

# **Up Your Creek!**

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

## **Alameda Creek Alliance Membership Dinner – October 18**

Join us for our quasi-annual Alameda Creek Alliance membership dinner on Saturday, October 18 at [Chouinard Winery](#) in Palomares Canyon, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm.

We are pleased to announce that Niles singer/songwriter [Michael McNevin](#) will be playing live music at the event.

Dinner will be provided by [Ashoka Indian Cuisine](#) in Pleasanton. The dinner menu is vegetable pakora appetizers; chicken tikka masala, chicken korma, aloo gobi, and rice for the main course; naan (leavened bread); and gulab jaman (brown cheese balls in sugar syrup) for dessert.

Several of Chouinard's [excellent wines](#) will be for sale by the glass or bottle.

We will have some brief updates on Alameda Creek restoration progress.

You can buy tickets for the dinner (\$60 each) easily and securely by going to our web site ([www.alamedacreek.org](http://www.alamedacreek.org)) and clicking on "Upcoming Events."

Help us celebrate our many accomplishments and plan for the future restoration of Alameda Creek and its fisheries. Come meet and mingle with other watershed residents and the Alameda Creek Alliance staff and Board of Directors. We look forward to seeing you on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **Alameda Creek Cleanup – October 11**

Join us again for an Alameda Creek workday on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to noon at our adopted site along Alameda Creek to remove invasive plants and pick up trash along Alameda Creek, and learn ways to protect fish and wildlife habitat. We've already made a huge dent in the invasive plant cover along the creek, but there is still much to do.

We'll meet at the [Niles Staging Area parking lot](#) along Old Canyon Road at Canyon Oaks Court in the Niles area of Fremont. Wear work clothes, including long pants and sturdy shoes that can get dirty. A long-sleeve shirt and hat are recommended. We'll provide gloves, waste bags, litter grabbers, water, and a snack. Please bring your own re-usable water bottle to fill.

## **Alameda Creek in the News**

[Alameda Creek Work Trickles On](#)

Estuary News – September 2014

[Tossed Cigarettes New Pollution Target of Coastal Cleanup Day](#)

San Jose Mercury News

## **Thanks to Coastal Cleanup Day Volunteers**

Thank you to the 58 volunteers who came out to Alameda Creek in Fremont as part of the 2014 Coastal Cleanup Day! Thanks to our efforts, 116 pounds of trash and 63 pounds of recycling were collected and removed from along Alameda Creek. In addition, volunteers collected 15 large bags of invasive ivy and periwinkle that had been removed from in and around native trees.

We were one of 850 cleanup sites in California, which according to preliminary reports removed 686,000 pounds of trash and recycling from our beaches and waterways. Many of the items we picked up were food wrappers, beverage containers, cigarette butts, and other plastic waste, though there were a few larger items (like a bed frame). Our volunteers recorded exactly what items we picked up, and that information will be compiled by the California Coastal Commission and used to help guide future policy.

Check out this [San Jose Mercury News article](#), which discusses problems associated with cigarette litter, and which features our cleanup work along Alameda Creek. Thanks also to the Alameda County Resource Conservation District, which continues to be a great partner in our stewardship efforts.

## Alameda Creek Alliance at Community Events This Weekend

**Saturday, October 4** - Join us in Hayward for the second annual [Science in the Park](#). Science in the Park is an opportunity for the family to learn more about topics in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This free event includes interactive and hands-on activities, live animal demonstrations, health screenings, environmental education, water rocket launches, and live entertainment. This year's Science in the Park runs from 9 am to 4 pm at the Alden E. Oliver Sports Park, at 2580 Eden Park Way in Hayward. Look for the Alameda Creek Alliance booth and check out our display with info on local watersheds and watershed health.

