

ACA Newsletters Posted

The [Fall 2006](#) and [Winter 2006-2007](#) issues of *Up Your Creek!* are now posted on the Alameda Creek Alliance web site.

East Bay Steelhead Restoration Talk Monday February 5

Andy Gunther, executive director for the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration (CEMAR) will speak on "Steelhead in Alameda County" -- what it will take to restore steelhead to streams in the Bay Area, at **7:30 pm next Monday, February 5**. The talk, part of the [Close to Home](#) series, will be at Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Rd., Oakland (from Thornhill exit on Highway 13, go east ½ mile).

The March 5 [Close to Home](#) talk will be a presentation on tule elk by Mike Moran of the East Bay Regional Park District.

Alameda County Watershed Forum February 6

The Alameda County Watershed Forum will meet on **Tuesday, February 6th from 7 to 9 pm** at Supervisor Nate Miley's office, 20993 Redwood Court in Castro Valley (one block from the Castro Valley BART Station).

Staff from the Contra Costa County Watershed Forum will talk about their very successful program, including citizen monitoring, watershed atlas, and regional conferences. The agenda also includes watershed events, updates on the Berkeley Creek ordinance, a proposed East Bay watershed conference, and Prop 84 funding. Refreshments starting at 6:30 p.m.

Save The Bay/Alameda Creek Alliance Events

March 10 Alameda Creek Watershed Tour

On **Sunday March 10**, [Save The Bay](#) will join the Alameda Creek Alliance for a tour of the Alameda Creek watershed, focusing on steelhead trout and salmon restoration sites. Please register for this tour on the [Save The Bay events page](#).

March 17 Eden Landing Wetland Restoration

On Saturday March 17, from 9-12, the ACA will join Save The Bay for a winter planting project at Eden Landing Ecological Reserve. We are encouraging all walk participants to complete the watershed experience by also participating in a wetland restoration project at Eden Landing at the mouth of Alameda Creek. Join Save The Bay and the CA Department of Fish and Game to help restore 350 acres of former salt ponds that are being restored to wetlands on the East Bay Shoreline. **Volunteers will help plant native plants, clean up debris, and remove non-native plants.** This site is normally off-limits to the public and access is granted only to volunteers during these selected dates. Save The Bay's project is supported through the NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center. Please sign up online at www.saveSFbay.org/events or contact Jocelyn Gretz at jgretz@savesfbay.org or 510.452.9261 x109.

East Bay Environmental Garden Tours

Alameda County StopWaste's fourth annual [Bay-Friendly Garden Tour](#), showcasing natural gardening techniques that minimize pollution, will be held from **10 am to 4 pm on Sunday, April 29**. More than 40 gardens, from backyard orchards to front lawns replaced by vibrant perennials will be open, including walkable and bikeable clusters and opportunities to buy native and Mediterranean plants. Register at www.bayfriendly.org. Volunteers are needed for the tour day - contact lgrodeska@stopwaste.org or 510-614-1699.

The 2007 [Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour](#), with 60 Alameda and Contra Costa County gardens that feature native plants and are pesticide-free and water-conserving, will be held from **10 am to 5 pm on Sunday, May 6**. This year, the event includes a Saturday and Sunday Native Plant Sale Extravaganza at native plant nurseries, some not normally open to the public. Group tours of select gardens, led by gardening experts, also will be offered Saturdays, Apr. 28 and May 5 for \$30 per person. Information and registration (for both free and guided tours) is at www.bringingbackthenatives.net. The website offers a way to plan carpools, and lets you sign up to volunteer. Volunteers can visit tour gardens through garden soirees held throughout the year. For more information: Kathy@kathykramerconsulting.net or (510) 236-9558, 9 am to 9 pm.

Volunteers Needed for 2007 Festivals

Help spread the word about the restoration of Alameda Creek by volunteering to help staff the Alameda Creek Alliance display table at upcoming events and festivals. To volunteer contact Diana Brumbaugh, the ACA Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, at alamedavolunteer@yahoo.com or by phone at (510) 794-4252.

February 23, 24 & 25

[The Fly Fishing Show](#)

Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton
Young California Building
Fri 10 – 6; Sat 9 – 5:30; Sun 9 – 4:30

April 1

Niles Anza Expedition Commemoration

Niles Essenay Film Museum, 3pm
37417 Niles Blvd., Niles

April 21

Fremont Earth Day
Location, time TBA

April 28, 12-4

San Leandro Creek Watershed Festival
Root Park, San Leandro

Upcoming events:

May

[Niles Wildflower and Art Garden Tour](#)

Niles –date, time TBA

June

[Niles Dog Show](#)

Niles –date, time TBA

July

Fremont Art & Wine Festival

Location, time TBA

September

Sunol Community Festival

Location, time TBA

Report Trashed Creeks

Help Save The Bay report trashed creeks and shoreline areas. Save The Bay is calling for photos of trash in local water bodies to help those areas get funding and attention for cleanup. Trash is a severe problem in the San Francisco Bay and its creeks, but trash has not yet received consistent attention from regulators. The Regional Water Quality Control Board maintains an Impaired Waters 303(d) list, which qualifies problem areas for stronger cleanup measures. Currently, there is just one water body (Oakland's Lake Merritt) on that list!

Go to the [Save The Bay web site](#) to learn how you can help.

Changing the Debate on Global Warming

The [Center for Biological Diversity](#) has been doing incredible work to change the debate on global warming and start to force the Bush administration to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The proposed listing of the Polar Bear under the Endangered Species Act, while a first small step, is being described as a potential watershed moment in addressing climate change. There have been over 200 recent editorials and opinion pieces about the plight of polar bears and global warming in U.S. newspapers. Check out the Center's [Polar Bear](#), [Penguin](#) and [Climate](#) pages. Also check out the January 8th editorial in the Los Angeles Times, [Don't Wait to Save the Polar Bear](#).

Elwha Dam Removal Video

Check out this interesting short five minute [video](#) on the upcoming removal of two dams from the Elwha River in Washington State.