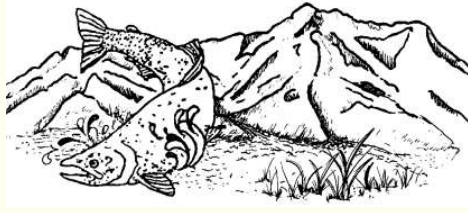


Mill Valley StreamKeepers



With our community, we are committed to preserving, conserving and restoring the ecologic integrity of the watershed for Mill Valley's future generations.

Issue 14 Newsletter

WINTER 2013

Online Donations

When you visit our website you can make tax deductible donations online and securely at:

www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org
This donation site is sponsored by the Trees Foundation.

We are a 501 (c) (3) organization



Get Involved

Our organization likes to work with community members from the expert to the inexperienced and people of all ages. Our meetings are typically at SASM, 450 Sycamore Avenue, on the second Saturday at 10:00 am. We also network with other regional and watershed groups Please call to confirm times and places.

www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org

Partnership with the Trees Foundation

We are a partner with the Trees Foundation based in Northern California. Through this partnership we expand our outreach and education capabilities and join a larger watershed network of 37 non profits that support our common goals. The Trees Foundation enables our online donations and provides opportunities to apply for small grants.

Mill Valley StreamKeepers
P.O. Box 2531
Mill Valley, CA 94942

Along with this newsletter we would be happy to mail you the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program "**Fish Friendly Guide**" for Marin County residents. It is also available online at www.MCSTOPPP.org. Other MCSTOPPP publications we can send you: **Creek Care - A Guide for Marin Residents**, **Go Native Using Native Plants for your Yard, Patio, Creek**, and **Groundwork - a Handbook for Small-Scale Erosion Control in Coastal California**.

2013 Accomplishments

LONG RANGE:

Extended research reading code drafts and code of other counties and municipalities resulting in suggestions and recommendations to follow good example of Santa Cruz's environmental codes.

Public Testimony at Marin County Board of Supervisors Public Hearing for San Geronimo Valley Coho Salmon Enhancement Plan Ordinance Adoption.

Served on the Mill Valley subcommittee on Natural Resources for the General Plan revision.

Public Testimony at Mill Valley Planning Commission and City Council on the General Plan 2040.

Met with Mill Valley Chief Planner, Michael Moore, and senior planner, Danielle Staude to increase accuracy of General Plan.

HABITAT RESTORATION

Mill Valley Beautification Day and Earth Day: maintenance on rain garden, planting native plants, and creekside clean up.

Used native plants from a donor and from Julie Hanft's Greenwood School Native Plant Nursery initially supported by MVSK.

Distributed \$24,000 in grant money for salmon habitat restoration to STRAW (Students and Teachers Restoring All Watersheds) for planning and work on 200 feet of streambank on 3 Wells path.

Collaborated with Boy Scout Jake Marquis on Eagle project of *Carex pendula* removal and streamside restoration of ferns, grasses, and rushes along 400 feet of streambank..

Consulted with numerous vegetation specialists and met with California Department of Fish and Wildlife, EPA, Corps of Engineers on assessing need for permit for creekside work.

Paid for \$1800 worth of native plants for restoration of creekside along Old Mill Creek and Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio Creek.

RESPONSES

Responded to numerous phone and email requests leading to advising citizens, field visits, studying records at the city and county.

Issues regarding Evergreen Sidewalk and construction in Homestead Valley were investigated. Met with concerned citizens.

Wrote articles for Trees Foundation publications.

Visited Old Mill School to see installation of Steelhead aquarium installed by the Tiburon Salmon Institute.

Worked with Clean Mill Valley Committee and wrote letter supporting grant application for special water fountains.

Attendance and representation at numerous meetings including North Bay Watershed Council and Association, Marin Conservation League Water Committee, public representative on MCSTOPPP Citizen Advisory Committee, Southern Marin Watershed Technical Working Group, Watershed Alliance of Marin.

Successfully applied for grants including awards for newsletter and for *Carex pendula* removal..

Continuing discussions with city and county watershed planners and engineers, the Tam Valley Service District, and SASM, the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin.

EDUCATIONAL:

Educational programs at Mill Valley Community Center arranged by Ann Fricker, Environmental Forum participant, and Tamalpais Valley Community Center with Laura Chariton of Watershed Alliance of Marin and others speaking about watersheds.

