
MARSH CREEK Adopt-the-Creek Program - "Take-Along" Observation Form

Name: _____ Contact Info: (Phone or email) _____

Date _____ Time _____ Weather _____

Which section of the creek do you observe? _____

Part A — Creek Conditions (check whichever description applies)

Water Clarity:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Clear (can see bottom)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Somewhat cloudy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Very muddy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Algae or scum seen
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foam on surface

Water Flow:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Slow
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fast

Water level

<input type="checkbox"/>	Low
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium
<input type="checkbox"/>	High

(find a landmark along the bank -- like a rock at water's edge--and make note of the water level at this landmark on each trip.)

Part B — Trash

You may pick up trash along the trail and top of bank, but do not enter the sloped banks of the channel. We're interested in what trash items are most common, and any clues to how they got there (windblown, waterborne or dropped/ thrown). You may wish to look for trends (for example, snack food wrappers may be found near a school; storm drain outfalls may convey trash from a distant street).

Type of Trash	Amount and/or type	Clues to possible source?
Plastic items		
Metal (cans, bottle caps etc)		
Glass		
Paper		
Styrofoam		
Rubber (balloons, tires, etc.)		
Leaking container (oil or other substance)		
BIG BULKY ITEMS		
Other Items		

Part C — Wildlife

What kinds of wildlife can you see in the creek? Dragonflies, butterflies, birds, fish, amphibians, or aquatic mammals? Did you see evidence such as tracks or scat? If you can't identify the animal, you may want to take a photo or describe.

Type of animal	Number seen, type of evidence, or description
Birds	
Mammals	
Amphibians (frogs, salamanders)	
Reptiles (lizards, turtles, snakes)	
Crustaceans (Crayfish)	
Insects	
Fish	

Did you hear evidence of animal in the creek, such as birds, frogs, or crickets?

Type of animal	Describe sound or speculate which species
Birds	
Mammals	
Amphibians (frogs, salamanders)	
Reptiles (lizards, turtles, snakes)	
Crustaceans (Crayfish)	
Insects	
Fish	

You may mail this form to Contra Costa RCD, 5552 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 or input your observations on-line at www.ccrd.org/adopt-marsh.html

Part D — Plants We are interested in knowing if you see any of the invasive plants listed on the Adopt-the-Creek website (plant & animal observation form), or any native plants that seem uncommon for the area. We're also interested in how wildlife use the vegetation. Or you may wish to pick several plants to observe over time for your own interest.

Grasses: Approx height _____ Green or Dry _____

Herbaceous plants (non-woody)

	Name (if known)	Approx height	Condition (flowers, seeds, green/brown etc.)	Location (top of bank, water's edge, etc.)	Other comments (attracting birds, butterflies, or other insects?)
1					
2					
3					

Shrubs (small woody plants)

	Name, if known	Approx height	Condition (flowers, seeds, green/brown etc.)	Location (top of bank, water's edge, etc.)	Other comments (attracting birds, butterflies, or other insects?)
4					
5					
6					

Trees

	Name, if known	Deciduous or evergreen	Condition (flowers, seeds, green/brown etc.)	Location (top of bank, water's edge, etc.)	Other comments (attracting birds, butterflies, or other insects?)
7					
8					
9					

Part E - Recreational Value of the Creek

Did you see any residents using the trails adjacent to the creek? What were they doing?

# in group	Adult, Youth or child?	Activity: (walking, biking, jogging; pushing stroller)

Other Observations:

You may mail this form to Contra Costa RCD, 5552 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 or input your observations on-line at www.ccrd.org/adopt-marsh.html

MARSH CREEK Adopt-the-Creek Program

PLEASE REPORT PROBLEMS or INCIDENTS

Please note the location of any problem you see (the closest street, footbridge or other landmark)

If you see a questionable action IN PROGRESS:

- Get the vehicle license plate number if possible
- Do not approach the individual doing the action

DUMPING IN PROGRESS:

In Brentwood call...

1-800-No-Dumping
(1-800-663-8674) then press 2
AND Police Dept 24 hr. Dispatch
(925) 778-2441
pdwebmail@ci.brentwood.ca.us

In Oakley call...

1-800-No-Dumping
(1-800-663-8674) then press 2
AND Sherriff Dept. 24 hr
Dispatch (925) 646-2441

Unincorp. Areas call...