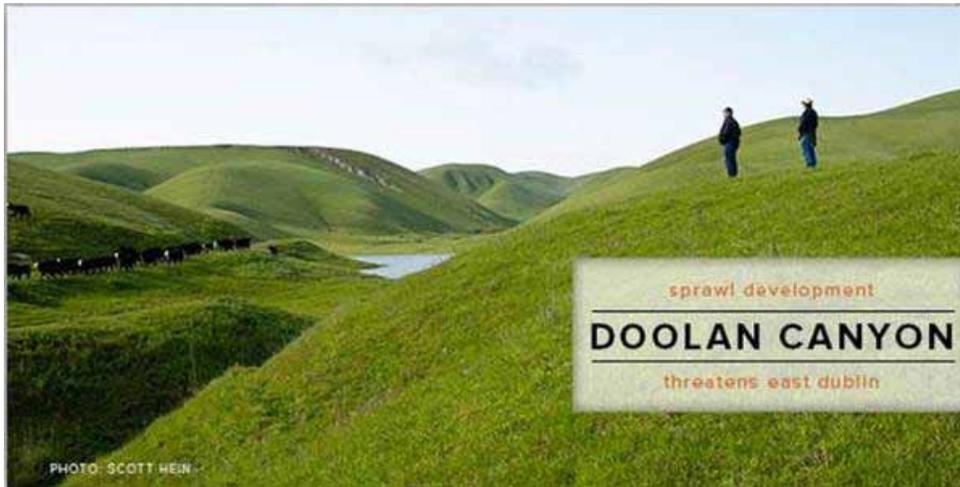
**Sunday, October 5** - SAGE and the Sunol AgPark farmers invite you to celebrate the fall harvest in beautiful Sunol at the [Sunol AgPark Harvest Festival](#), from 10 am to 3 pm on October 5. The festival is at 505 Paloma Way in Sunol (adjacent to the Sunol Water Temple on Hwy 84, ½ mile west of Hwy 680). Activities at the Harvest Festival include farm tours, a U-pick pumpkin patch, hay rides, a scavenger hunt, garden demonstrations, and more! Visitors are invited to bring their own bikes and wagons. Look for the Alameda Creek Alliance booth and join us at noon for an ACA-led nature walk. Visit [www.sagecenter.org](http://www.sagecenter.org) for more info.

## Other Volunteer Opportunities in the Watershed

**Sabercat Creek Restoration in Fremont** - the City of Fremont's Environmental Services hosts regular days of habitat restoration work along Sabercat Creek. Volunteer workdays for October and early November may include harvesting and planting acorns and buckeyes, planting other native tree and shrub seedlings, cutting and installing willow stakes, and transplanting creeping wildrye. Volunteers can also help water planting, weeding, plant basin restoration, browse protection cage creation, invasive plant removal, sheet mulching, and trash cleanup. Check out their [Google site](#) for updates about site locations, maps and directions, waiver forms (please sign and bring these).

**Living Arroyos in Livermore** - volunteers are needed in Livermore to help with an ambitious urban stream restoration and enhancement project. The Living Arroyos project is transforming miles of flood control channel into functioning wildlife habitat while maintaining its current level of flood protection. Volunteers are invited from 9 am to noon on the first and third Saturdays of each month to help with planting, monitoring and maintaining the sites. Community workdays are a fun and interesting way to learn more about our streams while helping bring them to life. For more information on how to volunteer visit [livingarroyos.org/get-involved/](http://livingarroyos.org/get-involved/)

## Save Dublin Open Space



A coalition of community and environmental groups has qualified the Dublin Open Space Initiative for the November ballot. In June the Dublin city council adopted the urban limit line measure, which protects Doolan and Collier Canyons east of town and Dublin's western hills from sprawl development.

But developers also qualified a competing measure which they cynically call *Let Dublin Decide* (even though it would take development plans out of the hands of voters). Measure T would allow their 2,000-unit development in Doolan Canyon. If we lose Doolan Canyon, we'll lose other areas too.

**Vote No on Measure T – It's the Developer's Plan.** Protect our new urban limit line and our hard-won victory for recreation, nature, and limits to development and traffic. The No on T campaign needs your help and financial support. To see how you can help please fill out the [downloadable endorsement form](#).

