



The Splash

Fall 2010

Member Meetings:
Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7pm
San Leandro Main Library
For more info: www.fslc.org

Creek Update

Alameda County Public Works is in the planning stages of a project to remove or trim hazardous trees from certain points along the creek between MacArthur Blvd and E. 14th Street. After a series of public meetings and input from Creekside residents, ACPW will proceed with a plan and time line for the project. For more information visit: www.acgov.org/pwa

Education Programs

Over 350 K-6th grade students visited the creek at Root park during the 2009-2010 school year as part of FSLC's Watershed Education Program. Kids learned about storm water pollution prevention and other ways to keep the creek and watershed clean and healthy by doing water quality testing, looking at aquatic invertebrates, and seeing first-hand how stormwater runoff flows into the creek. Students even picked up trash and removed non-native, invasive plants from the creek.



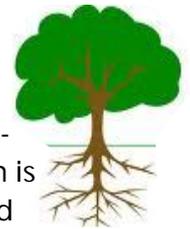
FSLC would like to thank The Watershed Project for their generous grant that funded new education program supplies for the 2009/2010 school year.



Volunteers Needed

We need for volunteers to help us monitor San Leandro Creek and to do fish surveys. If you want to become more involved in the community while learning about the local environment, this might be the volunteer activity you've been looking for. Monitoring includes water quality testing and observing conditions in and around the creek. Monitoring will be held one Saturday a month. Fish surveys will begin in November and will occur weekly. No experience required, just an interest in creek ecology and a desire to learn. If you're interested please contact Laurey Hemenway at laureyh@fslc.org or call 510-577-6069.

What Is Riparian?



Riparian refers to the transitional zone between fresh water and land. It's characterized by certain vegetation, but riparian is not just about plants and trees. It is a fluid system, in more ways than one, of currents, sediment deposition, and fluctuating water levels that constantly carve and alter the stream channel. This progressive alteration gives rise to a constantly changing landscape.

In a riparian zone, soil plays a vital role as it acts like a sponge. The soil can hold enormous amounts of water for days or weeks after a storm. Plants draw upon this water as it's gradually released from the soil into the stream. Along with seeps and springs from groundwater, this is what keeps streams flowing, even when it hasn't rained in months. This is how riparian areas stay lushly green and hydrated year-round, even when surrounding areas like grasslands, chaparral, or oak woodlands are dry.

Continued on back

Friends of San Leandro Creek is a 105(c)(3) non-profit organization made up of citizens, students, and businesses dedicated to improving community understanding and awareness of San Leandro Creek and its watershed.

Officers and Board of Directors:

T.W. "Rick" Richards, President, Dave Owen, Vice President, Jan Woycheshin, Secretary, Paul Woycheshin, Treasurer, Claudia Taurean, Membership Coordinator

Other Representatives: Laurey Hemenway, Watershed Awareness Coordinator/Newsletter Editor, Chris Richards, Webmaster

Watershed Wildlife Sightings

Root Park

American Robin
California towhee
Tiger Swallowtail
Hooded oriole
Red-shouldered hawk
House finch
Black Phoebe

*We want to know
what's out there.*



To report your wildlife sightings in the San Leandro Creek watershed please email laureyh@fslc or call 510-577-6069.

Lake Chabot

Yellow-rumped warbler
Grey fox
Red-tailed hawk
Black-tailed deer
Stellar's jay
Double-crested cormorant
Canada goose



Tiger swallowtail butterfly

riparian continued,

You can pick out a riparian zone by its distinct canopy dominated by deciduous (seasonally green) species with broad and soft-textured leaves that create a clear, visual distinction between the riparian corridor and adjacent uplands.

Riparian zones are species-rich with willow, cottonwood, walnut, ash, oak, sycamore, and California bay trees creating a diverse canopy that supports many species of wildlife. The understory, or smaller shrubs and plants like wild grape, blackberry, and poison oak hold the soil in place, preventing erosion and supporting wildlife. It is this diversity that makes riparian zones highly productive, able to support a greater diversity of wildlife than any other habitat in California.◉

Upcoming Events & Activities

Annual Creek Cleanup

September 18, 9:30am-12:30pm at Root Park

Creek Restoration Day

Saturday, October 16, 9:30-12:30 at Root Park

Watershed Hike

Saturday, November 13, 9am-12pm at Lake Chabot

For more information on all our activities visit our website at www.fslc.org

**We're on the web
www.fslc.org**



The San Leandro Creek Watershed Awareness Program is a comprehensive watershed education program funded by Alameda County Flood Control and Conservation District, with additional support from the City of San Leandro and implemented by Friends of San Leandro Creek. Thank you to the following for your continued support: Alameda County Industries, Alameda County Public Works, Robert and Lois C. Braddock Charitable Foundation, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and FSLC Members and Volunteers.



Only Rain Down The Storm Drain!

Friends of the San Leandro Environment
Friends of San Leandro Creek
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Phone: 510.577.6069



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newsletter!
Thank you.

