LAKE COUNTY
WINEGRAPE COMMISSION
NORTH COAST | CALIFORNIA

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July 31st, 2026

RE: 2026 Winegrower Harvest Reporting and Assessment Deadlines

Dear Lake County Winegrape Grower,

On behalf of the Lake County Winegrape Commission (LCWC), I am writing to provide you with the 2026 Winegrower Harvest Report form and the Custom Crush Assessment Report form, and to notify you of the 2026 assessment rate, submission requirements, and deadlines.

The Lake County Winegrape Commission (Crush District 2) is a California state agency responsible for promoting Lake County winegrapes and winegrape products. For the 2026 marketing season, the Commission's Board of Directors set the assessment rate at one percent (1%) of the gross dollar value on the sale of Crush District 2 winegrapes, juice, and bulk wine.

As a winegrape grower in Lake County, you are required by Commission law to report certain information. Pursuant to the legal authority granted in Commission law, we ask you and all other Lake County winegrape growers to provide us with the names of the vintners/buyers who purchase winegrapes from you and/or process winegrapes for you. We also ask you to report harvest information, custom crush information, and bulk sales data. ***Reporting is required, even if you didn't harvest a crop or believe your sales may be exempt.***[1]

Winegrape Assessment Payment and Reporting

The California Food and Agricultural Code requires that every vintner purchasing winegrapes from Crush District 2 winegrape growers withhold the assessment from grower payments and remit the assessment to the Lake County Winegrape Commission on the grower's behalf. Your buyers are required to deduct this assessment from payments made to you and then submit the assessment to the Commission.

For winegrape sales, grower reports and assessment payments from vintners are due by January 10, 2027. You are required to submit the annual Winegrower Harvest Report form; however, you are not required to remit the assessment payment unless your buyer refuses to do so. You are responsible for any assessment payments due and unpaid by your buyers.

The information you provide allows us to ensure your buyers have properly reported and remitted the required assessment payments on your behalf. Please complete one form per vineyard.

[1]*If you believe you are exempt from the payment of assessments, you may contact the Commission office to apply for an exemption. However, reporting is still required.*

Lake County Crush District 2 Winegrape Commission
3865 Main Street
Kelseyville, CA 95451
(707) 279-2633
www.lakecountywinegrape.org

Bulk Wine/Juice Assessment Payment and Reporting

The California Food and Agricultural Code requires growers to pay an assessment on winegrapes grown in Crush District 2 and custom crushed for growers. **You are required to remit the assessment payment to the Lake County Winegrape Commission.**

For bulk wine/juice sales, assessment payments are due within 30 days of each sale and must be accompanied by a Custom Crush Assessment Report form. Please use the enclosed form for all custom crush activity. This form must be submitted annually with your Winegrower Harvest Report and it also must accompany your bulk wine/juice assessment payments.

Enclosed please find both the 2026 Winegrower Harvest Report form and the Custom Crush Assessment Report form; these also are available online at: *www.lakecountywinegrape.org/growers/forms*
All information submitted is kept strictly confidential.

2026 Harvest Reports and Assessment Deadlines

- Winegrower Harvest Reports for harvest 2026 are due January 10, 2027.
- Assessment payments for harvest 2026 winegrape sales are due January 10, 2027.
- Custom Crush Assessment Reports are due January 10, 2027, **and** must accompany assessment payments for sales of juice/bulk wine.
- Assessment payments for sales of juice/bulk wine are due within 30 days after the sale.

Also, please be aware the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) may conduct vintner/winery/grower audits in order to verify the accuracy of assessment reports and payments to the Commission and compliance. The Commission and CDFA both understand the value of your time and do not anticipate these audits to be excessively burdensome. In the event you are selected for an audit, you will be given formal notice with ample time to schedule with CDFA.

These assessments fund the Commission's marketing, research, and education programs for the benefit of all Lake County growers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at (707) 279-2633 or *jenny@lakecountywinegrape.org*.

Sincerely,
LAKE COUNTY WINEGRAPE COMMISSION

Jenny Keller, President

Enclosures