

Neighborhood Work | 2015 Ross Creek Bank Repair Project

About the project

The Santa Clara Valley Water District will repair about 335-feet of bank along Ross Creek, 800-feet upstream of Los Gatos-Almaden Road to minimize erosion.

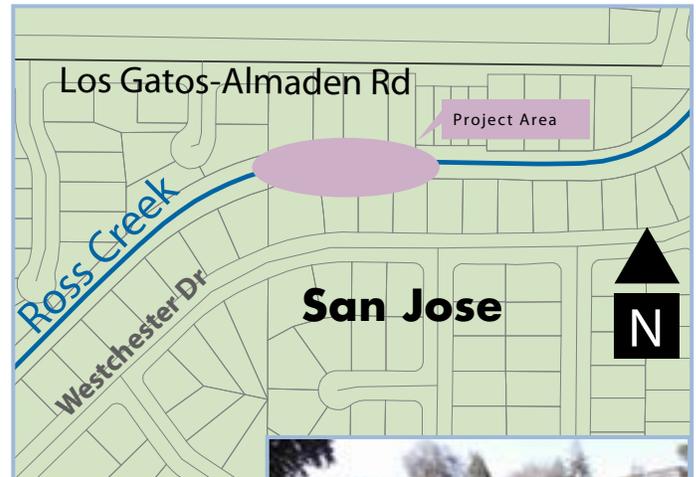
Securing the creek bank protects homes and property along the creek and minimizes sediment build-up, improving the creek's capacity to carry floodwaters while maintaining a stable creek ecosystem. The repairs are improving water quality by reducing erosion.

Work begins in early July and will take about four weeks to complete. * Project work hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. In the unlikely event of delays, work hours may include Saturdays.

A five person crew will work at the site using a small loader, excavators, dump trucks, crew trucks and other heavy equipment. A generator and pump designed to operate more quietly will continuously pump water around the project site and back into the creek farther downstream, if needed.

Trucks and crews will access the creek from Los Gatos-Almaden Road and along a water district maintenance road on top of the creek. Expect no road closures, but the water district may use traffic control or flaggers, if needed, during work for safety.

** Project start dates and duration may vary due to site conditions and equipment availability.*



Highlighted area indicates project area.

Inset: Eroded banks along Ross Creek.



What causes bank erosion?

When water flows over or against creek banks, its energy and movement can dislodge and carry away soil, rocks, trees or vegetation, causing erosion. Erosion can also damage fragile natural habitats that can negatively impact fish and other species that use these natural elements for shelter and food.



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

More about us

As the county's primary drinking water provider, the Santa Clara Valley Water District ensures the safety and abundance of drinking water.

We operate 10 reservoirs which catch local rainfall and import water from the Sierra Nevada snowmelt through the Delta. Some of that water replenishes the underground aquifer for later pumping from wells and some goes to one of our three drinking water treatment plants.

Once we treat and test the water to meet all state and federal drinking water standards, we sell it to local water providers like the San Jose Water Company that resell it to individual homes and businesses. The water supply in some areas in northern Santa Clara County includes Sierra Nevada water imported through San Francisco's Hetch Hetchy system.

The water district also has a major role in the stewardship of local water resources. We care for hundreds of miles of streams by removing invasive vegetation, repairing creek bank erosion, planting native vegetation and removing sediment that can impact the creek's ability to carry floodwaters during rainy months.

We also have many programs to reduce pollution and contamination in these waterways. Where the flood threat is significant, we undertake large construction projects such as building levees or replacing undersized bridges. Often, the water district can partner with a city or the county to open a trail or park alongside the creek, providing a recreational amenity for all to enjoy.

You're in a watershed

A watershed is the area of land that drains to a common waterway. In Santa Clara County, our creeks and rivers



catch rain and runoff from storm drains and carry the water north to San Francisco Bay or south to Monterey Bay. Along the way, some of the water is used to fill reservoirs for drinking water, replenish the underground aquifer and create better habitat for fish and wildlife.

This project is in the **Guadalupe Watershed**. This 170-square-mile-area drains the Guadalupe River and its tributaries through downtown San Jose. Lexington Reservoir, one of the area's best-known landmarks, is located along the western border of this watershed.



CONTACT US

For more information, contact David Adams at **(408) 630-2917** or by email at **dadams@valleywater.org**. Or use our **Access Valley Water** customer request and information system at **valleywater.org** 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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