

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Santa Clara Valley Youth Stewardship Commission

### What is the Youth Stewardship Commission?

The Youth Stewardship Commission (YSC) provides a unique opportunity for high school students to explore careers and contemporary water issues from an inside perspective.

### What is the YSC's goal?

To inspire, educate, and develop leadership skills that will carry the next generation into a sustainable water future. As the state's water issues become increasingly complex, our need for inspired young leaders grows. Through the YSC, we hope to increase our community's awareness of "one world, one water."

### When will the commission meet?

Meetings will take place the third Wednesday of every month from January to June (no meeting in May), 5:30pm-8:30pm at the following address: 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, 95118 in the Headquarters Building. Refreshments and snacks will be provided at each meeting.

### What activities will commissioners engage in?

Commissioners will:

- Learn about current water issues
- Opportunity to job shadow with professionals at the district
- Tour of state-of-the-art water treatment and reclamation facilities
- Participate in service learning stewardship opportunities



### What is the structure of the commission?

Fifteen to twenty-five (15-25) high school students will be selected to represent Santa Clara County's diverse population. Members will serve a six-month term meeting every month during the academic year. \*For the current academic year, the program will run from January through June (no meeting in May).

### What are the incentives?

- Insight into water career opportunities
- Letters of recommendation for college applications upon successful completion of the program
- Community service hours for graduation requirements
- Networking opportunities with Water District professionals
- Leadership training and development
- Knowledge and awareness of how we manage our County's complex water resources
- Foster meaningful friendships with other empowered young leaders



## How do I apply?

Please visit the following webpage:  
<http://www.valleywater.org/Programs/YouthCommission.aspx>

If you have any questions or want to submit your application, please email us at [youthcommission@valleywater.org](mailto:youthcommission@valleywater.org) with **“YSC applicant”** in the subject line. Applications are due in **January**. See web page for deadline.

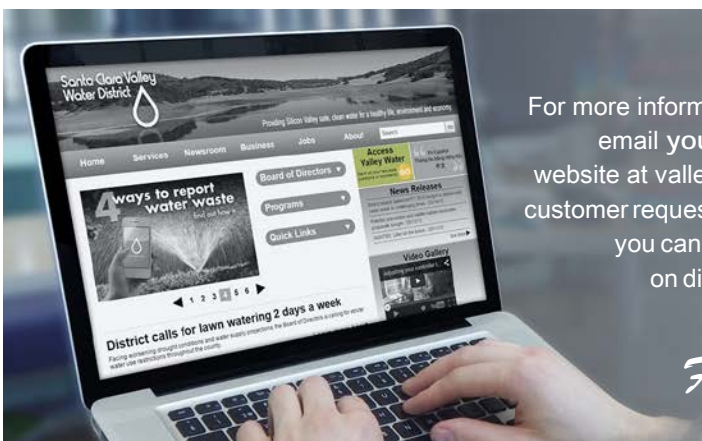
## What we do

The Santa Clara Valley Water District manages water resources and provides stewardship for the county’s five watersheds, including 10 reservoirs, hundreds of miles of streams and groundwater basins. The water district also provides flood protection throughout Santa Clara County.

## What are the criteria for membership on the commission?

Each Youth Commissioner must:

- Be a high school student within Santa Clara County
- Have access to transportation to and from the Water District
- Commit to attending one meeting or activity every month during the academic school year (January - June.)
- Participate in 3 additional “electives,” including but not limited to: job shadowing a Water District professional; attending National River Clean-up Day on the third Saturday in May; tour of water treatment plant; observing a Board of Directors monthly meeting; and other opportunities
- Have an interest in learning about water conservation, water supply, stream stewardship, flood protection, infrastructure maintenance, water quality and water operations programs
- Complete and submit an application by the deadline and be selected to serve a term. (Note: all selected members will be notified two weeks before the first meeting.)



## CONTACT US

For more information, contact the Civic Engagement Staff or email [youthcommission@valleywater.org](mailto:youthcommission@valleywater.org), or visit our website at [valleywater.org](http://valleywater.org) and use our Access Valley Water customer request and information system. With three easy steps, you can use this service to find out the latest information on district projects or to submit questions, complaints or compliments directly to a district staff person.



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