



# CENTRAL COAST VINEYARD TEAM

Promoting Sustainable Winegrowing

[www.vineyardteam.org](http://www.vineyardteam.org)

## Positive Points System Fast Facts

### WHAT:

The Positive Points System (PPS) is a voluntary 1000-point self-assessment used by winegrape growers to evaluate their use of sustainable vineyard practices.

### WHY:

The PPS helps growers assure they are farming in ways that protect both natural and human resources. The simple system enables growers to easily spot their strengths and areas in need of attention, then serves as a guide toward increased sustainability.

The PPS addresses these issues commonly associated with production agriculture:

- Protecting surface and groundwater quality
- Minimizing soil erosion
- Reducing risks associated with pesticides and agricultural chemicals
- Protecting worker safety
- Eliminating drift
- Conserving wildlife habitat

### HOW:

The CCVT Positive Points System was conceived and developed through a collaborative partnership of growers, wineries, cooperative extension, educators, consultants, and environmental professionals.

Because it is a self-assessment, growers can use the PPS to keep track of changes and monitor their own improvement. There is no cost to complete a PPS evaluation.

Since 1996, more than 750 evaluations have been completed by growers managing over 60,000 acres of vineyards on the Central Coast. CCVT's PPS program is currently being funded in part through grants from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. In addition, CCVT growers make generous contributions by donating their time, materials, land, and funds to support this project.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Become a community supporter or a business steward. For further information, visit [www.vineyardteam.org](http://www.vineyardteam.org) or call 805.369.CCVT (2288)

CCVT is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation

### SPECIAL PROJECTS:

#### Demonstration Projects

Help growers farm in a way that keeps soil and water in place, therefore protecting water quality, as well as, researching reduced risk pest management practices

#### Educational Programs for the Spanish Speaking Employees

An Interactive, hands-on approach that facilitates learning among the vineyard employees on issues of sustainability

*"The organization was developed and still directed by grower and winery input makes the CCVT unique. The PPS, in my opinion, remains the first and most comprehensive vineyard management guide promoting sustainable practices."*

Larry Bettiga  
University of California  
Cooperative Extension

*"The Positive Points System is a very innovative approach that involves the grower in assessing resource conditions on their operation – a much more meaningful approach than letting the "experts" point out problems. It also lets the growers track improvements or resource condition over time – a very valuable toll for the grower."*

Mary Lindquist  
Natural Resource Conservation  
Service

**Good for Growers • Good for the Environment • Good for the Community**

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