



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID SAN JOSE, CA PERMIT NO. 1231

# We are working in your neighborhood creeks!

### **STREAM MAINTENANCE PROGRAM**



As part of its Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) plans to perform work along creeks across Santa Clara County in 2019. Under the SMP, work occurs annually to improve the environment, reduce the risk of flooding and keep our communities safe.

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. The SMP ensures streams with completed flood protection projects continue to function as designed to protect homes and businesses. Valley Water owns and manages about 275 miles of streams. Each year, portions of these streams are inspected and prioritized for maintenance projects.

The projects listed in this brochure are part of this season's proposed work. Pending state and federal regulatory approvals, work on these projects will continue through October 15, 2019. In some instances, Valley Water may request and receive work extensions beyond October 15 to complete projects. Other work including minor maintenance, riparian planting, invasive plant removal, and other vegetation management projects can occur year-round.

# What to Expect

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

Si habla español y tiene preguntas sobre el contenido de este mensaje por favor de comunicarse con José Villarreal al JVillarreal@valleywater.org o (408) 630-2879.

Nếu ban nói tiếng Việt và có thắc mắc về nôi dụng của thông báo này, xin vui lòng liên hệ với Ngoc Nguyen tại NNguyen@valleywater.org hoặc (408) 630-2632.

如果你說中文並對上述訊息有疑問, 請聯繫 Sarah Young, 電郵 SYoung@valleywater.org, 或者電話: (408) 630-2468

# We are working in your **neighborhood creeks!**

# 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 helps protect neighboring homes and property from damage.

#### Sediment removal

Sediment and debris washed downstream can restrict the flow of water in some areas. During a heavy storm, these areas of restricted flow could cause water to back up, increasing the risk of flooding. Crews remove sediment to allow storm water to flow through the creeks as designed.

#### Vegetation management

Each year, Valley Water crews manage over 3,000 acres of instream and upland vegetation. Selective removal of instream vegetation maintains flow conveyance in streams and riparian corridors. Managing upland vegetation restores maintenance access and maintains fire code compliance.

Invasive plant species, such as Algerian ivy, cape ivy, Himalayan blackberry, tree of heaven and giant reed, are also removed because they present a major threat to the ecosystem. These plants thrive and 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.

### Riparian planting

Riparian planting enhances and establishes habitat for birds, amphibians, fish and other terrestrial and aquatic species living in creek corridors. Our riparian planting program compensates for the riparian impacts created by sediment removal, bank stabilization, and vegetation management activities.

Valley Water crews begin by removing invasive and non-native annuals and grasses that compete with native plants. Then, vegetation program specialists select and plant vegetation that meets the habitat needs of the project site and has the highest likelihood of surviving and thriving. Valley Water staff will continue to monitor and maintain the project site for 5 to 7 years after the initial planting to ensure the project is successful.

### Instream habitat improvement

To address the impacts of removing sediment and large woody debris from certain streams, Valley Water also performs instream habitat improvement work. This can include adding gravels and logs or root wads to the creek to create more habitat complexity for fish and other species.







Before Erosion Repair



After Erosion Repair

### YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

In November 2012, the voters of Santa Clara County overwhelminaly approved Measure B. the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, as a countywide special parcel tax. The 15-year plan's five priorities are to:

$(\mathbf{A})$	Ensure a safe,	reliable water	r supply foi	<sup>.</sup> the future.



Protect our water supply and local dams from the C impacts of earthquakes and natural disasters.



Restore fish, bird and wildlife habitat and provide open space access.



Provide flood protection to homes, businesses, schools, streets and highways.

Priority D provides funding for Valley Water to conduct mitigation site maintenance on native plant revegetation projects in creeks where we have jurisdiction to complete work. Priority E provides funding for Valley Water to conduct vegetation management and sediment removal projects for flow conveyance in creeks where we have jurisdiction or approval to complete work. The funding for this work is critical as it helps to enhance and establish habitat for wildlife and reduce flood risks to our communities. Thank you for your investment.

Detailed information on the Safe, Clean Water Program, including project and program descriptions, finances, implementation plans, and provisions for external oversight can be found at: www.valleywater.org/safecleanwater.

For more information on the Stream Maintenance Program, please visit our website at https://delivr.com/2gpug or call Valley Water at (408) 265-2600.

# Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Map



intended as a technical exhibit.

# 2019 SMP projects\*

	Type of Work	Name of Project
	Instream habitat improvement, riparian planting	Los Gatos Creek downstream of Highway 17
DS	Vegetation management	Los Gatos Creek Campbell Avenue to Blossom Hill Road (Vasona Dam)
	Bank protection, riparian planting	Regnart Creek
	Bank protection	Lions Creek upstream of Kern Avenue
	Sediment removal	Llagas Creek upstream of Highway 152
	Sediment removal	Llagas Creek upstream of Leavesley Road
	Sediment removal	West Branch Llagas Creek upstream of Day Road
	Sediment removal	Permanente Creek upstream of Eastwood Drive
	Sediment removal	Coyote Creek Secondary Channel upstream of Highway 237
w	Sediment removal, bank protection	Stevens Creek at Crittenden Lane
w	Bank protection, sediment removal, riparian planting	Stevens Creek upstream of Middlefield Road
w	Bank protection, riparian planting	Permanente Creek downstream of Highway 101
	Riparian planting	San Tomas Aquino Creek upstream of Westmont Avenue
	Invasive plant management	Los Gatos Creek from Leigh Avenue to Meridian Avenue
	Riparian planting	Calabazas Creek upstream of Bollinger Road
	Invasive plant management	Randol Creek from Scarsdale Place to Alamitos Creek
	Bank protection	Coyote Creek near Charcot Avenue
	Bank protection	Thompson Creek upstream of Yerba Buena Avenue
	Sediment removal	Sierra Creek downstream of Mauna Kea Lane
	Bank protection, invasive plant management	Guadalupe River near San Jose Airport
	Sediment removal	Guadalupe River downstream of Coleman Avenue
	Vegetation management	Guadalupe River from Foxworthy Avenue to Almaden Expressway
	Invasive plant management	Guadalupe River from Blossom Hill to Branham Lane
ł	Sediment removal, vegetation management	Guadalupe River from Montague Expressway to Trimble Road
1	Sediment removal, vegetation management, invasive plant management	Tasman Drive to Montague Expressway
	Vegetation management	San Tomas Aquino Creek downstream of Agnew Road
	Sediment removal	Calabazas Creek at Comer Drive
	Bank protection, sediment removal	Sunnyvale East downstream of Highway 237
	Riparian planting	Stevens Creek downstream of Highway 85

29

Sunnyvale