

September 17, 2020

Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District  
747 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 100  
Santa Rosa, CA, 95401

Nick Salvatore  
123 NW Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Dear Hiring Manager:

I am applying for the position of *Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District Agricultural Specialist*. With the mission of preserving natural ecosystems while also protecting farmers, I find this position exciting. In *Nature's Value in Sonoma County* on your website, you describe the importance of natural capital as something extremely valuable to society, and I couldn't agree more. I've been focused on how to achieve farming practices, while also maintaining the ecosystem since the beginning of my education. It's refreshing to see this balanced approach.

I can offer Sonoma County a diverse agricultural background, strong written and verbal communication skills, and a tenacity toward accomplishing my goals. My agricultural sciences degree gave me a wide range of skills including practical farming information, legal work, accounting, using computer software, grant writing, knowledge about our global food system, and the larger political issues surrounding food and land use. Immersing myself in many different subjects taught me how to adapt my learning style, and on your team, I see myself picking up your core business and needs quickly.

Additionally, when I am given a new task, I will work towards that goal by researching and doing whatever hands-on tasks are necessary to make it happen. For example, when I was working for Alphonse Farm, I initially didn't know anything about bee keeping. The owner wanted to begin an apiary without using chemicals to sustain the local honey bee population. I read books, found plans online to build hives, and built several swarm traps to catch wild bees. After setting the traps, I caught my first swarm and was able to establish a colony. Years later his vision of supporting the wild bee population has been successful because the hive is holding up well and propagating more colonies.

With hands on experience working with farmers, a qualified degree, and two permaculture design certificates, I can apply my personal experience and knowledge to benefit your team. I am very interested in an interview to further discuss my qualifications. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nick Salvatore