1-800-No-Dumping
(1-800-663-8674) then press 2
AND Sherriff Dept. 24 hr
Dispatch (925) 646-2441

BULKY ITEMS DUMPED IN THE CREEK: (furniture, appliances, etc.)

- **For any area, contact the Flood Control Maintenance Dept.;** Phone (925) 313-7000 Email: rlurv@pw.cccounty.us
Please give location, your name, and a contact phone # in case item can't be located.
It may take 2-4 weeks for item to be removed due to the volume of calls received and number of creeks in our county. Your report will be put on a prioritized list.

POLLUTION IN THE CREEK (leaking container, greasy machinery in water, oil slick ,etc.)

In Brentwood call...

Jeff Cowling
(925) 516-5165 or 382-9052
jcowling@ci.brentwood.ca.us

In Oakley call...

Frank Kennedy
(925) 932-7857 or 625-7037
fjk@fjkennedy.com

Unincorp. Areas call...

Charmaine Bernard
(925) 313-2236
cbern@pw.cccounty.us

OR

After business hours call: 1-800-No-Dumping (1-800-663-8674)
then press 2

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MAJOR SPILLS – (overturned tanker truck, large barrels of spilled chemicals etc.)

- **State Office of Emergency Services** - 1-800- 852-7550
(This 24 hour notification hotline notifies other state agencies to respond.) **ALSO CALL**
- **Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed:** phone (925) 325-2908; Email: info@fomcw.org.

A FISH-KILL (many dead fish in the water)

- **California Fish & Game** dispatcher: 831-649-2801 (chose law enforcement option)
- **Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed:** phone (925) 325-2908; Email: info@fomcw.org.
and

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jcowling@ci.brentwood.ca.us

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MARSH CREEK Adopt-the-Creek Program - Report a Problem or Incident

SALMON OR STURGEON POACHING IN PROGRESS (*netting, spearing, hook-line fishing*)

- **California Dept. of Fish & Game**
 - Dispatcher: (831) 649-2801 (chose law enforcement option)
- **East Bay Regional Parks** - Police Dispatch line (510) 690-6510
OR - EB Parks Officer: Dave Freitas at 925-625-5479 or 925-634-1044
OR - EB Parks on-line incident report form: <http://www.ebparks.org/pwr>
- **Sherriff Dept.** (925) 646-2441

SUSPICIOUS, DISRUPTIVE or POSSIBLY ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR

In Brentwood call...

Police Dept 24 hr. Dispatch
(925) 778-2441

pdwebmail@ci.brentwood.ca.us

For possible injury, call 911

In Oakley call...

Police Dept. 24 hr Dispatch
(925) 228-8282

Unincorp. Areas call...

Sherriff Dept. 24 hr Dispatch
(925) 646-2441

SOMEONE HARMING WILDLIFE

- **California Fish & Game** Dispatcher: (831) 649-2801 (chose law enforcement option)
- **East Bay Regional Parks** - Police Dispatch line (510) 690-6510
OR - EB Parks Officer: Dave Freitas at 925-625-5479 or 925-634-1044
OR - EB Parks on-line incident report form: <http://www.ebparks.org/pwr>
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DEAD WILDLIFE

- **Dead Birds** – Calif. Dept. of Health Services - 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473)
Frequently dead birds are the first indication of West Nile Virus in an area. If you find a bird that has died recently (within 24 hours) with no obvious cause, please call the # above. They will arrange for a District technician to pick it up for testing.
- **Dead squirrel** - Please call 1-877-968-2473. Squirrels are also susceptible to WNV.
- **Other dead wildlife:**
 - California Fish & Game** Dispatcher: 831-649-2801 (chose law enforcement option)
 - Contra Costa Animal Services** 1-925-335-8300.

INJURED WILDLIFE

- **California Fish & Game** Dispatcher: 831-649-2801 (chose law enforcement option)
- **Contra Costa Animal Services** 24-hour emergencies: (925) 335-8300
- **Lindsay Wildlife Museum** - http://www.wildlife-museum.org/hospital/injured_orphaned.php

If you discover that any information on this form is not accurate, please contact the Marsh Creek Adopt-the-Creek Program at 925-672-6522 x113 or at mary.grim@ca.nacdn.net.