## Sign the Petition to Restore San Joaquin River Flows

Please sign the [petition](#) by Friends of the River to restore water flows to the San Joaquin River. Central California's once abundant salmon runs and other fishes are in imminent danger of extinction because of excessive water diversions, and the Bay-Delta estuary ecosystem that supports these and other economically critical species is collapsing.

A U.C. Davis study has confirmed that California has granted rights to five times more water than is naturally produced every year. More than 90% of the fresh water from the San Joaquin River is diverted. Irrigators and urban water interests in the San Joaquin River basin own "rights" to San Joaquin River water that is 861% more than the river's natural run-off. Excessive diversions from the river leaves little water for fish, a serious groundwater overdraft problem in the southern Central Valley, and pressure to export even more Sacramento River water from the fragile Delta.

The California State Water Resources Control Board is currently deciding whether to require increased flows from the San Joaquin River to the Bay-Delta estuary. Sign the petition to [Restore the Flow of Fresh Water to the San Joaquin River: Save our Salmon and our San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary](#).

## Salmon Run for Rivers

Friends of the River is inaugurating a [Salmon Run for Rivers](#) to help save salmon and the rivers they depend on. The run parallels the path fall run Chinook salmon take as they swim in from the ocean to reach their spawning grounds.

The Salmon Run for Rivers has three components. The first part is a six-mile run on **October 25th** from San Francisco to Sausalito - it is open to the public for [registration](#). The second part will consist of a select group of relay runners who will run the remaining distance to Sacramento. The third part is the California Salmon Festival on **November 1st** in Sacramento, where runners and supporters will join in delivering a grassroots petition calling on state decision makers to take action to save wild California salmon at the height of the drought.

If you are interested in participating please e-mail FOR at [info@friendsoftheriver.org](mailto:info@friendsoftheriver.org).

## Regional Salmon Restoration News

### [State High Court OKs Water Cuts On Russian River to Aid Salmon](#)

San Francisco Chronicle - October 1, 2014

### [Judge Upholds Water for Klamath Salmon](#)

San Luis Obispo Tribune - October 1, 2014

### [Stuart Creek Gets a Steelhead Remodel](#)

Kenwood Press – October 1, 2014

### [Mining Company's Drilling Effort Dealt Blow](#)

Statesman-Journal – October 1, 2014

### [Salmon Recovery Plan IDs Humboldt Marijuana Cultivation as Threat](#)

Eureka Times-Standard - October 1, 2014

### [Low Flows a Danger to Salmon Coming and Going](#)

Stockton Record - September 30, 2014

### [Biologists Identify Pot Gardens as Salmon Threat](#)

KTVU - September 30, 2014

### [Conservation Organization California Trout Helps Establish Endowed Chair at UC Davis](#)

Green Blog - September 30, 2014

### [Salmon Fishermen to Oppose Prop. 1](#)

No on Prop 1 press release – September 30, 2014

### [The Extraordinary California Drought of 2013-2014](#)

The California Weather Blog – September 29, 2014

### [Marin Seeks To Buy Creek Parcel It Once OK'd for Development](#)

Marin Independent-Journal – September 28, 2014

### [The Resnicks, the Koch Brothers of California Water](#)

Indy Media - September 28, 2014

**[Orville Salmon Festival Celebrates Fish and Community](#)**

Chico Enterprise-Record – September 27, 2014

**[Bond Won't Address Drought](#)**

San Francisco Chronicle opinion – September 26, 2014

**[High Temperatures Threaten Sacramento River's Fall-Run King Salmon](#)**

Bay Nature Magazine – September 23, 2014

**[Lower Eel River Appears Dry Near Fortuna](#)**

Eureka Times-Standard – September 13, 2014

**[Litigation Reins in Misguided Army Corps Program to Cut Trees From Levees](#)**

Center for Biological Diversity press release – September 11, 2014

***The Alameda Creek Alliance is a non-profit community watershed protection group.  
Please support our efforts by [becoming a member](#)***