

Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

Sunol Watershed Center Meeting - May 6

The SFPUC will host a meeting about the proposed Alameda Creek Watershed Center in Sunol. The meeting will be this Wednesday, May 6, from 10 am to noon, at the Sunol Yard Conference Room, 505 Paloma Way in Sunol near the water temple.

The SFPUC has been working with the Sunol community for years on a proposed watershed center at the Sunol Water Temple. They are moving forward with more refined designs and have committed to checking in with the community throughout this process. The May 6 meeting will be an opportunity to hear about the latest architectural designs and interpretive display designs, as well as project and schedule updates.

For more information, contact Betsy Lauppe Rhodes of the SFPUC at blauppe@sflower.org, 415-554-3240.

Alameda Creek Cleanup - May 23

Join us for a creek workday to continue our efforts removing ivy and other invasive plants along Alameda Creek in Niles, on Saturday, May 23. We'll begin at 9:30 am with a special presentation about Alameda Creek and wildlife in the creek. At 10 am we'll walk upstream to our work site where we'll be until noon. Full information can be found on our [Eventbrite page](#).

Alameda Creek Watershed Conference – May 28

The Alameda Creek Watershed Forum's annual conference will take place on Thursday, May 28 in Livermore. The theme is "*Water's Journey Across Managed Land in the Alameda Creek Watershed*."

Details are available on the [Watershed Forum web site](#) or register on [Event Brite](#).

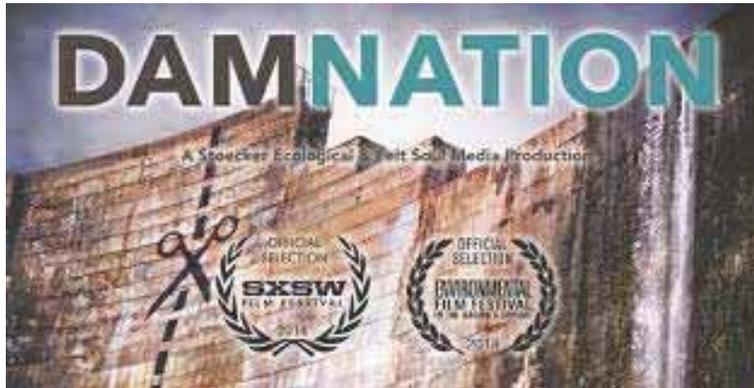
Maguire Peaks Hike - June 7

Join us for a late spring hike around Maguire Peaks in Sunol Regional Wilderness, on Sunday June 7th at 8 am. We'll host Theo Fitanides, manager of the California Native Plant Society's Native Here Nursery in Tilden, who will help us identify birds by sound in addition to lending his expertise on the native flora of the area.

We'll hike the Maguire Peaks Loop trail, ascending to it via the Lower Maguire Peaks Trail. The entire trip is 4.7 miles, and we will have the option of a short side-trip to the peak itself. This hike contains plants that are rare in other areas of the park, and will treat us to views of San Antonio Reservoir. The first mile along the Lower Maguire Peaks Trail is very steep and strenuous. The Maguire Peaks Loop Trail itself is easy to moderate. The final mile back will be a steep downhill. The entire trip will take roughly 5 hours, including lunch.

Space is limited, so RSVP today. Additional information and free tickets can be found on our [Eventbrite page for the event](#).

DamNation Film Screening in Niles – July 24



Join the Alameda Creek Alliance for a special screening of [DamNation](#), the award-winning documentary film about dam removal.

Friday, July 24, from 7-9 pm at the [Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum](#), 37417 Niles Boulevard in Fremont.

Get your tickets today to view this powerful film odyssey across America that explores the sea change in our national attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers. Dam removal has moved beyond the fictional Monkey Wrench Gang to go mainstream. Where obsolete dams come down, rivers bound back to life, giving salmon and other wild fish the right of return to primeval spawning grounds, after decades without access. DamNation's majestic cinematography and unexpected discoveries move through rivers and landscapes altered by dams, but also through a metamorphosis in values, from conquest of the natural world to knowing ourselves as part of nature.

