

Names and Locations of Streams in the 2009 Stream Maintenance Program

Rohnert Park/Cotati

STREAM NAME	LOCATION
Coleman Creek	Near Fairway Drive
Five Creek	Snyder Lane to Crane Creek
Crane Creek	Five Creek to Hinebaugh Creek
Copeland Creek	Upstream of Snyder Lane
Copeland Creek	Laguna de Santa Rosa to Redwood Drive
Copeland Creek	Country Club Drive to Seed Farm Drive
Cotati Creek	Valparaiso Road to Old Redwood Hwy.
Laguna de Santa Rosa	Copeland Creek to Stony Point Road
Laguna de Santa Rosa	Redwood Drive to Copeland Creek
Laguna de Santa Rosa	Stony Point Road to Llano Road
Gossage Creek	Lowell Ave. to Laguna de Santa Rosa
Crane Creek	Snyder Lane to Five Creek
Bellevue-Wilfred Channel	Railroad tracks to Millbrae Ave.
Gossage Creek	Hwy. 116 to Stony Point Road

Santa Rosa

STREAM NAME	LOCATION
Coffey Creek	Piner Road to Piner Creek
Piner Creek	Fulton Road to Santa Rosa Creek
Piner Creek	Marlow Road to Guerneville Road
Piner Creek	Railroad tracks to Marlow Road
Piner Creek	Hopper Road to Piner Road
Peterson Creek	Guerneville Road to Santa Rosa Creek
Peterson Creek	Upstream of Guerneville Road
Forestview Creek	Fulton Road to Country Manor Drive
Forestview Creek	Country Manor Drive to Guerneville Road
Forestview Creek	Guerneville Road to Peterson Creek
Abramson Creek	Guerneville Road to Santa Rosa Creek
Santa Rosa Creek	Fulton Road to Willowside Road
Paulin Creek	Hwy. 101 to Hardies Lane
Paulin Creek	Coffey Lane to railroad tracks
Paulin Creek	Railroad tracks to Steele Lane
Steele Creek	Ridley Ave. to Marlow Road
Steele Creek	Upstream of Guerneville Road
Steele Creek	Railroad tracks to gate at Guerneville Road
Russel Creek	Mendocino Ave. to Hwy. 101
Russel Creek	Range Ave. to Piner Creek
Lorna Dell Creek	Upstream of Tachevah Drive
Todd Creek	Todd Road to Santa Rosa Ave.
Roseland Creek	Trombetta Street area to Stony Point Road
Roseland Creek	Stony Point Road to Ludwig Ave.
Roseland Creek	Upstream of Llano Road
Moorland Creek	Todd Road to Cresco Court
Colgan Creek	Bellevue Ave. to Stony Point Road
Austin Creek	Upstream of Jack London Drive to Middle Rincon Road
Santa Rosa Creek	Pierson Street to Stony Point Road
Spring Creek	Mayette Ave. to Yulupa Ave.
Spring Creek	Yulupa Ave. to Franquette Ave.
Hunter Creek	Hunter Lane to Todd Creek
Colgan Creek	Stony Point Road to Todd Road
Ducker Creek	Middle Rincon Road to Rinconada Drive

Sonoma

STREAM NAME	LOCATION
Nathanson Creek	Bypass channel

Petaluma

STREAM NAME	LOCATION
Corona Creek	Along railroad tracks to Hwy. 101
Corona Creek	McDowell Blvd. to Hwy. 101
Corona Creek	Old Redwood Hwy. to Hwy. 101
Capri Creek	Sonoma Mountain Pkwy. to Maria Drive
East Washington Creek	Upstream of Garfield Drive
East Washington Creek	Ely Blvd. to McGregor Ave.
Adobe Creek	South McDowell Blvd. to Lakeville Hwy.
Washington Creek	Hwy. 101 to Madison Street
Lichau Creek	Old Redwood Hwy. to McDowell Blvd.
Lichau Creek	McDowell Blvd. to Hwy. 101
Jessie Lane Creek	Petaluma Blvd. to the Petaluma River

