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# 86<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



On behalf of Board Chairman, Kevin Herman and his wife, Diane, we invite you to join your colleagues and industry friends at the California Fresh Fruit Association's 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at The Montage in beautiful Laguna Beach, March 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022!

Registration is now open, and for those who register by Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, there is a special rate of \$325 for a single registration and \$525 for a couple. As of December 18<sup>th</sup>, the registration standard price will be \$425 for a single and \$645 for a couple.

Registration includes Chairman's Welcome Reception, Industry Workshop, Annual Membership Meeting & Breakfast, Suppliers Party and access to the Hospitality Suite. Monday Afternoon Activity options include the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Bocce Ball Tournament, a Mixology Class, and the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Mila Caratan Golf Tournament.

There are two convenient ways to register for Annual Meeting; online using the registration link (http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=tcpx4zdab&oeidk=a07eim2peclf1bb329f), or submit the registration form to the Association's office via email, fax or mail.

We would like to thank all our initial sponsors for their support!



Once you have registered, <u>don't forget to book your hotel room</u> at The Montage Laguna Beach. The room block closes February 18<sup>th</sup>, but it may sell out before the cutoff date. We encourage you to make your reservation soon! Additional room information can be found here (https://book.passkey.com/event/50255105/owner/49640336/home).

Please be aware, all reservations will require a one-night, room/tax deposit. Any cancellations must be made by noon 14 days prior to arrival.

Sponsorships are available, with information available by visiting (https://files.constantcontact.com/35cbbf3f001/f3ed5382-2b32-4e3e-94d5-0f487afea666.pdf).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Courtney Razor at crazor@cafreshfruit.com.

#### CROP INSURANCE ENDORSEMENT



At the November meeting, the CFFA Board of Director's voted to continue the endorsement of **Rain and Hail Insurance Service, LLC**. for 2022. This is the 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of the partnership and both organizations truly value the

relationship.

All crop insurance companies operate with uniform rates and some growers may not be concerned about who their provider is. The Association would like to help you with that decision by recommending Rain and Hail Insurance because of its commitment to the agricultural industry and the company's financial strength.

Again, the Association recommends Rain and Hail Insurance for its members. Rain and Hail Insurance works with numerous agencies throughout California to provide this coverage.

Please be aware the crop insurance deadline for peaches, plums, nectarines, apricots, cherries, table grapes, pears and apples are January 31st, 2022.

If you have questions, please contact Ian LeMay at (559) 226-6330 or Craig Gonzales at (559) 224-2300.

### INPUT NEEDED FOR 2022 WAGE AND BENEFIT SURVEY

CFFA is conducting a wage and benefit survey among its membership to provide a market reference for Association members making important labor decisions for their businesses in 2022. Results from the survey will be compiled anonymously in an aggregated, tabulated manner based on commodity, contract labor, and type of operation.

To complete the survey, please see attached. If you have any questions, please contact Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

### UPDATE ON FEDERAL OSHA ETS VACCINE MANDATE

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued its Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) requiring all employers with 100 or more employees to adopt and implement a policy requiring their staff to get fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or to submit to weekly testing.

This rule has been challenged by a number of states and business groups, and on November 6<sup>th</sup> the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a temporary injunction against the implementation of the ETS. The government must file arguments by the close of business today before the Court can decide whether to issue a permanent injunction.

**Barsamian & Moody** has provided an overview of the ETS, should it be implemented. As of now, businesses are not required to comply with the ETS. CFFA will continue to monitor this issue and will inform membership as changes occur.

To read the memo, see attached (https://files.constantcontact.com/35cbbf3f001/9f55c7cb-76e0-4014- a828-b091ae4b7a05.pdf).

The goal of this article is to provide employers with current labor and employment law information. The contents should neither be interpreted as, nor construed as legal advice or opinion. The reader should consult with Barsamian & Moody at (559) 248-2360 for individual responses to questions or concerns regarding any situation.

If you have any issues or concerns, please contact Director of Government and Public Policy <u>Adam Borchard</u> at (559) 226-6330.

### CONGRESS PASSES BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 228-206 to pass the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. There were 13 House Republicans that joined 215 Democrats to pass the bill. The legislation previously passed the U.S. Senate on a 69-30 vote in August when 19 Republicans joined the majority Democrats.

The bill provides \$548 billion in added funds for infrastructure, spending \$944 billion over the next five years and \$1.2 billion over the next eight. Among the additional funding, \$110 billion will go for roads and bridges, \$66 billion for railways, \$17 billion for ports and waterways, \$65 billion for electric and power infrastructure, and \$65 billion for national broadband expansion.

The bill also includes \$8.3 billion specifically for Western water infrastructure investments, such as repairs to aging dams and canals, building new surface and groundwater storage and conveyance facilities, funding for water conservation and recycling projects, and enhancements to watershed management. Those funding provisions match the proposal advanced by a coalition of over 220 organizations representing Western farmers, ranchers, water providers, businesses, and communities who provide \$120 billion in agricultural production and represent 75 million Westerners. The coalition was led by the Family Farm Alliance, **Western Growers**, California Farm Bureau Federation, the Association of California Water Agencies, and the National Water Resources Association. CFFA was a member of the coalition and supported the funding for Western water infrastructure.

President Biden is expected to sign the legislation into law during the week of November 15<sup>th</sup>. For any questions, please contact Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

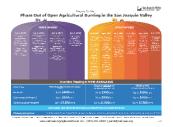
#### CFFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECAP

CFFA Chairman Kevin Herman (**The Specialty Crop Company**), conducted the November Board of Directors meeting at the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa on Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. The Board approved the following new members: **California Fig Advisory Board** (Madera, CA), **Der Manouel Insurance Group** (Fresno, CA), **Heliae Development** (Chandler, AZ), **Nutrien Ag Solutions** (Fresno, CA) and **Valley Republic Bank** (Bakersfield, CA).

The next Board of Directors meeting is set for Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at The Montage Laguna Beach in Laguna Beach, CA.

For further questions, please contact the Association at (559) 226-6330.

## PREPARE FOR AG BURNING PHASE OUT IN THE SAN JOAOUIN VALLEY



After nearly two decades of significant work to reduce agricultural burning in the San Joaquin Valley, the District and the California Air Resources Board have approved a strategy that will result in a near complete phase-out of all Valley agricultural burning by January 1, 2025. To meet this deadline, the Air

District has worked closely with agricultural stakeholders and leaders to bring new state funding to the Valley to help ensure that this phase-out is successful.

The Valley Air District Governing Board unanimously accepted \$178.2 million in new State funding directed to the San Joaquin Valley to launch an expanded grant program to assist farmers in phasing-out the open burning of woody waste through the use of new cleaner practices, including the chipping of material for incorporation into the soil and other cleaner alternatives.

The District encourages interested agricultural operators in the San Joaquin Valley to learn more about this funding and other available grants by visiting <a href="https://www.valleyair.org/grants">www.valleyair.org/grants</a> or by calling program staff at 559-230-5800. Click here/see attached to view the informational flyer.

For more information contact Director of Government and Public Policy Adam Borchard (aborchard@cafreshfruit.com).

# CFFA OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY

The Association office will be closed Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup> in honor of Veterans Day. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.



## CFFA OFFICE CLOSED IN HONOR OF THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

The CFFA office will be closed on Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, have a safe & happy holiday!