Watch the [trailer for DamNation](#)

Tickets are only \$5 – buy your film ticket [here](#) via PayPal

The screening is a benefit for the Alameda Creek Alliance.

ACA Volunteers Improving Habitat Along Alameda Creek



Many thanks to all the volunteers who help us pick up litter and pull ivy at our adopt a spot along Alameda Creek in Niles.

For our last work party, Alameda Creek was running high on April 25th after a night of rain, something we haven't seen in a while. Bird life was abundant along the creek with sightings of a green heron, black-crowned night-heron, snowy egrets and a family of Canadian geese with some young goslings.

When we made it to our adopted site we were welcomed by vigorously re-sprouting California wild grape in many of our recently cleared areas. It's exciting to see native vines like California grape and wild cucumber re-inhabiting areas that previously had been covered with invasive ivy.



Our dozen Earth Day volunteers split time between picking up trash along Alameda Creek and continuing the assault on invasive ivy.



Two large bags of trash were filled and disposed of, along with 15 large bags of green waste. Some especially intrepid volunteers made an important contribution by breaching a previously-untouched wall of cape ivy and opening the area up for more clearing by future volunteers. Thanks also to the EarthTeam students from American High School that came out, and to our partners at the Alameda County Resource Conservation District.

Information about our next work day on May 23 is on our [Eventbrite page](#).

A Fun and Educational Day at the 2015 Sunol Wildflower Festival

The weather was beautiful for the recent East Bay Regional Parks District's Sunol Wildflower Festival. Thanks to volunteers Scott and Jenny who came and helped out at our outreach table. One of the most enjoyable parts of staffing an ACA outreach table at events like these is meeting and talking with members who stop by and say hello. It's great to see some many of you interested and involved in our watershed. We look forward to seeing you all next year at the 2016 Sunol Wildflower Festival.

Alameda Creek in the News

[Proposed Trail Would Link Niles to Sunol](#)

San Jose Mercury News – April 16, 2015

Regional Salmon Restoration News

[Stanford Delays Decision, Wants To Keep Environmentally Harmful Dam](#)

American Rivers press release – May 1, 2015

[Creek Water Released for Habitat: San Mateo Creek Flow, Even In Drought, Part of Plan for Endangered Species](#)

Daily Journal – May 1, 2015

[California's Twin Tunnels Water Plan Abandons Delta Protection, Public Participation](#)

Center for Biological Diversity press release – April 30, 2015

[Rivers Recover Rapidly Once Dams Are Gone, Study Finds](#)

OPB – April 30, 2015

[Restoring East Bay Streams](#)

Oakland Magazine – April 2015

[Who Actually Gets Water in California's Agricultural Sector?](#)

The Bay Institute blog – April 29, 2015

[Drought Doesn't Stop Nation's Most Ambitious Salmon Revival in San Joaquin River](#)

Fresno Bee – April 25, 2015

[A Plea to North Coast to Help Coho Salmon](#)

CDFW editorial in Santa Rosa Press-Democrat – April 23, 2015

[Well-Connected Billionaire Expands Almond Acreage as Cities Forced to Slash Water Use](#)

East Bay Express – April 22, 2015

[**West Marin County's Salmon Count Hits Drastic Low**](#)

NBC – April 21, 2015

[**Tunnels-Only BDCP: Gov. Abandons Pretext of Saving Fisheries**](#)

Daily Kos – April 20, 2015

[**Some Sonoma Co. Residents Asked To Save Water for Salmon**](#)

KTVU – April 18, 2015

[**Drought Brings Double Dose of Damage to Coho Salmon**](#)

ABC-7 – April 17, 2015

[**Permit Cancelled for Daguerre Point Dam Hydropower Project**](#)

SYRCL press release – April 16, 2015

[**California Salmon Outlook Is Good for 2015, Ominous In the Long Run**](#)

San Jose Mercury News – April 16, 2015

[**California Drought: Delta Smelt Survey Tallies One Fish, Heating Up Debate over Water Supply**](#)

San Jose Mercury News – April 15, 2015

[**Who Gets Water in California?**](#)

The Bay Institute blog – April 14, 2015

[**Understanding California's Bay Delta in 63 Photos**](#)

KCET – March 30, 2015

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