John Rivenburgh
RW – Rivenburgh Wine

John Rivenburgh is winemaker/grape grower and co-founder of Bending Branch Winery, established in 2009, and he's a fifth-generation Texan.

He made the first Texas wine under the Bending Branch label in 2008. He's made wine in each successive vintage, growing the program from 1 to 27 wines and approximately 15,000 cases per year.

He has pioneered new grape varieties for the state that have been picked up by other wineries, including Tannat, Sagrantino, Souzao, Charbono, and Picpoul Blanc.

John is a champion of sustainable practices and organic growing in Texas. He has used groundbreaking technology in winemaking, including using flash détente and cryomaceration.

John is active within the industry. He helped lay the groundwork for the Texas Hill Country Wineries Association. During his three-year tenure as Member at Large, Vice President and President of the Texas Hill Country Wineries, the group doubled in size and matured from a small wine trail to a large industry organization. He was integral in developing the Hill Country Growers Committee and bringing more education and research to establish more grape growers within the state.

He was Member at Large and Treasurer for the Texas Wine & Grape Growers Association, and he has served on the Legislative Committee for three years. During that time, John has been instrumental in furthering growth of the state's wine industry, and he helped develop the bill that re-established the Texas Department of Agriculture Commissioner's Advisory Panel for the Texas wine industry.

John's new company, Rivenburgh Wine, is a wine consulting firm.