



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

INTRODUCTION

Rocks District Winegrowers (RDW) is a non-profit association; consisting of vintners and winegrowers, as well as their industry-wide-trade supporters, who have come together with a common goal of promoting this singular appellation (The Rocks District of MiltonFreewater); located entirely on the Oregon side of the larger Walla Walla Valley AVA. Our Principles focus on the land, and the people committed to the realization of global positioning for this distinctive appellation.



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TERROIR

PEOPLE

FARMING

WATER

BALANCE

LEGACY




TERROIR

We recognize and embrace the alluvial fan depositions and nature of our cobbled soil(s) as well as climate eccentricities; meeting the measure of specialized farming practices, given its world-recognized, and pre-dominant, Freewater Soil Series, and with the goal of producing wines of distinctive/singular character.

PEOPLE


We acknowledge the critical contributions of vineyard and winery workers, and are mindful of their health, well-being, and ability to realize a living wage and gain healthcare. We further recognize the importance of the community-at-large; the overall vitality and well-being of Milton-Freewater.





FARMING

We acknowledge the rarity of these soils and the importance of stewardship of this land; farming with minimal intervention, being intentional with our methods/practices, while reducing (eliminating when possible) dependence on inputs (especially on environmentally-sensitive agricultural chemicals). We recognize that these farming practices also mean finding and maintaining a healthy balance (yields) in the vineyard; building upon the singularly expressive quality of these soils and the wines produced.






WATER

We pledge to minimize our impact on the waters that flow through our AVA, and are committed to preserving water quality and volumes.

BALANCE

While committing to finding/maintaining balance in our vineyards, we are, simultaneously, mindful of our role in maintaining our personal balance with the earth and all living things upon it.





LEGACY

We strive to leave a legacy that not only consists of world-class winegrowing, but of preserving the land for generations to come. In this regard, we support VIT TECH, a forum presented in conjunction with Oregon State University Extension in MiltonFreewater, open to all winegrowing professionals within Walla Walla Valley, where cutting-edge farming practices/solutions are presented and discussed.

