



### *Sustainable and Environmentally Conscious Practices*

For more than 50 years, the Chappellets have been dedicated stewards of their land, working to honor the integrity of Pritchard Hill. 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.
- In 2012, the vineyard finished an extensive three-year certification process with the California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) and is now certified organic and certified Fish Friendly Farming.
- The Chappellets have remained committed to maintaining the natural beauty of Pritchard Hill. Only a modest 16% of the 640-acre property is under vine; the rest remains uncultivated.
- Chappellet has an extensive on-site composting program. Each year the winery turns 100 tons of pomace (grape stems/skins/seeds) into high-quality compost, which is used 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. This allows Chappellet to use almost 100% of the process water (approx. 1 million gallons a year) for irrigation. Other than this, only run-off rainwater captured in the winery's reservoir is used for irrigation. Chappellet has reduced water usage by using a system of in-field sensors, automated valves, monitoring devices, and gauges to distribute and monitor our water remotely.
- Chappellet's environmental commitment also extends to the winery. In 2008, Chappellet unveiled an ambitious solar project. Comprised of 960 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% of the winery's PG&E bill. Over a 30-year period it will have the environmental benefit of reducing greenhouse gases by 4,513,275 lbs. This is the equivalent to planting over 40,000 trees.
- There are 30 bird boxes in the vineyard that provide homes to barn owls, kestrels, sparrow hawks and bluebirds. These residents help to naturally keep gopher, mole, vole and insect populations in check. In cooperation with UC Davis and Cal Poly Humbolt, Chappellet is partaking in a study of native populations of bluebirds in order to learn about how to better utilize these native resources.
- Chappellet has created 15+ acres of shaded fuel breaks around roads and structures. Using sheep and goats, the understory of oak woodlands has been thinned, helping to create defensible space around valuable structures and roads. By removing dead, invasive, and low-lying material while carefully selecting native species to protect, the forests and valuable structures are both better protected from wildfire.