



FARMING “GREEN” AT TREFETHEN FAMILY VINEYARDS

In our winery and estate vineyards in the Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley, we employ an array of sustainable practices and programs to conserve natural resources, protect and restore natural habitats, and ensure the safety and health of our employees, neighbors and customers.



OUR SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES INCLUDE

- Solar arrays produce clean energy for our operations—preventing the emission of 500 tons of greenhouse gases each year.
- Clean solar energy is coupled with our electric company cars for more sustainable travel.
- Harvesting our grapes during the early morning saves energy that otherwise would be expended to cool the juice in tanks, while simultaneously improving quality and keeping our employees out of the hot sun.
- All stems and pomace (skins & seeds) from our winery are combined with landscape prunings and manure from our horses to produce a rich compost that is returned to the vineyard.
- The water we do use for irrigation comes from sustainable sources including recaptured storm water, and recycled winery process water such as water used to wash tanks and barrels.
- Deficit irrigation and dry farming limit the water needed for the vines, significantly reducing our total water usage.
- Soil neutron probes scattered throughout our vineyard tell us how much water is available to the vines in the soil allowing us to make accurate irrigation decisions.
- Pests such as gophers and moths are controlled naturally with our integrated pest management system by installing barn owl houses and bat boxes. A family of owls will eat around 2,400 rodents a year.
- Cover crops are planted to sequester atmospheric carbon, enhance soil fertility, limit erosion, control vine vigor, attract beneficial insects, and add beauty to our surroundings.
- Our work in ecological restoration enhances wildlife habitat. For example, we have restored the stream bank along a creek adjacent to our vineyard to improve the spawning grounds of native Coho salmon.
- Employees enjoy full-time employment and a comprehensive benefit package that goes beyond medical, dental, 401k to also include fresh organic produce from our gardens and allocations of our estate wines.

RECOGNITION OF OUR GREEN PRACTICES

The passion for sustainability runs deep at Trefethen Family Vineyards, dating back to the original purchase of our property in 1968. When Gene Trefethen pieced together a couple ranches to create our main estate vineyard, he made a commitment to be an exceptional steward of the land. We continue to work daily with this mission and the reward is in the clean air we breathe, the smiling faces of our employees, the beautiful vineyard around us and the wines that speak for themselves. That said, it is always nice when others recognize your efforts...

Our vineyard has been certified Napa Green Land since 2006. The Napa Green Land program involves a comprehensive evaluation of farming practices with a particular emphasis on protecting fragile riparian areas.

In July of 2009, we became just the 15th winery in the Napa Valley to be certified a Napa Green Winery. This certification process involved close examination of how we reduce our waste, conserve energy and prevent pollution.

Our CEO, Jon Ruel, is known as an expert in the field of sustainable practices. He is often invited to speak on the topic and has sat on nationally recognized committees and agencies dealing with broad topics such as improving Bay Area air quality as well as specific issues such as vineyard water conservation.

Third generation member Hailey Trefethen manages our sustainability certifications answering hundreds of questions about our practices each year. She works with the rest of the team to continually improve our efforts each year. Additionally she is on the board of Napa Green, playing an active role in the regions sustainability efforts.



The green cover crop growing in the row middles in this Chardonnay block is a blend of barley and rye. We maintain cover crops in our vineyards to sequester atmospheric carbon, enhance soil fertility, limit erosion, control vine vigor, attract beneficial insects, and add beauty to our surroundings.

