

### **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**

<http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/>

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is one of the oldest government agencies of its kind. It is an agency that was essentially initiated by landowners during the “Dust Bowl” era of the 1930s. NRCS helps private landowners and land users throughout the United States to voluntarily conserve soil, water, air, plant, animal, wildlife and related resources.

The NRCS is a non-regulatory federal agency under the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It provides conservation technical assistance and administers conservation programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). In Mendocino County, NRCS works with the Mendocino Resource Conservation District (RCD), a local special district organized under California state law.

The NRCS does not enforce laws or ordinances, issue permits, or respond to complaints in a regulatory manner. Individuals who receive advice and counsel from NRCS are responsible for compliance with all laws, ordinances and permit requirements. The NRCS protects the confidentiality of its clients, customers and the public according to agency policy and by the protections stipulated by the Freedom of Information Act. *For assistance with the conservation of natural resources, contact Stephen Smith, District Conservationist at the Ukiah Field Office at: 707-468-9223ext 112 (NRCS).*

### **University of California Cooperative Extension, Mendocino County**

<http://cemendocino.ucdavis.edu/>

The Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) is a statewide network of University of California researchers and educators dedicated to the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources. University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), ANR’s outreach arm, has farm, 4-H, and nutrition, family and consumer sciences advisors.

As a land-grant institution, the Cooperative Extension mandate is tied to the welfare, development, and protection of California agriculture, natural resources, and people. County farm advisors’ work is aimed at enhancing California agricultural productivity and competitiveness. Together with farmers, pest control advisors, and industry representatives, they identify current and emerging agricultural opportunities and problems. The advisors collaborate with scientists to research, adapt, and field-test agricultural improvements and solutions. *For assistance with the rangeland and forestland management of natural resources, contact John Harper or Greg Giusti, at the County Agricultural Center at: 707-463-4495 (UCCE).*

### **Cal Fire (California Department of Forestry)**

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/>

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection protects the people of California from fires, responds to emergencies, and protects and enhances forest, range, and watershed values providing social, economic, and environmental benefits to rural and urban citizens.

*For assistance with forest health and improvement, contact Jill Butler, Senior Service Forester at the Santa Rosa Regional Office at: 707-576-2935 (CDF/Cal Fire).*

<http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/>

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) provides a variety of products including the [Forest and Range Assessment](#), a detailed report on California's forests and rangelands. FRAP provides extensive technical and public information for statewide fire threat, fire hazard, watersheds, socio-economic conditions, environmental indicators, and forest-related climate change. Much of this information involves Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis, tables, maps, data and calculation tools that are available on this website. *For assistance with forest resource protection, contact Jeanette Pedersen, Senior Forester at the Mendocino Office at: 707-459-7440 (CDF/Cal Fire).*

### **Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, Inc.**

<http://firesafemendocino.org/>

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, Inc. is a nonprofit partnership of persons seeking to help save lives, property, and resources from devastation by wildland fires. The Fire Safe Council does not seek to prevent all fires in wildland areas. Instead, it seeks to help persons in wildland areas to prepare to survive the wildfires. The values at stake are the lives of residents and firefighters, plus animals, homes, and natural resources. Through careful preparation, these losses can be prevented or reduced.

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council helps this preparation primarily by (1) educating residents about the danger of wildfire and how they can save their lives and property when one occurs; (2) mapping and planning in local areas to prepare for wildfire situations; and (3) obtaining grant funding to help residents make the necessary changes.

To more effectively accomplish these goals, the Council encourages road associations, homeowner groups, subdivisions, and towns to create their own Fire Safe Councils. The Council assists these local councils with education, guidance, and possible grant funding. *For assistance with the fire safe communities, contact Julie Rogers, Fire Safe Coordinator at: 707-462-3662 (MCFSC).*

### **Inland Mendocino Cooperative Weed Management Area**

<http://imcwma.org/joomla/>

Inland Mendocino Cooperative Weed Management Area is a partnership of government agencies, commercial and community organizations has the mission to prevent and minimize harm from invasive plants cooperatively through integrated pest management.

The IMCWMA is not a weed control service, however, the IMCWMA does provide weed management education and technical support as well as assist in obtaining matching funds for high-priority weed control projects. It encourages the prevention of weed introduction and dispersal and supports early detection of new weed infestation followed by eradication. *For assistance with the conservation of natural resources, contact Tara Athan, Weed Management Coordinator at: 707-485-1198 (IMCWMA).*