Windsor

STREAM NAME	LOCATION
Faught Creek	Aimee Drive to Old Redwood Hwy.
Windsor Creek	Brooks Road to Natalie Drive

Sediment Removal

STREAM NAME	LOCATION
Colgan Creek	Santa Rosa: miscellaneous locations
Starr Creek Tributary	Windsor: Buckingham Drive
Washington Creek	Petaluma: Hwy. 101 to Madison Ave.
Adobe Creek Sediment Basin	Petaluma
Wilfred Channel	Rohnert Park: Snyder Lane to Wilfred Extension Confluence
Five Creek	Rohnert Park: Snyder Lane to Crane Creek
Crane Creek	Rohnert Park: Five Creek to Hinebaugh Creek
Copeland Creek	Rohnert Park: Snyder Lane to Country Club Drive
Cotati Creek	Cotati: near Old Redwood Hwy.

At right, removal of accumulated sediment from a concrete box-culvert



Bank Repair

STREAM NAME	LOCATION: SANTA ROSA
College Creek	Upstream of Marlow Road
Peterson Creek	Near Guerneville Road
Piner Creek	Upstream of Piner Road



Environment and Recreation

Our commitment to routine annual maintenance for flood protection has not wavered since the 1960s, when many of our stream and channel facilities were constructed. SCWA's approach to stream maintenance has evolved beyond flood management, however, and now includes multiple objectives, such as resource protection and environmental sustainability.

Agency biologists supervise maintenance work to ensure compliance with federal laws and regulations, such as the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, as well as state laws and regulations administered by the Department of Fish and Game and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Maintaining compliance requires an extensive authorization process each year for SCWA's planned maintenance activities.

The Agency takes advantage of its role as a steward of local streams by planting native trees not only to improve flood protection and wildlife habitat but also to reduce greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, in an effort to combat global warming.

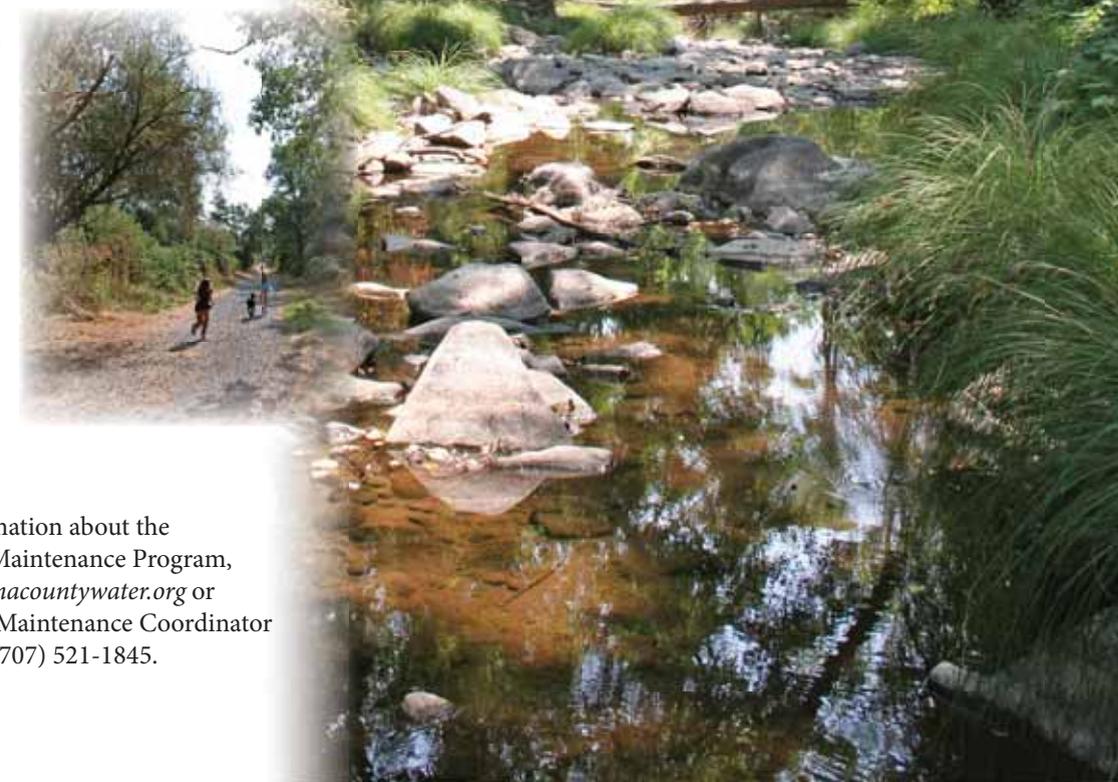
Public access to paths and trails along streams allows outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy the natural beauty of our region. SCWA works with other government and non-government entities to increase and improve public access and to connect trails for a variety of outdoor uses, such as hiking, bicycling, and jogging.



