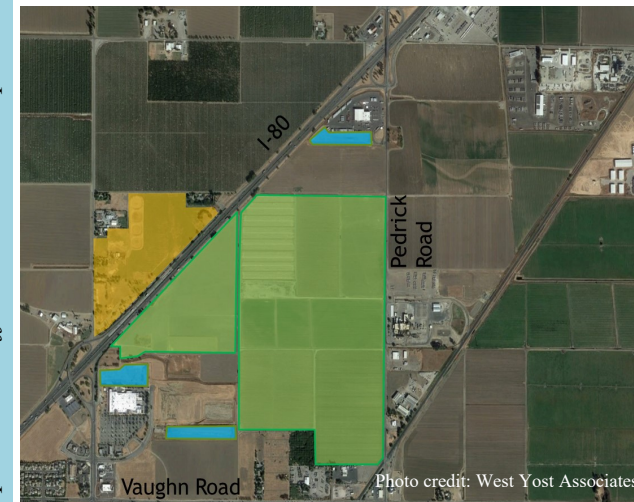
DITCH MAINTENANCE

Ditch Maintenance Fees are to remain at \$4.00/acre for 2023. The increase in December 2020 was the final increase approved in the 2016 rate study and vote of District landowners. The Board will continue to review the per acre fees versus maintenance costs annually to determine when the next rate study should begin.

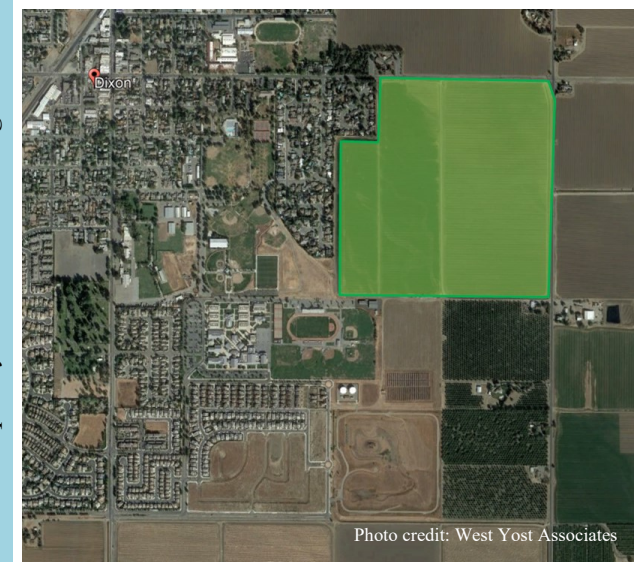
Maintenance Activities Dec. 2021 to Nov. 2022

Ditch Spraying	December full-system pre-emergent spray and July full-system summer spray as well as spot sprays in March and September. We experienced areas of poor weed control, primarily watergrass and ryegrass in the late summer.
Ditch Excavation	Contractors cleaned 5.0 miles including portions of Lateral 3, Tremont 2, Tremont 3. Ditch members cleaned an additional 2.5 miles.
Spoils Leveling	Contractors leveled 2/3 of a mile. Ditch Members leveled an additional 4.0 miles.
Debris Removal / Ditch Repair & Improvements	Contractors completed 16 days of debris and trash removal, 11 of which were storm related. Staff completed an additional 3 days of trash removal.

Upcoming City Projects



City of Dixon Northeast Quadrant (between I-80 and Pedrick Rd) & Milk Farm Re-Development Project—Potential Impacts to Dixon RCD Tremont 3 System



Southwest corner of Dixon Ave and Pedrick Rd proposed development—Drains to Dixon RCD Lateral 3 System.

Regional Drainage Update

Dixon RCD continues to work closely with the City of Dixon, Solano County, Maine Prairie Water District, Reclamation District 2068 and Solano County Water Agency on regional drainage and on projects to address impacts of changing land uses on our local drainage systems. The Tremont 3 (Hackman/Sikes), Lateral 2 (Pedrick), and Lateral 3 (Robben) Watersheds all have significant development projects in the planning stages and we are working with the City of Dixon to ensure that the drainage plans for these developments will not negatively impact and ideally may improve drainage. We are also working closely with the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to determine if there are opportunities to overlap solutions to water supply and drainage in some of our systems. You may receive a survey and phone call asking for your ideas and opinions. Now is a critical time to bring forward any multi-benefit ideas that have significant support as there are many unique funding opportunities. If you have thoughts, contact Kelly or Martha. (707) 678-1655 x102 or x103

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Updates:
@ SOLANOGSP.COM



We invite you to come out to Pond C and check out this exciting multi-benefit project! Pond C is located at the corner of East Park Boulevard and Yale Drive in the southeast corner of Dixon.

