

Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Activity Center

570 Keyes St., Office #2
San José, CA 95112

Say Hello!
Phone: 1.408.771.7069
E-mail: CCHC@sanjoseca.gov

We are a four-year, grant-funded program dedicated to restoring the natural beauty of Coyote Creek through reducing trash pollution and improving water quality. CCHC addresses the sources of trash pollution by collaborating with the homeless, deterring illegal dumping, and engaging neighbors to be stewards of the creek. We are always encouraging people to get out and explore their creek.

Are Pests Bugging You?

Summer is already hot enough without having to think of all the pests that come with it. Weeds, ants, roaches, and fleas – oh my!

When it comes to pest management, we at CCHC want you to think twice. Pesticides end up in our water, air, and soil and are harmful to both humans and the environment. More than half of the pesticides causing water quality problems actually come from use in urban areas by residents, home gardeners, and pest control professionals.

To find simple tips on how you can effectively manage common pests in your house, please visit the University of California's website at www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

GET INVOLVED

Once you've made a few friends on your block or neighborhood, consider joining a Neighborhood Association (NA). NAs are great ways for you to share information, organize events, and seek help from your neighbors. Get in touch with an NA and see how you can start making an impact TODAY!

Spartan Keyes NA

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month
7:00 pm
Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Action Center
570 Keyes St. Office #2
San José, CA 95112
President: Richard Stewart
spartankeyesNAC@gmail.com
1.408.821.4260

Rock Springs Paseo Senter NA

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month
6:30 pm
Paseo Senter Community Room
1898 Senter Rd.
San José, CA 95112
President: Olga Aguilar
*Cleanups every 3rd Saturday, 8 am
Meetings in Spanish and Vietnamese

Olinder NA

Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month
6:30 pm
Olinder Neighborhood Center
848 E. William St.
San José, CA 95116
President: Huynh Kang
imelda004@aol.com

McKinley Bonita NA

Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month
6:30 pm
McKinley Community Center
651 Macredes Ave.
San José, CA 95116
President: Dario Lerma
monieglerma@gmail.com
*Cleanups every 2nd Friday, 4:00 pm
Meetings in Spanish.

HANDY RESOURCES

Animal Care & Services
1.408.794.7297

Anti-Graffiti & Litter Hotline
1.866.249.0543

Code Enforcement
1.408.535.7770

Extra Garbage Stickers
\$6.25 at City Hall, San José Libraries, Safeway, Luckys and Save Mart

Gang Hotline (Anonymous Tips)
1.408.293.4264

Homeless Encampments
1.408.510.7600

Household Hazardous Waste (FREE! disposal of auto fluids, cleaners, expired medicines, sharps, mercury thermometers, paints and pesticides)
www.hhw.org | 1.408.299.7300

Illegal Dumping
1.408.794.1900

Illegal Dumping: Storm Drains
1.408.945.3000
Large Item Curbside Collection

(mattresses, furniture, etc): Contact your recycling hauler for pick up. www.sjenvironment.org/largeitems 1-3 items for \$26.30

Litter Prevention
www.sjenvironment.org/stoplitter

Recycling: Unusual Items
1.408.535.3500
www.recyclestuff.org

Street Light Repair
1.408.794.1903

Valley Transportation Authority
1.408.321.2300
www.vta.org

Volunteer! Anti-Litter Program
1.408.975.7233

Creek Connections Action Group
www.cleanacreek.org

Watershed Watch
1.866.WATERSHED
www.mywatershedwatch.org

HOMELESSNESS IN COYOTE CREEK ADDRESSED

On a per capita basis, San José has one of the largest unsheltered populations of any major city in the United States. The 2013 biennial homeless census and survey counted 4,770 homeless individuals in San José – an 18% increase from 2011. About 77% of the homeless population live unsheltered along creeks, in vehicles, or on the street and 26%, 1,230 individuals, live in encampments. According to the 2013 survey, 91% of people in encampments reported living in San José at the time they lost their housing. Moreover, 96% stated that they would willingly accept permanent housing over encampment living. The City has identified 247 distinct encampments of varying size in San José with 66 identified adjacent to waterways, dispersed primarily along Coyote Creek.



Remillard Court before May 16, 2014



Remillard Court after May 21, 2014. This area has remained clean since.

In recognition that homeless encampments impact the health and safety of the inhabitants, the environment, and businesses and residents in the surrounding neighborhoods, the City spent \$2 million in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget and will spend an additional \$2 million in Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for a pilot program to house homeless individuals from encampments. Unlike previous efforts that simply cleaned sites only to see homeless individuals return shortly after, this new effort will attempt to permanently keep targeted areas free from encampments.

After assessing several potential sites, the City's Homelessness Response Team selected the large encampment off Story Road and Remillard Court for the project. The goal of the project is to close the targeted encampment by providing supportive housing and implementing site remediation measures. The project, through City and partner funding, will seek to house and employ up to 200 homeless individuals.

Staff has already implemented a number of re-encampment prevention measures, and plans to install gates to block access to the site are also in place. The goal is to clear out the Story Road/Remillard Court encampment by December 2014. To date, 67 individuals have been housed from the site.

If you would like more information, the Housing Department will host its next Advisory Group Meeting on Thursday, August 28th, 2014, 9:30 am - 11:00 am at the Leninger Center in Kelley Park, 1300 Senter Road 95112, or you may contact Project Manager Kelly Hemphill, at 1.408.975.4483.

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Clean Creeks, Healthy Communities Partners:



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San José Public Library Makes Saving Water and Energy Easy!



Our friends at the San José Public Library (SJPL) are making it easier for you to conserve energy and water. Now available at all 23 SJPL branches are Do-It-Yourself Home Energy and Water Savings Toolkits. These kits are available to SJPL cardholders and can help users save on average \$200 per year!

