

PLEASE JOIN US & SHARE YOUR INPUT

Every ten years, Valley Water seeks regulatory agency re-authorization to conduct Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) work to help maintain creeks. On June 16, 2022 Valley Water will host a scoping meeting to get public comments on a California Environmental Quality Act document to be prepared for the SMP.

You can also participate via our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/scvwd. A Facebook account is not necessary to participate in the meeting.



June 16, 2022
5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Valley Water Headquarters
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118



Crews work to strengthen Guadalupe River upstream of San Carlos Street in San Jose.



Valley Water

Santa Clara Valley Water District
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San José, CA 95118-3686
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Envíe un correo electrónico a Translations@valleywater.org si tiene preguntas sobre este documento.

Vui lòng liên hệ với Translations@valleywater.org nếu bạn có thắc mắc về tài liệu này.

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We are working in your neighborhood creeks!



we have responsibility. Priority F provides funding for Valley Water to conduct vegetation management and sediment removal work to maintain creeks' design flows in areas where we have responsibility. The funding for this work is critical as it helps enhance and establish habitat for wildlife and reduce flood risks to our communities. Thank you for your investment.

Details on the renewed Safe, Clean Water Program can be found at safecleanwater.org. For more information on the Stream Maintenance Program, please visit our website at <https://delivr.com/2gpuq> or call Valley Water at **(408) 265-2600**. Keep debris and trash out of our streams. If you see trash polluting a creek, pond, or reservoir, call **1 (888) 510-5151**.

TYPES OF STREAM MAINTENANCE PROGRAM WORK

Bank protection

High and sustained water flows can cause extensive damage to creek banks, eroding existing flood protection improvements and natural elements. Repairing creek banks also help protect neighboring homes and property from damage.

Sediment removal

Sediment and debris washed downstream can restrict water flow in some areas. During a heavy storm, these restricted flow areas could cause water to back up, which can increase the risk of flooding. Crews remove sediment to allow stormwater to flow through the creeks as designed. To the extent possible, Valley Water reuses sediment for environmental purposes and to reduce disposal costs.

Vegetation management

Valley Water crews manage over 3,000 acres of instream and upland vegetation each year. Selective removal of instream vegetation maintains flow conveyance in streams and riparian corridors. Managing upland vegetation restores maintenance access and maintains fire code compliance given the county's drought conditions and ongoing challenges of climate change. Valley Water's vegetation management work is crucial in helping to reduce fire risk.

Mitigation

Valley Water implements mitigation projects to offset impacts associated with some of the bank protection, sediment removal, and vegetation management work. Mitigation projects can include:

- **Riparian planting:** Enhances and establishes habitat for birds, amphibians, fish, and other terrestrial and aquatic species living in creek corridors to compensate for the unavoidable riparian impacts created by sediment removal, bank protection, and vegetation management activities. Invasive and non-native annuals and grasses that compete with native plants are removed. Vegetation that meets the habitat needs of the project site with the highest likelihood of surviving and thriving is planted. Valley



Before: Sediment build-up on San Tomas Aquino Creek downstream of Highway 101.



After: Crews completed the removal of sediment from San Tomas Aquino Creek to allow stormwater to flow safely.

YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

In November 2020, voters in Santa Clara County overwhelmingly approved Measure S, a renewal of Valley Water's Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, first approved in 2012. The renewed program identifies the following six key community priorities, established with input from tens of thousands of residents and stakeholders:

- A** Ensure a Safe, Reliable Water Supply.
- B** Reduce Toxins, Hazards and Contaminants in our Waterways.
- C** Protect our Water Supply and Dams from Earthquakes and Other Natural Disasters.
- D** Restore Wildlife Habitat and Provide Open Space.
- E** Provide Flood Protection to Homes, Businesses, Schools, Streets and Highways
- F** Support Public Health and Public Safety for Our Community.

Water will monitor and maintain the area for five to seven years to ensure the project is successful.

- **Invasive plant management:** Plant species such as Algerian ivy, Cape ivy, Himalayan blackberry, tree of heaven, and giant reed, are removed because they present a significant threat to the ecosystem. These plants spread aggressively and can negatively alter wildlife patterns, soil stability, and water quality. Invasive plants can increase the risk of flooding and fire danger, undermine structural assets, and obstruct access to roads, levees, and trails.
- **Instream habitat improvement:** Work is done to address the impacts of removing sediment and large woody debris from certain streams. This can include adding rocks and logs or root wads to the creek to create higher quality habitat for fish and other species.
- **Compensatory mitigation:** Is the restoration, establishment, enhancement, or preservation of natural resources to replace resources impacted by maintenance activities. In addition to the above work types, compensatory mitigation may include restoring creek banks or floodplains impacted by illegal excavations.

We are working in your neighborhood creeks!



STREAM MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

As part of its Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), Valley Water (Santa Clara Valley Water District) plans to perform work along creeks across Santa Clara County in 2022. Under the SMP, work occurs annually to reduce the risk of flooding and fire, keep our creeks healthy, and improve the environment. There are over 800 miles of creeks in Santa Clara County, and Valley Water owns and manages about 275 miles of those streams. Portions of these streams are inspected and prioritized for maintenance projects each year through the SMP.

For decades, our crews have been trekking into streams to remove sediment build-up, manage vegetation, clear trash and debris, and stabilize banks that have eroded during high water flows. Work to reduce fire danger continues to be necessary, especially given the county's extreme drought conditions and the ongoing challenges of climate change. The SMP ensures streams with completed flood protection projects continue to function and protect homes, businesses, schools, and highways.

