

Living on the Land

A practical workshop series highlighting effective stewardship of our natural resources

About the Workshop Series

This 2005 calendar year workshop series has been organized by the Sotoyome Resource Conservation District, in collaboration with the Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District for selected topics. At each workshop, attendees receive relevant handouts related to the subject area as well as light refreshments.

Resource Conservation Districts are special districts of the State. They provide multiple resources in the communities they serve, including informational clearinghouse services, administration of funds for resource conservation projects, and technical assistance to various resource conservation projects on private and public lands.

Sponsors and Funding

The Russian River Watershed Council, and the Gualala River Watershed Council are sponsors of the workshop series. Funding for the workshops has been provided through diverse funding sources including the USDA, State Water Resources Control Board, California Wildlife Conservation Board, and Sonoma County Water Agency.

Attending a workshop in the Series

Each workshop is open to the public. Information on the location and time of each workshop will be posted approximately 2-4 weeks in advance of each event. The information will be posted at Sotoyome RCD's website, <http://www.sonomamarinrcds.org/>.

Individual workshops in the series will be advertised through press releases to local newspapers and email announcements. Mailings via U.S. mail will be limited due to costs. If you would like to be on an electronic email list or otherwise informed of the specifics of each workshop, please contact rickk@sonic.net or (707) 569-1448, ext. 102

Is there a cost to attend the workshop?

The workshops are free of charge; however, in order to offset the cost of reproduction of handouts and refreshments, a \$10 donation is suggested for each workshop. A donation box is provided at the workshop sign-in area.

Are the workshops accessible for individuals with special needs?

Many of the workshops in this series are in field locations, and at times requiring some foot travel over rugged or uneven terrain, however, special accommodations can be made. Please call sufficiently in advance of a workshop so that the event organizers can help determine and arrange any additional accommodations.

Do you offer professional development or ongoing education credits to attendees?

No, although these workshops deliver state of the art knowledge and resources by practicing experts, there is no credit awarded for attending the workshops.

The Sotoyome and Gold Ridge RCD do not discriminate against any person or persons, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, citizenship, or sexual orientation.

Sotoyome RCD presents

Living on the Land

A practical workshop series highlighting effective stewardship of our natural resources

April: Invasive Plant Species Update: Watershed and site-specific approaches to *Arundo donax* removal and riparian restoration. Co-sponsored by Circuit Rider Productions, Inc.

Description: *This field workshop will provide an overview of the problems caused by the invasive grass *Arundo donax* (giant reed) in the Russian River basin, and outline a unique watershed-wide program to remove *Arundo* and enhance riparian areas. The workshop will demonstrate effective removal techniques, as well as approaches to restoring native riparian habitat after invasive plant removal. The Russian River *Arundo* program is a joint project of Circuit Rider Productions Inc., Sotoyome and Mendocino County Resource Conservation Districts.*

May: About Equines: Effective land management techniques for horse lovers

Description: *This field workshop will overview the natural resources issues associated with the recreational and commercial horse industry, and provide resources for best management practices applicable for small acreage to stable operations. The workshop will focus on land use alongside or contributing to streams.*

June: Livestock: Riparian Grazing Options. Beyond exclusionary fencing

Description: *This field workshop will outline several effective grazing techniques that support and enhance riparian restoration while meeting grazing management needs. Co-sponsored by the Gold Ridge RCD.*

July: Septic systems : Understanding and managing systems old and new

Description: *This workshop will cover the essentials on septic systems, overview the implications of aging and failing systems on public and environmental health, and provide resources to effectively manage your septic system and property needs.*

Aug: Erosion Prep: Winterization for vineyards, farms, & ranches (bilingual)

Description: *This workshop, presented in the field in Spanish and English, will provide a hands-on opportunity to learn about, then install, suggested practices that can prevent erosion and avoid water quality issues. Co-sponsored by the Gold Ridge RCD.*

Sept: Forestry & Fish: Cooperation between timber industry & restoration

Description: *This field workshop will highlight trends of in-stream & upslope cooperative projects between commercial timber producers and local groups. Highlights will include a first hand look at a large woody debris in-stream restoration project; road related "storm proofing" work to reduce fine sediment to streams; and showcase voluntary/cooperative monitoring efforts. The workshop will identify inherent challenges balancing environmental restoration & timber industry survival. Co-sponsored by the Gold Ridge RCD.*

Oct: Endangered/Listed Animals: How do they affect land management?

Description: *This workshop will help identify the agencies and jurisdictional roles, and implications for landowners and managers, when listed species occur on a property. The workshop will overview some listed species found within the county.*

Dec: 2nd Annual Funding Workshop: Funding a restoration project

Description: *This workshop will overview funding sources that typically have winter to spring application deadlines, the process of applying for these funds, and an opportunity to discuss your project eligibility with funding agency representatives.*

Please see reverse for details on the workshop series dates, attendance, and advertisement.