



## Alameda Creek Watershed Council

Visit the Council's Webpage:  
[www.acrcd.org/watershed-council.aspx](http://www.acrcd.org/watershed-council.aspx)

### An Introduction to the Alameda Creek Watershed Council

The Alameda Creek Watershed Council was created in late 2007. It is a voluntary, non-regulatory group of stakeholders who are interested in protecting and enhancing water-related beneficial uses and resources within the Alameda Creek watershed in Alameda County. The Council evolved from the Alameda Creek Watershed Management Plan Steering Committee that originated in 1998. For more information about the Council's goals and projects, and to find documents and links, visit the Council's webpage: [www.acrcd.org/watershed-council.aspx](http://www.acrcd.org/watershed-council.aspx)

#### Benefits to individuals, organizations, and agencies of Council membership

1. **Staying informed.** The Council is an excellent way to become familiar with projects and initiatives that affect Alameda Creek and the baylands associated with the mouth of Alameda Creek. Knowing which projects are being planned will help organizations and agencies to express its concerns and participate in these projects.
2. **Getting to know other stakeholders.** Participation on the Council offers an opportunity to become acquainted with citizen stakeholders, representatives from other organizations and agencies that are interested in Alameda Creek and its watershed.
3. **Opportunities for participation** in Council-initiated stewardship projects such as workdays at adopted spots along Alameda Creek, attending Council tours and educational events, and engaging in Council planning and capacity building.
4. **Advocating for funding, and resources.** Working as a group, the Council plans to advocate for the allocation of grant funding, and other kinds of support and resources for the Alameda Creek watershed.
5. **Creating cost-effective partnerships on projects.** Participation on the Council offers opportunities for organizations and agencies to form partnerships with others to implement projects within the watershed.
6. **Endorsing grant applications.** The Council will work to secure funding, such as grants, to support the activities of the Council and/or its members.

#### Council Projects

Some particularly interesting projects that the Council is currently helping to guide and implement include:

1. **The Alameda Creek historical ecology project.** This project is intended to engage the public in identifying a realistic and practical vision for restoring Alameda Creek, its tributaries, and associated fluvial and alluvial areas. This two-year project (2009-2010) has been initiated with funding provided by San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.
2. **Creek and watershed signage.** Creation and installation of creek signs to better inform the public about the names of creeks and watersheds. The project will include outreach to organizations and groups to solicit funding for making and installing signs.

3. **“Adopt a Spot” areas.** Adoption of selected spots along Alameda Creek through the Alameda County Flood Control District’s “Adopt a Spot/Creek” program for non-native vegetation, trash, and litter removal using local community resources. The Alameda County Resource Conservation District in conjunction with the Council is helping to organize local schools and community groups to work on adopted spots. The Council has adopted the creek bank around the EBRPD’s Niles Staging area and the banks near Niles Community Park to the BART weir, and is planning to adopt additional spots in Union City. A similar program is being developed for the Tri-Valley portion of the watershed.
4. **Education.** The Council will be identifying opportunities for educating the public and elected officials about Alameda Creek and watershed issues.
5. **Sediment Forum.** The sediment forum meets twice a year to encourage collaboration and coordination of watershed sediment studies, to share technical information, and to generate information needed to set sediment goals for the Alameda Creek watershed.
6. **Watershed tours.** The Council conducts tours for its membership, partners, and other stakeholders of selected project areas at least twice annually.

### **Stakeholders currently represented on the Council**

The following organizations have signed the Letter of Understanding for the Alameda Creek Watershed Council as of summer 2009:

- Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- Alameda County Water District
- Alameda County Resource Conservation District
- East Bay Regional Park District
- Livermore Area Recreation and Park District
- City of Livermore
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Zone 7 Water Agency
- Friends of the Arroyos

Other organizations and agencies including local non-profit and regional conservation groups are also currently considering signing the Letter of Understanding.

### **Council Letter of Understanding**

You may join the Alameda Creek Watershed Council by signing the “Letter of Understanding - Alameda Creek Watershed Council”. A cover letter has been prepared that outlines the process. Both are available on the Council’s webpage. There are no dues or costs associated with signing the Letter of Understanding. Any possible future collaborative watershed projects that involve cost sharing would need to be approved by participating organizations and agencies in a separate agreement.

Participation by all stakeholders is encouraged. Participation in the Council meetings and events does not require being a signatory of the Letter of Understanding. Nonetheless, the Council will be more effective if agencies and organizations are able to sign the Letter of Understanding and commit staff or volunteer time to participate as Council members.

### **Work Groups**

There are opportunities to participate in work groups to support the Council’s activities. Current workgroups include Council planning and coordination, Sediment Forum, and watershed signage. See the Council’s webpage for further information.

### **Council Meetings**

The Council has typically been meeting on the fourth Thursday of every other month for about two hours. The Council has typically held every other meeting at either the Zone 7 Water Agency’s office at 100 North Canyons Parkway in Livermore or the Alameda County Public Works Agency’s office at 951 Turner Court in Hayward. On occasion an optional field trip has

been held prior to a Council meeting or in place of one of the Council meetings. If you wish to be notified of upcoming meetings, please contact Amy Evans or Fred Jarvis- contact information provided below.

### **Organizational Support Provided to the Council**

The Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District provides funding to support the activities of the Council. Additional funding is being sought from other sources to ensure the sustainability of the Council and its projects

### **2009 Contact information for the Council**

The Council's webpage: [www.acrcd.org/watershed-council.aspx](http://www.acrcd.org/watershed-council.aspx)

Current Council Chair: Jim Browne, ACFC&WCD  
(Election of new Chair and Vice Chair to be held at 5/28/09 Council meeting)  
Jim Browne  
399 Elmhurst St. Hayward, CA 94544  
(510)670-5796  
[jimb@acpwa.org](mailto:jimb@acpwa.org)

Council Facilitator:  
Fred Jarvis, (consultant to ACFC&WCD)  
EOA, Inc.  
140 Jackson St., Oakland, CA 94612  
P (510) 832-2852 x 111  
F (510) 832-2856  
[fejarvis@eoainc.com](mailto:fejarvis@eoainc.com)

Council Communications:  
Amy Evans, Resource Conservationist  
Alameda County Resource Conservation District  
3585 Greenville Rd. Suite 2, Livermore, CA 94550  
P (925) 371-0154 x 112  
F (925) 371-0155  
[Amy.evans@acrcd.org](mailto:Amy.evans@acrcd.org)