

# CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING PROGRAM



BENEFITING  
THE ENVIRONMENT,  
THE COMMUNITY,  
AND HIGH QUALITY  
GRAPES AND WINE



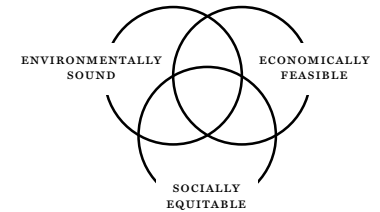
CALIFORNIA  
SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING  
ALLIANCE

## WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING?

Sustainable winegrowing is a comprehensive set of practices that are environmentally sound, socially equitable and economically viable. Sustainable winegrowing is being used by winegrape growers and vintners throughout California to grow and make high quality grapes and wine. These sustainable vineyard and winery practices conserve water and energy, maintain healthy soil, protect air and water quality, enhance relations with employees and communities, preserve local ecosystems and wildlife habitat, and improve the economic vitality of vineyards and wineries.

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUSTAINABLE, ORGANIC, AND BIODYNAMIC

California growers and vintners are using sustainable, organic and biodynamic approaches that have numerous management practices in common, such as using natural alternatives to enrich soil and control weeds and pests, yet each approach also has unique features. “Sustainable” includes a broader set of practices, such as energy and water efficiency.



## CALIFORNIA GROWERS & VINTNERS EMBRACE SUSTAINABILITY

In 2002, the CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING PROGRAM (SWP) was created as an educational program to help vineyards and wineries continuously improve in adopting and implementing sustainable practices. More than 1,800 California vineyards and wineries of all sizes have participated in the program, while nearly 11,000 growers and vintners have attended CSWA's educational workshops.

## SUSTAINABILITY WORKBOOK & TOOLS

The Sustainable Winegrowing Program provides numerous resources to wineries and vineyards, including the *California Code of Sustainable Winegrowing*, a workbook that enables growers and vintners to evaluate over 200 sustainable practices from grape to glass. The SWP also offers educational workshops, webinars, case studies, and online tools to calculate and track energy and water use, applied nitrogen, and greenhouse gas emissions.



## BENEFITS OF SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING

Ultimately, sustainable winegrowing enables growers and vintners to grow and produce high quality grapes and wine while protecting the environment and enhancing the communities in which they live and work.



### | GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Beyond tending the grapes and making wine, many California growers and vintners feel a deep connection to the land itself. Sustainable winegrowing preserves natural resources and protects ecosystems and wildlife habitat.

### | GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY

California growers and vintners are stewards of both natural and human resources, preserving open space and providing scenic landscapes and contributing to their communities economically and culturally. Sustainability also helps provide a favorable environment for employees and neighbors.

### | GOOD FOR THE GRAPES & WINE

The attention to detail needed to implement sustainable practices in the vineyard and winery results in high quality grapes that make high quality wine.

## CERTIFIED CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING

Launched in 2010, CERTIFIED CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING (CCSW-CERTIFIED) grew out of the Sustainable Winegrowing Program and provides third-party verification that a winery and/or vineyard is adopting and implementing sustainable practices. All certified wineries and vineyards must meet defined prerequisite practices that ensure key sustainability areas such as soil health, water and energy, habitat, etc. are addressed. Certified wineries and vineyards must also continuously improve their sustainability practices each and every year that they are certified. Certification is a voluntary option.



CCSW-Certified wineries and vineyards are environmental stewards, conserve natural resources, and use socially equitable business practices.

Visit the CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING page at [www.sustainablewinegrowing.org](http://www.sustainablewinegrowing.org) for a list of CCSW-Certified wineries and vineyards.



## THE CALIFORNIA WINE COMMUNITY

As the fourth leading wine producer in the world, California wine is a key industry of the state with a rich history of winegrowing dating back to the late 1700's. Today, the state's more than 3,800 wineries produce 90 percent of all U.S. wine, and over 4,600 vineyards grow nearly 120 varieties of winegrapes to produce California's world-renowned wines.

California vineyard and winery owners and employees are dedicated to the land and strive to maintain a healthy and beautiful environment for themselves, neighbors, and wine-country visitors. These mostly family-owned businesses make decisions for the long term to pass on a thriving business to future generations.



### CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING ALLIANCE

*[www.sustainablewinegrowing.org](http://www.sustainablewinegrowing.org)*



*[www.cawg.org](http://www.cawg.org)*



*[www.wineinstitute.org](http://www.wineinstitute.org)*

### | LEARN MORE

To learn more about the California Sustainable Winegrowing Program, certification, and to locate a list of participating vineyards and wineries, please visit *[www.sustainablewinegrowing.org](http://www.sustainablewinegrowing.org)*, contact *[info@sustainablewinegrowing.org](mailto:info@sustainablewinegrowing.org)*, or 415.356.7548.