



Sierra Resource Conservation District would like to invite Scouts of America to participate in several ongoing and upcoming conservation projects throughout Eastern Fresno County.

Firewise Projects:

- **Firewise Garden Maintenance and Support** This native pollinator garden in Auberry serves as a “Firewise” landscape for educating the public on what measures they can take in their own gardens. Project work would look like watering or installing drip irrigation, garden maintenance, weed pulling and whacking, planting, creating educational signs, picnic tables, species monitoring etc.
- **Firewise Community Support**
 - Firewise Communities is a national neighbor helping neighbor program that Sierra RCD facilitates in Fresno County. As of 2026, there are 24 Firewise communities in Fresno County representing over 10,000 residents. Communities organize volunteer workdays, identify residents in need of support, and work together to reduce their community's wildfire risk. Project opportunities include participating in a community workday, supporting elderly/disabled residents with weed whacking, defensible space improvements, and home hardening upgrades such as installing mesh venting or emergency address signs.

Habitat Restoration

- **San Joaquin River Conservancy**
 - Sierra RCD is working with the San Joaquin River Conservancy to restore native habitat between Friant Dam and Highway 99. Project work includes fire fuels reduction, invasive species removal, seed collection, planting, and trail maintenance and development.
 - Participate in River Restoration Days on the 3rd Saturday of the month from October 2026-June 2027.
- **Pollinator Gardens**
 - Since 2023, Sierra RCD has established 4 pollinator gardens at community sites through Fresno County including at Sierra RCD’s Lanes and Auberry Office, Roosevelt High School and St. Mary Claret Church. This year, Sierra RCD will be planting 1,300 native plants this winter across four new pollinator gardens in Fresno County.



- Project work would look like site prep, trail building, installing drip irrigation, planting, mulching, laying cardboard, and maintenance after initial planting.
 - Sierra RCD hopes to create 3-5 pollinator gardens per year. If you know of sites where we can do this work, please let us know. Sites should generally be publicly accessible (schools, churches, parks, community sites, etc.)
- Hedgerow Installation and Maintenance
 - Sierra RCD supports farmers, ranchers and producers with restoring native habitat on working land to support beneficial native pollinators. This winter, Sierra RCD will create 10 new hedgerows throughout Fresno County.
 - Project work would look like planting, mulching, laying cardboard, flagging, and maintenance after initial planting
- Lost Lake and China Creek Park Habitat Enhancement Projects
 - Sierra RCD is collaborating with Fresno County Parks to enhance habitat at Lost Lake and China Creek Parks. China Creek Park has bimonthly workdays on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.
- Greenhouse and Nursery Support
 - Sierra RCD is establishing a native plant nursery to support local habitat restoration projects with locally sourced plants and seeds. The Nursery will be developed within the next year and will need support with
- Sierra High School Habitat Enhancement Project
 - Sierra RCD over the next three years will be converting grass lawns at Sierra High into drought tolerant native habitat. Additionally, Sierra RCD will restore a 25-acre nature trail on campus that once featured three outdoor classrooms.

Wood working, as needed

- Habitat Enhancement Projects and Pollinator gardens benefit from additional recreational and educational features such as benches, picnic tables, and educational signs. As well as habitat enhancements like bat boxes or owl boxes. These kinds of installments increase public engagement, education, and habitat value.

For more information contact:

Tanner Michaelson
Manager of Collective Impact
(559) 881-6729
TMichaelson@SierraRCD.com

Megan Bronson
Firewise Coordinator
(209) 587-0864
MBronson@SierraRCD.com