

# 2017-2018 Creek Stewardship Program Summary

## About the Creek Stewardship Program

For 17 years, the Creek Stewardship Program (CSP) partnership of the Sonoma County Water Agency and the City of Santa Rosa has educated the public on the benefits of creeks and encouraged their assistance to protect water quality and wildlife habitat, improve the creek trail system, and enhance public safety along the 100 miles of creeks within the City's Urban Growth Boundary.

## Outreach

Educational outreach materials are available at libraries and City facilities, distributed at events, and sent out upon request. The popular *Creek Trails of Santa Rosa Map and Guide* is ready for a reprinting in both English and Spanish. Other outreach highlights include Creek Stewardship T-shirts for volunteers, the *Urban Creek Care Guide*, creek updates to 1,323 contacts through the City's GovDelivery email system, colorful 'Ours to Protect' signage where streets cross creeks, and mileage and education signage at creek trailheads.

## Partners and Activities

The CSP supports individuals and groups as Creek Stewards who take care of creeks and report situations that need attention. In supporting 417 educational and stewardship activities for the public, the Program reached 12,182 residents, including 10,282 youth.

Volunteers contributed 6,160 community service hours during 105 creek cleanups and 44 creek restoration and monitoring activities. Enrichment, an environmental education consultant, led most of the 347 education and stewardship activities for youth.

## Creek Cleanups

The CSP depends on volunteers, Supervised Adult Crews (SAC) from the County Probation Department, Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps, and Storm Water staff to clean, maintain, and enhance Santa Rosa creeks and the creek trail system. During the year:

- In 74 workdays, SAC cleaned up 740 yards<sup>3</sup> of trash from creeks..
- In 53 workdays, Youth Corps cleaned up 91 yards<sup>3</sup> of trash, removed vegetation encroaching upon creek trails, enhanced access points to the trail system, and performed flood control work.
- Storm Water and Creeks staff removed 82 yards<sup>3</sup> of trash and responded to numerous citizen reports regarding creeks and assisted Police with many of their reports regarding camps.
- Volunteers cleaned up 125 yards<sup>3</sup> of trash.

In total, 1,038 yards<sup>3</sup> of trash was removed from waterways. Most of the trash is attributable to the 152 active and 297 abandoned camps that were cleaned up with assistance from Police and Catholic Charities.



*Planting sedges at Flat Rock Park*



*Monthly First Saturday Cleanup on the Prince Memorial Greenway*



OUR FUTURE IN EVERY DROP



