

DIRECTORS  
**WILLIAM STOKES**  
PRESIDENT  
**ED LUCCHESI**  
VICE PRESIDENT  
**BILL SHINN**  
**KEITH BUSSMAN**  
**HENRY P. VAN EXEL**



STAFF  
**ANDERS CHRISTENSEN**  
MANAGER  
SECRETARY / TREASURER  
**TODD VERSTEEG**  
SUPERINTENDENT

**WOODBRIDGE IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
18750 N. LOWER SACRAMENTO ROAD  
P.O. BOX 580  
WOODBRIDGE, CALIFORNIA 95258  
PHONE: (209) 625-8438  
FAX: (209) 625-8663

Dear Landowner,

10-01-2015

The Woodbridge Irrigation District will be hosting a special public meeting to present information on Governor Brown's three-bill package known as the "Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)". The three bills include: Assembly Bill 1739, State Bill 1319 and State 1168. The meeting will be held at Hutchins Street Square, Lodi, California, from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. on October 20, 2015. The new law proposes sweeping changes to the management of ground water including the future use and cost of ground water in the Lodi-Woodbridge area. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information on the law.

The Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Sub-Basin includes an area lying between the Stanislaus River on the South, the Cosumnes on the North, the San Joaquin River and the Delta on the West and the foothill lands on the east. The Sub-Basin is said to be critically over drafted by the State as classified in Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118.

Groundwater within the Woodbridge Irrigation District supplies approximately 66% of the water used to grow crops. Annually Woodbridge Irrigation District supplies over 60,000 acre feet of surface water to lands within the District and the cities of Lodi and Stockton but only accounts for 33% of the total water demand. Agricultural users have lowered their consumption of groundwater by installing drip irrigation and water conservation systems. Most of the grape acreage irrigated only use an average of 1.2 acre feet per acre of applied water due to drip irrigation systems down from 2.3 acre feet per acre applied by furrow and flood techniques.

The SGMA law proposes to stabilize the ground water basin by implementing strategies to sustainably manage the groundwater. Such strategies could include installing meters on all wells and regulating the amount of water that can be withdrawn in the irrigation of crops. Other strategies could include using more surface water in lieu of groundwater which is difficult due to droughts and the limited supply of new surface water supplies.

A local agency or combination of agencies overlying a groundwater basin, may form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the basin. Local public agencies that have a water supply or land use responsibilities with a groundwater basin are eligible. Cities, Irrigation Districts, Conservation Districts, and Counties can form a GSA and develop a Ground Water Sustainability Plan (GSP). GSA's may conduct investigations, measure and limit extractions, require registration of wells, impose fees for ground water management, and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

A Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) must make the groundwater basin sustainable within a 20 year period as defined by the State as a condition by which the maximum extraction of ground water withdrawn without causing undesirable results. SGMA states, that if local agencies or the counties do not act, the State will step in and manage the ground water basin.

Please attend this important informational meeting to find out more information.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
10 AM-12 PM October 20, 2015  
Cottage/Pisano Room, Hutchins Street Square  
Lodi, CA