



CHAPPELLET

Sustainable and Environmentally Conscious Practices

For 50 years, the Chappellets have been dedicated stewards of their land, working to honor the natural integrity of Napa Valley's Pritchard Hill. In practice, this stewardship has manifested itself as a committed focus on sustainable, organic and green practices, both in the vineyard and the winery. The following offers a select overview of key initiatives:

- The Chappellets have long been advocates of more environmentally conscious farming methods. Beginning in the early 1980s (long before the term sustainable was ever used), Chappellet was one of the first wineries to plant cover crops as a method for soil conservation and erosion prevention.
- One hundred percent of the grapes grown on the estate vineyard come from blocks that are farmed using organic methods. In 2012, the entire vineyard, totaling 102 acres, finished an extensive three-year certification process with the California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) and is now certified organic.
- The Chappellets have remained committed to maintaining the natural integrity of Pritchard Hill. Only a modest 16 percent of the 640-acre property is under vine, the rest remains uncultivated.
- Chappellet has an extensive on-site composting program. The winery produces approximately 150 tons of pomace (grape stems/skins/seeds) each year. This pomace is combined with roughly 25 tons of organic compost, called "Four Course Compost" that comes from Bay Area restaurants and businesses. Blending the two together yields over 175 tons of compost each growing season to enhance vineyard health and vitality.
- Chappellet is committed to water conservation. In 2011, it installed a state-of-the-art water processing system to purify all water used during wine production. This system uses natural biological organisms to separate organic matter from the process water. The new system allows Chappellet to return almost 100% of the process water (approx. 1 million gallons a year) to the vineyard for irrigation. Other than this, only run-off rainwater captured and saved in the winery's reservoir is used for irrigation.
- Chappellet's environmental commitment also extends to the winery. In 2008, Chappellet unveiled an ambitious solar project. Comprised of 960 individual solar modules capable of producing approximately 280,000 kilowatt hours per year, this 20,000-square-foot solar photovoltaic system generates enough energy to offset 100 percent of the winery's PG&E bill. Over a 30-year period it will have the amazing environmental benefit of reducing greenhouse gases by **4,513,275 lbs**. In practical terms this is the equivalent to planting over 40,000 trees.
- There are ten bird boxes in the vineyard as homes to barn owls, kestrels, sparrow hawks and bluebirds. These welcome residents help to naturally keep gopher, mole, vole and insect populations in check.
- The mechanical equipment used in the vineyards runs on 50 percent biodiesel.