For more information about the SCWA Stream Maintenance Program, visit www.sonomacountywater.org or contact Stream Maintenance Coordinator Jon Niehaus at (707) 521-1845.

SONOMA COUNTY
WATER AGENCY

Stream Maintenance Program



Stream Maintenance Program

IMPROVING *Water Quality* AND *Flood Protection* IN OUR STREAMS

WHILE PROVIDING *Wildlife Habitat* AND *Recreation* FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Each summer the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) works in and around streams throughout Sonoma County, removing sediment and garbage and planting trees. Riparian canopies—mature trees surrounding a stream—provide shade, which helps cool the water and shade out less desirable plant species.

Stream maintenance activities support a proactive regional approach to flood protection and stream and wildlife habitat restoration. Stream maintenance also offers our community the access and the infrastructure needed to enjoy streams for recreational activities.

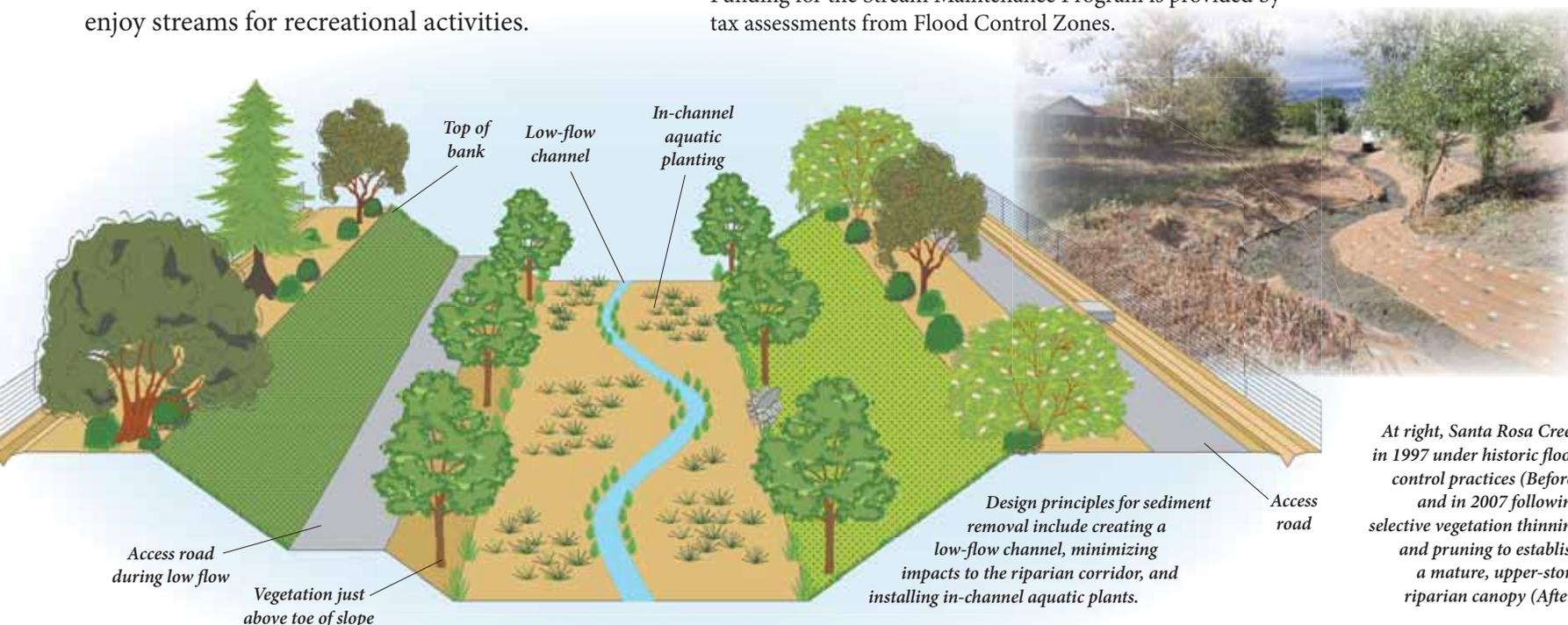
Maintaining Our Waterways

SCWA maintains approximately 75 miles of engineered flood control channels in Sonoma County. Such channels are designed and constructed to provide a specific level of flood protection, such as for a 25-, 50-, or 100-year flood event. The channels are located primarily near Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Windsor, Petaluma, and Sonoma. The Agency also has discretionary hydraulic easements to maintain approximately 150 miles of modified and natural streams. Such easements give SCWA the right, but not the obligation, to conduct maintenance activities (typically vegetation and debris removal) on private property to maintain the hydraulic capacity of both natural and modified streams (those that have been improved for local drainage but are not designed to provide a specific level of flood protection). You can view maps of these easements at www.sonomacountywater.org.

Funding for the Stream Maintenance Program is provided by tax assessments from Flood Control Zones.

At right, sediment removal in Hinebaugh Creek that improves flood protection while maintaining the riparian canopy

Below, a completed sediment removal project that includes a sinuous low-flow channel and preserves existing trees