The projects listed in this brochure are part of this season's proposed work. Pending state and federal regulatory approvals, work on these projects can only be conducted within a limited work window between June 15, 2022 and October 15, 2022. In some instances, Valley Water may request and receive work extensions beyond October 15 to

complete projects. Other work, including minor maintenance and vegetation management projects, can occur year-round.

WHAT TO EXPECT AND SAFETY

Work on SMP projects typically occurs Monday through Friday, but Saturday work may be necessary to complete specific tasks. Work hours are set by local city ordinances, with work generally occurring between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Our crews strive to be courteous and follow safe practices with all neighbors. Any work before 8 a.m. will be limited to preparation activities with minimal noise impact.

Access to recreation is vital to many of us. In some cases, trails will be temporarily closed for public and workers' safety. Please comply with all construction signage and fencing to avoid entering active work areas where large equipment and personnel will be working. Trespassers place themselves and workers in danger as onsite crews operating large equipment or focused on work activities may not be able to see or hear trespassers.

SMP work is funded in part by the Safe, Clean Water Program. Priority D provides funding for Valley Water to conduct mitigation site maintenance on native plant revegetation projects in creeks where

Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Map



*Note: The information on this page has been provided by Valley Water staff for SMP work anticipated to be conducted in 2022. While Valley Water will make every effort to undertake these projects, work may not be undertaken for multiple reasons, including delays in receipt of regulatory agencies' approvals, wildlife considerations, unforeseen site conditions, and unavailability of resources, among other circumstances.

**Note: For Santa Clara County creeks that flow toward Monterey Bay (i.e., creeks in the Pajaro Watershed, including Uvas Creek and Llagas Creeks and their tributaries), in general, the terms, "upstream of" and "downstream of" can be further understood as "north of" and "south of," respectively. For Santa Clara County creeks that flow toward San Francisco Bay (i.e., creeks not in the Pajaro Watershed), in general, the terms, "upstream of" and "downstream of" can be further understood as "south of" and "north of," respectively.

Graphic representation is for reference only and not intended as a technical exhibit. Map not to scale.

2022 SMP projects*

No.	City(s)	Type of Work	Name of Project**
1	Campbell, Los Gatos	Vegetation Management	Los Gatos Creek, from Blossom Hill Road to Campbell Avenue
2	Cupertino	Bank Repair	Regnart Creek downstream of Antoinette Drive
3	Cupertino	Bank Repair	Regnart Creek upstream of Antoinette Drive
4	Gilroy	Bank Repair	Llagas Creek downstream of Bloomfield Avenue
5	Gilroy	Sediment Removal	Jones Creek downstream of Highway 152
6	Gilroy	Mitigation	Uvas Creek upstream of Miller Avenue
7	Los Altos	Mitigation	Stevens Creek downstream of Fremont Avenue
8	Los Gatos	Bank Repair	Ross Creek downstream of Camino del Cerro
9	Los Gatos	Mitigation	Smith Creek upstream of Granada Way
10	Milpitas	Multiple types	Piedmont Creek upstream of Vista Way
11	Milpitas	Bank Repair	Coyote Creek upstream of McCarthy Boulevard
12	Milpitas	Mitigation	Coyote Creek upstream of McCarthy Boulevard
13	Mountain View	Bank Repair	Stevens Creek upstream of Middlefield Road
14	Mountain View	Sediment Removal	Stevens Creek upstream of Middlefield Road
15	Palo Alto	Sediment Removal	Matadero Creek downstream of Louis Road
16	Palo Alto	Bank Repair	Adobe Creek at Baylands
17	San Jose	Sediment Removal	Guadalupe River downstream of US Highway 101
18	San Jose	Sediment Removal	Guadalupe River upstream of Coleman Avenue
19	San Jose	Bank Repair	Canoas Creek downstream of Nightingale Drive
20	San Jose	Bank Repair	Canoas Creek upstream of Hillsdale Avenue (Site 1)
21	San Jose	Bank Repair	Canoas Creek upstream of Hillsdale Avenue (Site 2)
22	San Jose	Bank Repair	Canoas Creek downstream of Albion Drive
23	San Jose	Bank Repair	Ross Creek downstream of Leigh Avenue
24	San Jose	Sediment Removal	Lower Silver Creek upstream and downstream of Story Road
25	San Jose	Sediment Removal	Berryessa Creek downstream of Piedmont Road
26	San Jose	Bank Repair	Miguelita Creek downstream of Jackson Avenue
27	San Jose	Bank Repair	Sierra Creek upstream of Knights Bridge Road
28	San Jose	Multiple types	Norwood Creek downstream of White Road
29	San Jose	Mitigation	Calabazas Creek downstream of Highway 85
30	San Jose	Mitigation	Berryessa Creek upstream of Morrill Avenue
31	San Jose	Mitigation	Upper Penitencia Creek upstream of Piedmont Road to Noble Avenue
32	San Jose	Vegetation Management	Alamitos Creek upstream of Almaden Lake
33	San Jose	Vegetation Management	Alamitos Creek, from Camden Avenue to Greystone Creek confluence
34	Santa Clara	Sediment Removal	San Tomas Aquino Creek downstream of Agnew Road
35	Santa Clara	Bank Repair	Calabazas Creek downstream of Highway 237
36	Santa Clara	Bank Repair	Guadalupe River upstream of Tasman Drive
37	Santa Clara	Sediment Removal	Guadalupe River at Montague Expressway
38	Saratoga	Sediment Removal	Calabazas Creek downstream of Corner Drive
39	Saratoga	Mitigation	Calabazas Creek downstream of Union Pacific Railroad