Created MV Library Case display about sea level rise and the effect on watershed issues.

Annual Newsletter Publication.

"We Love Fish" Banner over E. Blithedale Ave.

Paid for Elementary School classes' education sessions by STRAW.

Tiburon Salmon Institute's Kiss and Release Day had information table about Mill Valley's Arroyo Corte Madera Del Presidio

Help us achieve our goals for 2014; & Save Steelhead.

In 2014 our goals are geared to carry out our mission To Protect and Restore our Watershed. Long term efforts will include implementing Mill Valley's General Plan 2040 and advising the county's watershed conservation area ordinance effort. We will follow the region's grappling with issues of sea level rise, climate change, and increasing bay area sustainability. Our short focus efforts will be to monitor the streams, facilitate habitat restoration, and respond to stream situations or plans for development. Finally, we will strive to educate students, new arrivals to the area, streamside property owners, and all watershed inhabitants to the exciting presence of our particular natural world of plants and wildlife. Finally, our overall goal is to protect the threatened Steelhead in our streams and prepare for the return of the Coho Salmon. Please support and advise us in the next year!



Sea level rise is predicted to reach up to four feet above current levels. This picture (a jogger on the Bay Front path beside Richardson Bay) by Skip Sandberg was taken on a day of "king tides" which will be the new normal. Now imagine high tides, heavy rainfall and runoff and high waves. How will our habitats adjust to climate change?

Donors

We wish to thank our generous donors for they make the efforts of Mill Valley StreamKeepers possible.

Mill Valley Market
Cereus Fund, Trees Foundation
Marin Fish and Wildlife Commission
The Dennis and Carol Ann Rockey Fund

Jane Annan Allen
Thomas V. Allen, Jr.
At the Top Salon and Gallery
Ted Bayer
Betsy Bikle
Patti & Len Blumin
Joyce Britt
Sheila Brookes
Peter & Mimi Buckley
Ken Campbell
Neil Rudolph & Susan Cluff
Joyce Crews
Larry and Peggy Davis
Joan Dedo
Nona Dennis
Alison Lavoy & Robert Fallat
Mary Finnican & Richard Podolin
Pam & Dennis Fisco
Barbara Ford
Ann Fricker & Skip Sandberg
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Jane Miller
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John Palmer
Anne & Don Solem
Craig Corbitt & Nancy Stoltz
Meryl Sundove
Ethan Grossman & Susanne Tilp
Periann Wood & Doug Wilson
Amy Zimpfer & Harold Ball



On Old Mill Creek, ornamental non native sedge planted years ago has since spread downstream to below La Goma Avenue. Here the *Carex pendula* is dug out and replaced with native plants. Thank you homeowners and Boy Scouts!



Education takes place at events such as the Tiburon Salmon Institute's Kiss and Release Day as well as at meetings with city and county staff and boards.

Barriers to fish migration are found at various points in Mill Valley's streams. Check out the map found in the excellent county watershed information website:

http://www.marinwatersheds.org/pdf_maps/Watershed_pdfs/W_RichardsonBay_Fish.pdf

What is a watershed? An area of land which drains to one common body of water.

•••••
• REMINDER: Leave the Fish in the
• Stream! It is against the law to remove or
• fish Endangered or Threatened Animals
• from our Creeks. Our Steelhead are a
• federally protected species. If you see
• anyone fishing, first ask them to please
• stop or, if necessary, immediately contact
• the city 415 388-4033 and the California
• Department of Fish and Game hot line at:
• 1 888 DFG-CALTIP or 1-888 334-2258.
• Your call can be anonymous.
•••••

Email communication –
Please let us know!

I would like to receive:

___ agendas of board meetings
___ agendas of special meetings
___ notes from meetings
___ notice of MVSK events
___ pdf of newsletter
___ list of reports
my name: _____
email address: _____

Please Support Mill Valley StreamKeepers. MVSK is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization working to protect and restore our watersheds. Your help would be welcome as a volunteer and/or donor. Please return this form to P.O. Box 2531, Mill Valley, CA 94942 or donate online: www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org.

Please include your address label if you have one.

I am enclosing a check made out to Mill Valley StreamKeepers in the amount of :

\$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___

Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____