



## **GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR VINEYARD IMPROVEMENTS AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**

A new regulatory program is on the horizon for Sonoma vineyards. The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board is in the final phase of developing General Waste Discharge Requirements (General WDRs) for vineyards in Sonoma Valley. This regulation is scheduled for adoption by the Regional Board in spring of 2017 and will apply to the majority of vineyards in the Sonoma Creek Watershed. This regulation will require vineyard owners or managers to develop a farm water quality plan that identifies potential soil erosion and water quality concerns on the vineyard property and defines ways to address those concerns by implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs).

In anticipation of this regulatory burden, Sonoma Resource Conservation District (Sonoma RCD) has been developing the LandSmart® Program for Vineyards, with input from Regional Water Board staff, in order to assist local winegrowers with preparing farm plans and implementing BMPs to comply with this pending regulation.

**Grant funding is currently available to cover up to 85% of the cost of developing a LandSmart farm plan and additional funding is also available for implementing BMPs (after completing a plan) and performing Irrigation System Evaluations.** These grant funds are available for a limited time so if you're interested in taking advantage, we encourage you to contact Sonoma RCD today to learn more or use the following link to sign-up and start the planning process:

<http://events.r2o.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecx1xume99da9de2&lr=07mit7cab>

LandSmart program contacts:



(707) 569-1448  
[www.landsmart.org](http://www.landsmart.org)

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