

NOVEMBER 2022

Office of Civic Engagement Monthly Update



YOUTH COMMISSION

On November 16, the Youth Commission held its second quarterly meeting with 17 commissioners in attendance, along with Director Hsueh. The meeting agenda included a discussion on the Brown Act led by legal counsel and a presentation to collect input from the commissioners on Valley Water’s Public Art Strategic Plan. The commissioners also finalized their work plan and the working groups for the remaining year.

On November 29, the Job Shadowing and Mentorship working group held its first meeting to commence planning for the upcoming virtual Job Shadow Day on February 23, 2023.



Youth Commissioners and staff met in person for the second quarterly committee meeting.

PUBLIC ART

Public Art Strategic Plan: The Public Art Strategic Plan consultant concluded the internal stakeholder meetings which collected information and ideas for the Public Art Strategic Plan. In the coming months, the public art consultant is expected to develop an electronic survey to collect input from internal and external audiences.

SAFE, CLEAN WATER GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Guadalupe River Park Conservancy D3 Mini-Grant Closeout:

In FY 2020, Valley Water awarded Guadalupe River Park Conservancy a \$4,725 Safe, Clean Water Program D3 Mini-Grant for their Guadalupe Watershed Ecosystem Education Project, which provided Virtual Field Trip Package (VFT) scholarships to classes at Title I schools in San José. The VFT included six science lessons and materials for 183 students from kindergarten to 8th grade, with an overall scholarship value of \$40,500. Through this program, the students were able to gain a deeper understanding of the Guadalupe River riparian corridor and ecosystem.

Bay Area Older Adults D3 Mini-Grant Closeout: In FY 2021, Valley Water awarded Bay Area Older Adults a \$5,000 Safe, Clean Water Program D3 Mini-Grant for their Watershed Appreciation Program. The Grantee partnered with local nonprofits and organizations to provide four multisensory educational field trips that allowed visually impaired persons, specifically adults age 50+, to experience Santa Clara County watersheds first-hand. The field trips incorporated the smells,

textures, and sounds of wildlife at Los Gatos Creek County Park (Campbell, CA), Coyote Creek Ogier Ponds (Morgan Hill, CA), and Guadalupe River Park (San José, CA), engaging a total of 82 participants.

Valley Water Refill Station Grant Program: Valley Water awarded two refill station grants for a total of \$10,000 to:

- Morgan Hill Unified School District – Ann Sobrato High School (Morgan Hill, CA)
- Morgan Hill Unified School District – San Martin Gwinn Elementary School (Morgan Hill, CA)

Each \$5,000 refill station grant will fund the purchase and installation of a water bottle refill station to increase drinking water access and help promote reusable water bottles for school-age students.

EDUCATION OUTREACH

EDUCATION OUTREACH PRESENTATION NUMBERS			
MONTH	STUDENTS & EDUCATORS	PUBLIC ATTENDEES	YEAR TO DATE
Jul-Oct	4,293	429	4,722
Nov	1,270	79	1,349
TOTAL	5,563	508	6,071

FY23 Goal: Reach at least 10,000 students and 500 members of the public.

In November, the Education Outreach Program (EO) supported 66 educators and 1,204 students through 23 school presentations and three tours at Edith Morley Park and Alamos Outdoor Classrooms. EO staff also presented “Watershed Maps” to 50 clients at the Family of Children with Special Needs Center (FCSN) in San José and engaged with 29 students and family members during two library programs at Evergreen and Carnegie Branch Libraries. In a continued collaboration with the City of San José’s Walk n’ Roll program, EO raised drought awareness during two school assemblies to 480 students at Alex Anderson Elementary. EO also presented water conservation and stewardship activities to Girl Scout Troop 60039, supporting their “Wonders of Water Journey.”



Clients at the Family of Children with Special Needs Center (FCSN) create watershed models and learn about watershed stewardship and water conservation.

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WATER SUPPLY OUTREACH

WATER SUPPLY OUTREACH TOUR NUMBERS		
DATE	WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND PURIFICATION CENTER TOURS	FY 23 TOTAL ATTENDEES
Jul-Oct		384
Nov 4	Living Wisdom School	12
Nov 4	First Friday's Public Tour	24
Nov 7	City of San José Manager's Office	18
Nov 8	Santa Clara University Environmental Engineering Class	8
Nov 9	San Jose State University Graduate Class	13
Nov 12	Amy Cody & Moreland West Neighborhood Association	13
Nov 12	First Saturday Public Tour	26
Nov 14	Virtual Tour with Mountain View Public Library	8
Nov 15	Department of Water Resources	12
Nov 17	Virtual Tour with San José Public Library	10
Nov 18	Office of State Senator Cortese	4
November Total		148
TOTAL (Current for FY 2023)		532

FY23 Goal: Conduct public/private tours of the SVAWPC in any of our tour formats (live, virtual or self-guided) for at least 1,000 attendees.

November was a busy month for Water Supply Outreach tours at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center. Staff held eight in-person and three virtual tours, with a total of 148 participants. The in-person tour groups included California Department of Water Resources, Office of State Senator Cortese, Moreland West Neighborhood Association, City of San José Manager's office, and various school groups.



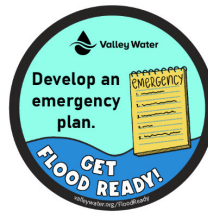
Staff from City of San José and San Jose Water attended a private tour of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center.

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

Community Rating System (CRS) staff continued efforts to encourage flood-preparedness in November. On November 15, CRS staff presented Get Flood Ready tips and materials at the San José Neighborhood Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) monthly meeting for city-wide CERT volunteers.

CRS staff also participated in the Department of Water Resources (DWR) California Flood Preparedness Week state-wide debrief meeting and shared photos and highlights of Valley Water's Flood Preparedness Week activities and the Get Flood Ready campaign. Staff also participated in a meet and greet with the new DWR CRS coordinator and discussed Valley Water's experience coordinating the Santa Clara County CRS Users' Group and Program for Public Information Committee.

Staff also coordinated this season's floodplain mailer containing vital CRS Get Flood Ready tips. This mailer will be sent out in early December to residents and businesses in FEMA-designated Special Flood Hazard Areas, earning participating communities significant outreach CRS credits. Staff will also start distributing new Get Flood Ready stickers for local youth.



CRS staff worked with the Education Outreach Team to develop stickers encouraging kids and their families to Get Flood Ready!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- JAN 09** **FY23 Standard Grant Cycle Applications Open**
- JAN 10** **Education Outreach** 4 Classroom Presentations at Los Arboles
- JAN 11** **Education Outreach** 3 Classroom Presentations at Noble Elementary
- JAN 14** **SVAWPC Tour** In-Person Public Tour
- JAN 17** **Education Outreach** 4 Classroom Presentations at Noddin Elementary
- JAN 18** **Education Outreach** 3 Classroom Presentations at Los Paseos
- JAN 19** **Education Outreach** 6 Classroom Presentations at Guadalupe Elementary
- JAN 24** **Education Outreach** 3 Classroom Presentations at Christa McAuliffe School
- JAN 25** **Education Outreach** Alamitos Outdoor Classroom Tour: Indigo Program
SVAWPC Tour Discovery Charter School
FY23 Standard Grant Cycle Informational Workshop #1
- JAN 26** **Education Outreach** Alamitos Outdoor Classroom Tour: Indigo Program
SVAWPC Tour Discovery Charter School
- JAN 30** **Education Outreach** 4 Classroom Presentations at Eaton Elementary