

SPAWNERS

San Pablo Watershed Neighbors Education and Restoration Society

June 2004

Planning Ahead

Wednesday, June 2, 7:00-9:00 P.M.

El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way

San Pablo Creek Tour Planning

At our June meeting, we will plan for the upcoming Watershed Tour on June 12. Volunteers are needed to assist with logistics that day, and will receive a free registration fee (includes bus, lunch, and handouts) for their assistance.



Illustration courtesy of Ryan Jones

Don't Miss the Bus!

Saturday, June 12, 2004

There are still places available on this unique opportunity to tour the San Pablo watershed. You'll see the creeks as you've never seen them before on an interactive tour led by local creek experts. Participants will also be invited to provide input on watershed planning. \$10 includes bus tour and lunch. Some scholarships are available. For more information and to reserve your seat, call (510) 231-9566.

Why Plan for Watersheds?

Great strides have been made over the last three decades to reduce pollution in creeks and the San Francisco Bay. But further improvement will depend on putting into effect a management plan that considers all of the human activities that influence watershed health and aquatic resources.

The purpose of the San Pablo Creek Watershed Stewardship and Management Plan is to implement a comprehensive program, one that recognizes that healthy watersheds mean addressing water quality problems and quality of life issues for the people, animals, and plants that live in the San Pablo Creek Watershed. Tasks could include improved regulatory and permitting agency

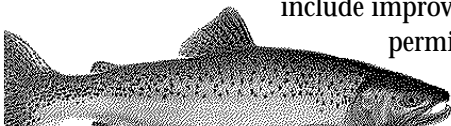
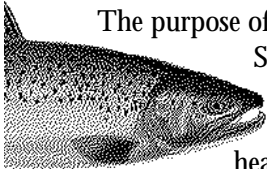


Illustration courtesy of Valerie Kells

coordination, stronger citizen participation in creek activities, improving public education on water quality and protection issues, and consistent enforcement of current regulations. This planning effort needs broad local consensus on what preventative and remedial actions are needed and how they should be applied. Therefore, this effort is being guided by a group of stakeholders: YOU - the individuals and representatives of organizations with an interest in the outcome of the Watershed Stewardship and Management Plan, including residents, businesses, industry and local government. Come to our series of workshops this summer to take part in this important effort.



You are Cordially Invited

to participate in developing the San Pablo Creek Watershed Stewardship and Management Plan - a community plan to protect, enhance, and restore San Pablo Creek, its tributaries, and natural resources.

Take part in this first of three workshops to provide your valuable input:

Workshop I: *Ready, Steady, Go! The Basics of The Plan*

Wed, June 23, 7-9 p.m.
El Sobrante Library

OR

Sat, June 26, 9:30 a.m. to noon
San Pablo* (RSVP for information)

SAVE THE DATE

Workshop II: **Wed, July 7, 7-9 p.m.**

Workshop III: **Wed, Aug 4, 7-9 p.m.**

*San Pablo workshop will include a children's environmental education area. Please r.s.v.p. with kids. Call (510) 231-9566.

Sponsored by the Bella Vista Foundation, CalFed Bay-Delta Watershed Program, Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee, and the City of San Pablo. Supported by the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, UC Berkeley. For details, contact Shannah at (510) 231-9566.

Visit our website www.spawners.net.



SPAWNERS
 c/o Aquatic Outreach Institute
 1327 South 46th Street #155
 Richmond, CA 94804

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED


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**Dated Material - Please
 deliver by May 29.**

*Join us at the next SPAWNERS meeting on **Wednesday, June 2, at 7:00 P.M.***

The San Pablo Creek Watershed Awareness Program is sponsored by the Clean Water Program of Contra Costa County, the City of San Pablo, and the CalFed Bay-Delta Watershed Program.

Meeting Recap

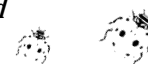


Roger Buttermore, Fishery Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, presented information on CALFED's Non-Native Invasive Species Program, an initiative set up to halt the spread of invasive plants and animals. Characteristics of these species are: they grow and reproduce quickly, form a monoculture that eliminates native plants, and rapidly exploit environments that have been disturbed by natural events and by human activities.

The invasives arrived in California over a long time period via aquaria, aquaculture, intentional stocking, live bait, landscaping, and stowaways, such as landing gear, boats, pets, and crates. Invasive marine and estuarine plants and animals can clog culverts and pile up on bridges, requiring large public expenditures to remove them. While some of these species are so widespread that eradication is unlikely, the NIS program attempts to reduce the current threat and prevent new infestations. Because the best steps are early detection, residents can support the program by noticing new species in an area and sharing their observations.

Become a Wildlife Gardener!

Create wildlife habitat and protect your watershed



What You'll Learn

- How to create a wildlife habitat garden with native plants
- How to turn any small garden space into a refuge for birds, frogs, insects, and other wildlife
- How to involve students, teachers, and the community in beautifying their school or neighborhood

What You'll Do

- **Attend** 24 hours of training, including field trips to local sites
- **Volunteer** a minimum of 50 hours at a local school or community garden
- **Share** progress and ideas with other Wildlife Gardeners
- **Consult** with a professional landscape designer
- **Receive** extensive resources, training materials, and follow-up support
- **Receive** a \$150 stipend, plus \$25 refund, upon completion of your volunteer hours

Training Schedule 2004

- **Thurs, June 17, 6:30P.M. - 9P.M.**
(Martinez) Introduction
- **Sat, June 19, 9A.M. - 3:00P.M.**
Field visits and discussion
- **Sat, June 26, 9A.M. - 3:00P.M.**
Field visits and discussion
- **Sat, September 18, 9A.M. - 3:00P.M.**
(Richmond) Garden design and planning

For more information visit www.thewatershedproject.org, or call (510) 231-9430.



Illustration courtesy of Ryan Jones

Who to Call for Dumping and Spills in the Creek

- For dumping in progress, call 911.
 - For spills and dumping in El Sobrante creeks, storm drains, and waterways, call (925) 646-2441.
 - For spills and dumping in San Pablo creeks, storm drains, and waterways, call (510) 215-3030.
 - For spills and dumping in Richmond creeks, storm drains, and waterways, call (510) 412-2001.
 - The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board regulates surface water and groundwater quality in the Bay. Contact Christine Boschen, (510) 622-2346.
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