



Sediment accumulation on Adobe Creek upstream of U.S. Highway 101 in Palo Alto.



Crews removed approximately 7,000 cubic yards of sediment from Adobe Creek to restore the stream's design flow conveyance capacity.

WHAT TO EXPECT AND SAFETY

Work on SMP projects typically occurs Monday through Friday, but Saturday work may be necessary to complete specific tasks. Work hours are set by local city ordinances, with work generally occurring between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Our crews are courteous and follow safe practices with all neighbors. Any work before 8 a.m. will be limited to preparation activities with minimal noise impact.

Access to recreation is vital to many of us. Some trails will have temporary detours for public and workers' safety. Please comply with all construction signage and fencing to avoid entering active work areas. Trespassers place themselves and workers in danger as onsite crews operating large equipment are focused on work activities and may be unable to see or hear trespassers.

Visit bit.ly/SCVW_TrafficandTrailImpacts for information on trail impacts and detours.



As part of our Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), Valley Water plans to perform work along multiple creeks across Santa Clara County in 2025. Under the SMP, work occurs annually to reduce the risk of flooding and fire, keep our creeks healthy, and improve the environment. The county has over 800 miles of creeks, and Valley Water owns and manages about 333 miles of those streams. Portions of these streams are inspected and prioritized for maintenance projects each year through the SMP.

For decades, our crews have been trekking into streams to remove sediment build-up, manage vegetation, clear trash and debris, and stabilize banks eroded during high water flows. This work is especially critical given the wet winter our county experienced. Work to reduce fire danger continues to be necessary, particularly given the county's cyclical dry conditions, winter rains that promote vegetative growth, and the ongoing challenges of climate change. The SMP ensures streams with completed flood protection projects continue functioning and protecting homes, businesses, schools, and highways.

The projects listed in this brochure are part of this season's proposed work. Pending state and federal regulatory approvals, work on these projects can only be conducted within a limited work window between June 15, 2025, and October 15, 2025. In some instances, Valley Water may request and receive work extensions beyond October 15 to complete projects. Other work, including minor maintenance and vegetation management projects, can occur year-round.

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We are working in your **neighborhood creeks!**



TYPES OF STREAM MAINTENANCE

Bank protection

High and sustained water flows can cause extensive damage to creek banks, eroding existing flood protection improvements and natural elements. Repairing creek banks also helps protect neighboring homes and property from damage.

Sediment Removal

Sediment and debris washed downstream can restrict water flow in some areas. During a heavy storm, these restricted flow areas could cause water to back up, increasing the risk of flooding. Crews remove sediment to allow stormwater to flow through the creeks as designed. To the extent possible, Valley Water reuses sediment for environmental purposes and to reduce disposal costs.

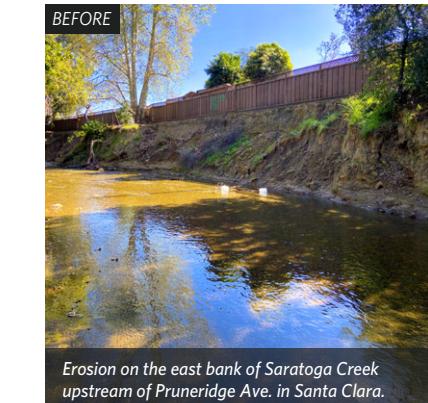
Vegetation management

Valley Water crews manage over 3,000 acres of instream and upland vegetation annually. Selective removal of instream vegetation maintains flow conveyance in streams and riparian corridors. Managing upland vegetation restores maintenance access and maintains fire code compliance, efforts especially significant given the county's cyclical dry conditions and the ongoing challenges of climate change. Valley Water's vegetation management work is crucial in helping to reduce fire risk.

Mitigation

Valley Water implements mitigation projects to offset impacts associated with some of the bank protection, sediment removal, and vegetation management work. Mitigation projects can include:

- **Riparian planting:** Enhances and establishes habitat for birds, amphibians, fish, and other terrestrial and aquatic species living in creek corridors to compensate for the unavoidable riparian impacts created by sediment removal, bank protection, and vegetation management activities. Invasive and non-native annuals and grasses that compete with native plants are removed. Vegetation that meets the habitat needs of the project site and has the highest likelihood of surviving and thriving is planted. Valley Water monitors and maintains riparian planting areas for five to seven years to ensure successful projects.
- **Invasive plant management:** Plant species such as Algerian Ivy, Cape Ivy, Himalayan Blackberry, Tree of Heaven, and Giant Reed are removed because they present a significant threat to the ecosystem. These plants spread aggressively and can negatively alter wildlife patterns, soil stability, and water quality. Invasive plants can increase the risk of flooding and fire danger, undermine structural assets, and obstruct access to roads, levees, and trails.
- **Compensatory mitigation:** This is the restoration, establishment, enhancement, or preservation of natural resources to replace resources impacted by maintenance activities. In addition to the above work types, compensatory mitigation may include the restoration of existing floodplains and bank rehabilitation by remediating unauthorized excavations, concrete removal, and sediment removal to promote wetland habitat.
- **Instream habitat improvement:** Work is done to address the impacts of removing sediment and large woody debris from specific streams. This can include adding rocks and logs or root wads to the creek to create a higher-quality habitat for fish and other species.