Check out the no-cost kits for up to 2 weeks, and keep some cool items to green your home including compact fluorescent light bulbs, outlet gaskets, weather stripping, a low-flow shower head, and faucet aerators! There are easy "how-to" installation guides, complete with interactive videos, to help you inspect your house, install the items, and decode your utility bills to see how much money you are saving.

Visit your local San Jose Public Library branch today and start saving electricity, water, and money!

Anti-Litter Program Thanks All-Star Volunteers



On June 5, 2014, the Anti-Litter Program recognized the parent Camina Contigo Group from Washington Elementary School. The group received Certificates of Appreciation for their four years of service in picking up litter in and around the school and surrounding neighborhood. The group's mission is to keep their school and neighborhood "Safe and Clean". To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area, please call the Anti-Litter Program at 1.408.975.7233.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thurs 8/28, 9/25 | 9:00 am - 10:00
Senior Safari Walkabout
Happy Hollow Park and Zoo
Free event and admission for adults 50+
For information, call 408.794.6400 or visit www.hppz.org

Fri 9/5, 10/3 | 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm
South First Fridays
www.southfirstfridays.com
Free live art, music, and food every 1st Friday!

Fri 9/5 | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Martha Gardens/Spartan Keyes Art Box Exhibition
Art Ark Gallery | 1035 S. 6th St., 95112
For information, email Judy at be_artsy@hotmail.com

Sat 9/6 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Spartan Keyes Art Box Neighborhood Walk
Meet at Bestor Park

Sat 9/13 - Selma Olinder Community Mural Paint Day
Time and details to follow! Email CCHC@sanjoseca.gov

Mon 9/15, 10/6, 10/20 | 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm
CalFresh (Foodstamp) Prescreening and Application Assistance
Tully Community Branch Library
Free assistance from Second Harvest Food Bank
Schedule appointment by calling 1.800.984.3663

Fri 9/19, 10/17 | 8:00 pm - 12:00 am
San José Bike Party
www.sjbikeparty.org | www.facebook.com/sjbikeparty
Every 3rd Friday, visit website for location and information.

Sat 9/20 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Coastal Cleanup Day
Join our site at Roberts Ave. and Phelan Ave.
For information and to RSVP, visit www.cleanacreek.org.

Free events are happening all over town! Find out what's happening near you.

San José Public Library: www.sjpl.org
San José Parks: www.sanjoseca.gov/prns
Santa Clara County Parks: www.parkhere.org
Also check out: www.sanjose.com/calendar



Share with us what you are doing to #KeepSJClean!

Hashtag your photos and tag us @SJEnvironment on Twitter and Instagram. Together we can make a difference!

LET'S PAINT THE TOWN

Clean Creeks, Healthy Communities debuted its first community art project nearly a year ago with the art box on Story and Senter Roads. This summer, CCHC is hard at work to complete five art boxes and a mural. CCHC's own Paul J. Gonzalez has taken the lead to find local artists who will sprinkle a little Coyote Creek joy throughout our project area.

The art boxes are being produced in conjunction with four other boxes that are sponsored by the Spartan Keyes Neighborhood Association. All nine will be featured at the Martha Gardens/Spartan Keyes Art Box Exhibition on Friday, September 5th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Art Ark Gallery located at 1035 S. 6th St. Come take the Art Box Neighborhood Walk on Saturday, September 6th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm! Meet at Bestor Park.

The following Saturday, September 13, CCHC will host the Olinder Mural Celebration. On this day, residents are invited to enjoy food and games as well as to help paint the mural. This is an exciting opportunity for residents to leave a lasting mark on the community!

If you have any questions or would like more information, (or if you have photos of art in progress), please email us at CCHC@sanjoseca.gov. Also check out our blog at www.sjenvironment.org/creeks-and-bay.



Top: Scott Willis evokes Coyote Creek's natural beauty on this art box located at Story Road and Remillard Court

Bottom: Not quite finished yet! Say "hi" to Laurus Myth if you see her at 10th and Keyes Streets



SAVE ENERGY

- Close your blinds during the day to keep the sun and heat out and open your windows at night to let in the cool air.
- Always wash clothes with cold water.
- Air dry your clothes and thinner fabrics.
- Unplug your chargers when not using them.
- Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- Set your thermostat to 68-70 degrees.
- Plug electronics into a power strip, then turn the strip off when not in use.

SAVE WATER

- Water plants before sunrise or after sunset to prevent evaporation.
- Check your faucets for leaks. One drip a second adds up to five gallons per day!
- Only do laundry when you have a full load.
- Bathe pets outside in an area that needs watering.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth, washing your hands, and in between shampooing.
- Modern Energy Star dishwashers typically use less water than washing dishes by hand.

To find more information on how you can conserve energy and water, or to find out how one of our partners can come to your home and give you a free or low-cost water or energy audit, please visit www.sjenvironment.org.

QUARTER UPDATES



CCHC has been incredibly busy this past quarter as staff started new outreach initiatives and laid out visions for 6 exciting, new community art projects.

To date, 73 outreach events and 52 volunteer creek and neighborhood cleanup events have been organized. Volunteers have donated 2,427 hours and removed 256 cubic yards of trash and debris from Coyote Creek.

CCHC installed a new swing gate at Galveston Avenue near Summerside Drive. This is the third gate CCHC has installed to prevent illegal dumping. Since installation, there have been no reports of dumping in this area!

CCHC is planning to install a fourth gate later this year in coordination with the City's Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Department.

Please remember to report illegal dumping to the Department of Transportation at 1.408.794.1900.

