



calaverasgrown.org

Community & Forest Recovery Program

Weed-free rice straw for erosion control on your land

Take what you can use now; leave the rest for others!

Rice straw is highly effective in reducing erosion on burnt lands. This certified weed-free rice straw is made available by donations to CalaverasGROWN's Community and Forest Recovery Program.

How do I use straw for erosion control?

1. Plan

Determine the areas of your land that are most prone to erosion and most important to keep from eroding. Steep slopes above or below driveways and building pads are good places to start. It is also important to prevent erosion in stream courses and to prevent eroded soil from entering the waterways. Severely burned areas where the soil has been turned gray or white are most prone to erosion, but almost any slope that has burned has the potential for erosion once it starts raining. If you have grass or other native seeds, it is a good idea to spread them under the straw mulch before planting.

On steep slopes, branches and logs (from on-site) can also be placed perpendicular to the slope in a checkerboard pattern every 3 to 4 paces. These logs can be placed behind stumps, pegged with stakes made from sticks or dug slightly into the ground. They should have complete ground contact in order to be effective. Straw can then be spread over these mini-log terraces.

2. Mark and Spread

One bale of rice straw covers an area of approximately 800 square feet or 20' x 40' (approximately 8 paces by 16 paces). It is a good idea to measure and mark out the area to be covered before spreading the straw, so it can be spread efficiently and evenly, without using too much or too little. There is no need to be exact. The straw should be spread so that most of the stems are laying perpendicular to the contour.

3. Peg Into the Ground

It is also a good idea to peg the straw into the ground using a shovel wherever possible. After the straw is spread, come back through with a shovel and punch the straw into the soil at 1 foot intervals. This helps to keep the straw in place when heavy rains come.

4. Smile and Breathe

Know that you are protecting the soil, which sustains and supports our forest, which in turn helps to provide clean water in our wells, creeks and rivers, as well as habitat for wildlife and beauty for our community.

Donations Needed

If you have the means to donate to CalaverasGROWN's Community and Forest Recovery Program so we can keep the straw coming and get erosion under control in the Butte Fire burnarea, please visit the donation link on our website at www.calaverasGROWN.org or send a check to CalaverasGROWN, POB 2101, San Andreas CA 95249. CalaverasGROWN's cost is approximately \$4/bale plus substantial volunteer time, so please use them wisely and contribute to cover the cost if you can.

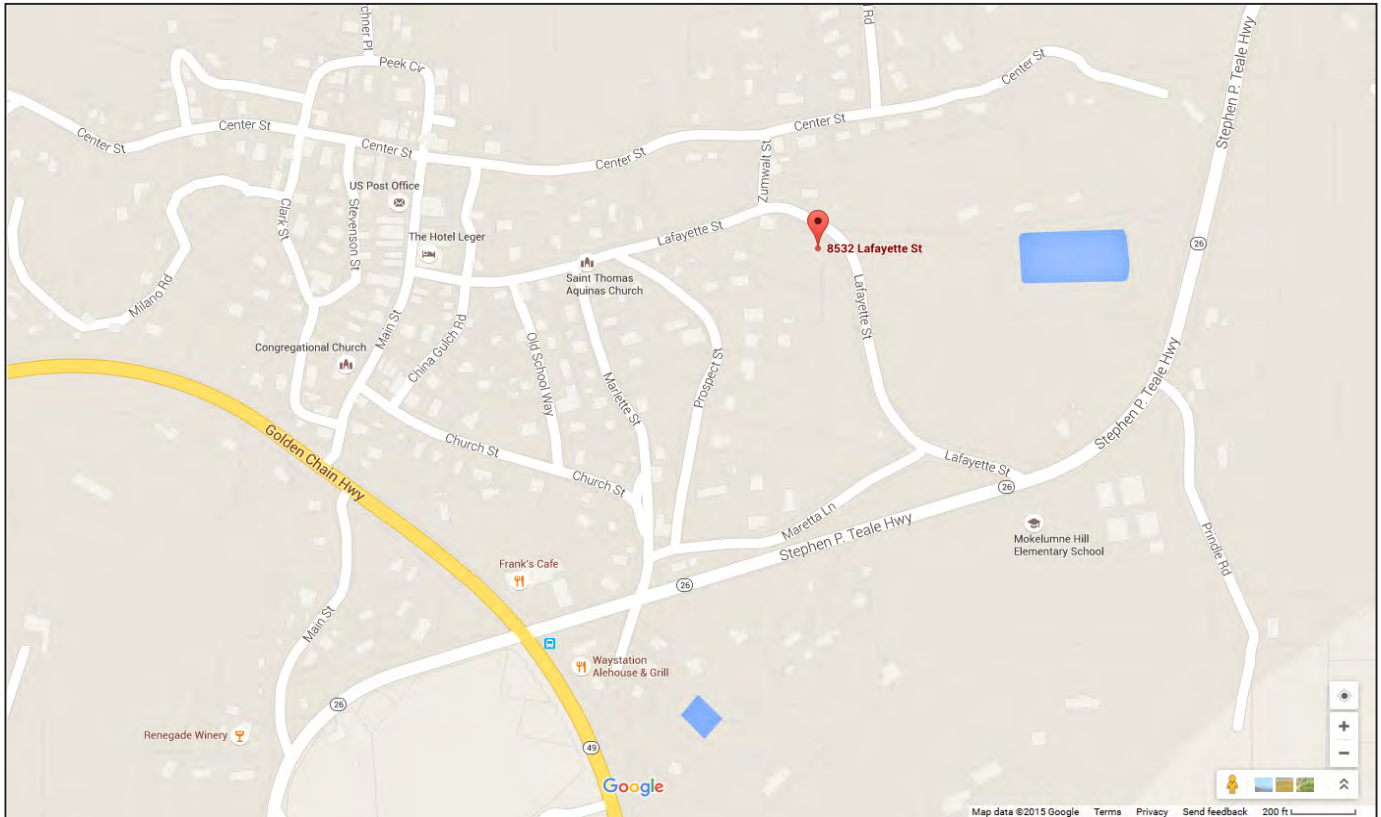
For more info: Contact CalaverasGROWN Director Sean Kriletich at (209) 498-8081 or info@calaverasgrown.org



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Pickup locations for rice straw

Equestrian Center, 8532 Lafayette St, Mokelumne Hill



Central Fire Station #1, Jesus Maria Rd.