At right, Santa Rosa Creek in 1997 under historic flood control practices (Before) and in 2007 following selective vegetation thinning and pruning to establish a mature, upper-story riparian canopy (After)



Sediment Removal

SCWA works to remove excess sediment from engineered flood channels when streams are driest, usually from June 15 to October 15. The preferred approach is to use the most reasonable, time-efficient method with the least environmental impact that is not cost-prohibitive. The Agency is progressively pursuing opportunities to improve channel function and conduct maintenance activities that are self-sustaining and will require less maintenance in the future.

Stream Bank Stabilization

SCWA routinely repairs and stabilizes banks along its engineered channels. Eroding banks that are not repaired will continue to destabilize and deposit sediment into the waterways. Maintenance activities include minimizing hardscape by back-filling with soil, installing erosion-control fabric, seeding with grasses, and planting native trees to provide shade and additional stability.

Vegetation Management

The Agency's vegetation management practices involve restoring local streams into waterways that provide not only flood protection but also good water quality and habitat for wildlife. The goal is to establish a mature riparian canopy with alders, maples, and other trees that grow tall and stretch their branches over the water. This is conducted in a phased approach by selectively thinning brush and multi-trunk tree species on stream banks and planting single-trunk, canopy-forming trees. A mature riparian canopy will reduce the level of routine maintenance required over the long term.

Vegetation management activities also include mowing; tree pruning; willow pruning and removal; blackberry, cattail, ludwigia, and exotics removal; and nursery-stock tree planting. These efforts are overseen by a biologist, a certified arborist, or other qualified personnel.

Other Maintenance Activities

- ▶ Access road maintenance
- ▶ Culvert repair and installation
- ▶ Trash and debris removal
- ▶ Fence maintenance
- ▶ Graffiti removal

At right, debris blocking a stream