The risk of future streambank erosion is minimized at Saratoga Creek, following the crews' stabilization of the east bank.

YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

In November 2020, voters in Santa Clara County overwhelmingly approved Measure S, a renewal of Valley Water's Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, first approved in 2012. The renewed program identifies the following six key community priorities, established with input from tens of thousands of residents and stakeholders:

- A Ensure a Safe, Reliable Water Supply.
- B Reduce Toxins, Hazards and Contaminants in our Waterways.
- C Protect our Water Supply and Dams from Earthquakes and Other Natural Disasters.
- D Restore Wildlife Habitat and Provide Open Space.
- E Provide Flood Protection to Homes, Businesses, Schools, Streets and Highways
- F Support Public Health and Public Safety for Our Community.

The SMP is funded in part by Priority D for mitigation site maintenance on native plant revegetation projects and Priority F to conduct vegetation management and sediment removal in creeks to maintain design flows.

- **Multiple Types**

Valley Water crews are working on more than one type of project in the area that needs attention.

2025 Stream Maintenance Program (SMP) Map



This map is not to scale and offers a graphic representation for reference purposes only.

2025 SMP Projects *

No.	City(s)	Name of Project**	No.	City(s)	Name of Project**
1	Campbell	San Tomas Aquino Creek upstream of McCoy Ave.	23	San José	Guadalupe River upstream of Tasman Dr. (east levee)
2	Campbell	Los Gatos Creek, Bascom Ave. to Hamilton Ave.	24	San José	Guadalupe River Secondary Channel downstream of Coleman Ave.
3	Cupertino	Regnart Creek downstream of Antoinette Dr.	25	San José	Guadalupe River upstream and downstream of Virginia St.
4	Gilroy	West Branch Llagas Creek upstream of Leavesley Rd.	26	San José	Canoas Creek, Nightingale Dr. to Lean Ave.
5	Gilroy	Princeville Drain upstream of Camino Arroyo	27	San José	Ross Creek upstream of Lone Hill Creek confluence
6	Gilroy	Llagas Creek downstream of Bloomfield Ave.	28	San José	Ross Creek downstream of Camden Ave.
7	Los Gatos	East Ross Creek upstream of Ross Creek confluence	29	San José	Ross Creek downstream of Meridian Ave.
8	Milpitas, San José	Coyote Creek downstream of Hwy. 237	30	San José	Ross Creek downstream of Jarvis Ave.
9	Milpitas	Calera Creek upstream and downstream of Escuela Ave.	31	San José	Ross Creek downstream of Cherry Ave.
10	Milpitas	Lower Penitencia Creek upstream of N. Abbott Ave.	32	San José	Guadalupe Creek upstream of Meridian Ave. (Los Capitancillos Meadow Restoration)
11	Milpitas	Lower Penitencia Creek downstream of Marylinn Dr.	33	San José	Alamitos Creek, Almaden Lake to upstream of Graystone Ln.
12	Milpitas	Tularcitos Creek downstream of N. Hillview Dr.	34	Santa Clara	Alamitos Creek downstream of Mazzone Dr.
13	Milpitas	Los Coches Creek upstream of S. Temple Dr.	35	San José	Alamitos Diversion Channel upstream of Mazzone Dr.
14	Milpitas	Piedmont Creek upstream of Vista Wy.	36	San José	Golf Creek upstream of Camden Ave.
15	Milpitas	Piedmont Creek upstream of S. Park Victoria Dr.	37	San José	Greystone Creek downstream of Echo Valley Dr.
16	Morgan Hill	Tenant Creek upstream of Fountain Oaks Dr.	38	San José	Randol Creek upstream of Camden Ave.
17	Mountain View	Stevens Creek upstream of Crittenden Lane	39	San José	Randol Creek upstream of Rajkovich Wy.
18	Palo Alto	Matadero Creek downstream of Louis Rd.	40	San José	Berryessa Creek downstream of Piedmont Rd.
19	Palo Alto	Barron Creek upstream of Hwy. 101	41	San José	Lower Silver Creek, Jackson Ave. to Moss Point Dr.
20	San José	Saratoga Creek upstream of Bollinger Rd.	42	San José	Guadalupe River upstream of Tasman Dr. (west levee)
21	San José	San Tomas Aquino Creek upstream of Westmont Ave.	43	Saratoga	Calabazas Creek downstream of Comer Dr.
22	San José	Guadalupe River downstream of Union Pacific Railroad bridge (Alviso)	44	Sunnyvale	Sunnyvale East Channel upstream of Caribbean Dr.