



# LAND PRESERVATION & STEWARDSHIP

Napa County encompasses 504,450 acres with just 9 percent (45,000 acres) planted to vineyards. Nearly 90 percent of the county is under permanent or high levels of protection from development. Vintners play a leading role in preserving Napa Valley to ensure its pastoral beauty and natural environment exist for future generations.

In 1968, vintners and community leaders enacted the nation's first Agriculture Preserve protecting more than 32,000 acres. In the 1990, Napa County's Winery Definition Ordinance (WDO) went into effect, establishing strict guidelines that ensure winery activities are directly related to agriculture. The next year, conservation regulations, including the Hillside Farming Ordinance and the Stream Setback Ordinance, were put in place to further protect the local environment. In recent years, vintners have voluntarily given up private property, including vineyard land, to collaborate and restore large sections along the Napa River.

Through the Land Trust of Napa County, vintners and other property owners place land into Conservation Easements, dictating how designated parcels will be used in perpetuity. More than 65,000 acres are forever guaranteed for open space and agriculture. Another 75,000 acres are protected under the Williamson Act, providing incentives to keep land in ag and open space.

- 1968 Napa Valley Ag Preserve established
- 1990 Winery Definition Ordinance takes effect
- 1991 Conservation Regulations enacted