Wrapping Up the Pond C Biofiltration and Habitat Project

By Katherine Holmes, Deputy Director

This December, Solano RCD will be wrapping up a five-year, 40-acre habitat restoration project at Pond C in Dixon. After rainwater flows down gutters and storm drains in southeast Dixon, it emerges into a large, open-air ditch named Lateral 2. Prior to the construction of Pond C in 2007, Lateral 2 transported stormwater directly to the Delta. Now, a portion of the stormwater is diverted from Lateral 2 into Pond C through a culvert. Water fills Pond C's main basin and then moves through a bioswale before rejoining Lateral 2 through another culvert (see blue arrows in photo). By retaining stormwater, Pond C recharges the groundwater beneath the City and reduces flooding problems for local residents and downstream farmers.

In 2018, a partnership made up of the City of Dixon and both the Solano and the Dixon Resource Conservation Districts received a \$525,000 grant from the California Natural Resources Agency. This grant allowed us to work with hundreds of community members and students to plant over **2,000 native trees & shrubs** and **20,000 native sedge, rush & forb plugs** at Pond C. In addition, **730 pounds of native grass and wildflower seed** were no-till drill seeded throughout the basin.

The sedges and rushes planted on the bottom of the basin and bioswale help filter out common stormwater pollutants (such as motor oil) while the trees, shrubs and forbs provide high quality habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. Later this fall, Solano RCD will be installing 10 interpretive panels with information about Pond C's ecology along the one-mile loop trail that encircles the basin. We are also finishing up a native plant demonstration garden near the entrance that identifies 20+ types of native plants that do well in local gardens.

We're Looking for Pond C Partners!

Solano RCD is working with the City of Dixon and Dixon RCD to create a **Pond C Partners** group. We envision members helping out by attending occasional volunteer days to keep the demonstration garden looking good or by checking for irrigation leaks during walks around the Pond or by participating in Coast and Creek Clean Up events held at the Pond, etc. If you are interested in joining our Pond C Partners group, please contact Katherine Holmes at 707-678-1655 x107.



DIXON RCD 2021-2022 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

2021/2022 Fiscal Year	Governmental Services		Professional Service		Combined District Operations
	Ditch Operations	Other Government Activities*	Water Quality Coalition	Dixon Regional Watershed JPA	
Total Revenues	\$ 155,407	\$ 163,435	\$ 136,118	\$ 11,691	\$ 466,651
Staff Expenses	\$ 15,012	\$ 104,895	\$ 97,315	\$ 3,602	\$ 220,824
Ditch Maintenance Exp.	\$ 122,722	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,831	\$ 129,553
Overhead & Direct Exp.	\$ 32,608	\$ 30,558	\$ 31,818	\$ 796	\$ 95,780
Capital Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 170,342	\$ 135,453	\$ 129,133	\$ 11,229	\$ 446,157
Net Position 2021-2022	\$ (14,935)	\$ 27,982	\$ 6,985	\$ 462	\$ 20,494
District Cash Position 06/30/22	\$577,445				

2021-2022: The District's actual net position on June 30, 2022 was significantly higher than budgeted, due in large part to delays in capital improvement projects.

2022-2023: The current year budget projects a negative net position of (\$25,232) which assumes \$30,000 in ditch improvement projects.

* Other Government Activities revenue is from property taxes, shared services agreements with partner agencies and grants. Expenses include staff and direct costs to fund the District's non-ditch core services (focused on the priority natural resource concerns). Reduced expenses and additional revenues in governmental and professional services continue to offset the negative net position in ditch operations.



Goals Grid:

<p>Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Durable Collaboration Agreement with Solano RCD Income sources for water quality issues and improvements necessary Definition and example (demonstration) of what a vegetative ditch would be Good working relationships with other agencies, organizations and District members (ditch and non-ditch) 	<p>Avoid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overstaffing commitments Overhead expansion – time taken away from the core services (drainage & landowner assistance) Grant money should not be a cornerstone to how we operate Grants that are non-purpose specific Events or programs that divert from our main purpose Increased liability from urban encroachment
<p>Preserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost effective drainage Competent staff In person service for members Community outreach / education / assistance focused on drainage & water quality Good will between the RCD and the land users Maintaining the ditches Relationship with local, state, federal agencies Financial stability Input and influence on local, state and federal policies 	<p>Eliminate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-paying district members – delinquent Land users with poor practices (educate) Illegal dumping in District facilities Misconceptions of what the District's function and responsibilities are concerning drainage

The District board and staff, with input from partners, adopted a new Long Range Plan in March 2022 that will carry us through the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year. The Plan establishes the Priority Natural Resources Issues of Concern for the District, 5-year Goals and Objectives.

The detailed plan is posted on our website. One important objective identified in the plan is to build up our associate board membership. If you would like to participate as an associate board member, please join us for a board meeting. We meet monthly on the second Wednesday at 12:00 Noon.

Priority Natural Resource Issues:

- Drainage / Flood Management
- Water Quality (Surface & Groundwater)
- Water Supply (Surface & Groundwater)
- Wildlife Friendly Farming Habitat
- Soil Health / Sustainability

Leadership / County-wide Education (as part of each above)

District Operations (as part of each above)