

Office of Civic Engagement February 2020 Activities Update



YOUTH COMMISSION

The Youth Commission sponsored Valley Water's annual Job Shadow Day on Thursday, Feb. 20. 42 students from 20 high schools representing all seven board districts participated in the fun, informative event. Students learned about the variety of jobs at Valley Water as they explored possible future careers in the water industry. Valley Water employees hosted the students and offered career advice and guidance. Many executives were also in attendance during the workshop sessions to share their own professional journey with the students. Valley Water Board Chair Nai Hsueh and Youth Commission Chair Shloka Janapaty welcomed the students to kick things off in the morning. Director Richard Santos was also in attendance to meet the students.



Job Shadow Day 2020 Group Photo

CREEK STEWARDSHIP

The Coyote Creek Spring Cleanup will take place on Saturday, April 4. The cleanup will focus on three locations: Courie Court, Rocksprings, and William Street/Olinder Park. Valley Water will be hosting a site-coordinator meeting on Thursday, Mar. 26.



Coyote Creek Spring Cleanup Flyer

FEBRUARY ADOPT-A-CREEK

DATE	PARTNER	# OF VOLUNTEERS	LBS. OF TRASH COLLECTED	MILES CLEANED	CREEK
Feb. 23	Baha'is of Santa Clara	7	360	1	Guadalupe River

FY20 Goal: Increase Creek Stewardship volunteer participation by 3% from FY19.



The Baha'is of Santa Clara group conduct a cleanup on Guadalupe River.



The Baha'is of Santa Clara group remove a total of 360 lbs of trash from Guadalupe River.



Sample of a draft artwork design for the Adopt-A-Bench project.

PUBLIC ARTS AND SIGNAGE

- Continued to facilitate the Youth Commission's work on the Adopt-A-Bench Art project to develop artwork for seven pilot benches. The Commissioners reviewed the draft artwork concepts on Feb. 19 and are working with the art advisor to finalize the artwork to present to the Board on Mar. 10.
- Continued working with the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition to develop the full signage inventory scavenger hunt campaign, expected to run from Apr. 1 to Jun. 30.

SAFE, CLEAN WATER GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

On Feb. 11, the Board approved the FY20 grant funding for five B3: Pollution Prevention projects and two D3: Restore Wildlife Habitat projects. The Board also approved a pilot mini-grant program for A2: Water Conservation and revision to the grant allocation matrix for D3: Restore Wildlife Habitat. Staff is working with the awardees to execute grant agreements, and is developing outreach for the pilot Water Conservation mini-grant program.

EDUCATION OUTREACH

During February, Education Outreach presented to 925 students from 33 classrooms in 9 Santa Clara County Schools.

- During February, Education Outreach staff led 3 Outdoor Classroom tours. One tour at the Alamos Outdoor Classroom for Girl Scouts preparing for their "Wonders Of Water" badge, and two school tours at the Coyote Valley Outdoor Classroom and the Alamos Outdoor Classroom. Students focused on watershed stewardship, the water cycle, pollution reduction and learning about groundwater and where our water comes from. EO staff also supported the Job Shadow Day event by providing three tours of the Water Quality Lab for the high school students that attended.
- On Feb. 18, Education Outreach presented the "Elmo and Grover In The Park" puppet show to 100 attendees at the Palo Alto Children's Library and also discussed how to be ready for floods and other emergencies by preparing emergency supplies.
- On Saturday, Feb. 29, Education Outreach staff supported the San Jose State University's 20th "Science Extravaganza" and presented a hands-on watershed mapping activity to ~100 5th - 7th grade students from local schools. The focus of the event is to promote STEM careers.

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MAR 10 2020

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FY20 EDUCATION OUTREACH TOTALS (to date)

MONTH	SCHOOLS - STUDENTS & TEACHERS	PUBLIC EVENTS	MONTHLY TOTAL
Jul. - Jan.	7,350	1,770	9,120
Feb.	958	133	1,091
TOTAL	8,308	1,903	10,211

FY20 Goal: Reach at least 13,000 students and 2,000 members of the public.



Students learn about the water cycle at the Alamitos Outdoor Classroom



Students learn how water flows through a watershed at the SJSU Science Extravaganza

WATER SUPPLY OUTREACH

- Hosted 5 tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center for 124 people and distributed 37 OCWD bottles.
- Staff hosted 49 students, 1 teacher, and 2 staff from Netflex-Milpitas HS, for an interactive tour of the purification center with a Water Education Outreach activity.
- Staff hosted 6 educators from the Children's Discovery Museum for a purification center tour on Feb. 8.
- 31 members of the public attended Valley Water's new Expanded Water Supply Bus Tour on Feb. 29.
- Staff created a promotional video for the new Expanded Water Supply Bus Tour.
- Staff created a video highlighting the Guadalupe River Park and Flood Protection Project.



31 members of the public attend the Expanded Water Supply Bus Tour

YEAR-ROUND VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

On Wednesday, Feb. 26, Valley Water launched the 2020 Water 101 Academy. 21 Water Ambassadors were appointed by the Board of Directors to participate in the program to gain a deeper understanding of local water issues, the existing opportunities and challenges in the water industry and current and future water projects underway in their communities. The Water Ambassadors were welcomed



2020 Water 101 Academy Cohort

DATE	PURIFICATION CENTER TOURS	ATTENDEES	BOTTLE TASTE TEST	FY 19-20 TOTAL ATTENDEES
Feb. 7	SFPUC Engineering Mang. Bureau Tour	2	0	975
Feb. 8	Children's Discovery Museum	6	12	981
Feb. 13	NetFlex Milpitas HS	52	6	1,033
Feb. 15	Public Tour	18	19	1,051
Feb. 29	Expanded Water Supply Bus Tour	31	0	1,082
TOTALS		124	37	1,082

FY20 Goal: Conduct public/private tours of the SVAWPC for at least 1,000 attendees.

by Valley Water Chief Executive Officer, Norma Camacho, who introduced Valley Water Board Chair, Nai Hsueh. Director Richard Santos was also in attendance and provided brief comments. At the first session, attendees learned about the State Water Project, an overview of Valley Water and received a presentation from our Chief Financial Officer, Darin Taylor, on our budget and rate setting process. Chief of External Affairs, Rick Callender, was also in attendance to provide closing remarks.

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

On Feb. 20, Valley Water hosted the first of two annual CRS Users Group Meetings. Eight of the ten SC County CRS communities were in attendance. Topics of discussion include, Valley Water's Floodplain Mailer (FPM); Communication's flood awareness outreach efforts; branding our countywide flood awareness outreach efforts (e.g. disseminating same materials, "Get Flood Ready Emergency Supply List" tote bags, FPM, National Flood Insurance Program and Ready.gov publications); Valley Water's role in SC County's CRS Program; and began discussions on updating the 2015 Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information (PPI) to develop the 2020 PPI.

ENTITY/EVENT	# OF STARTER KITS DISTRIBUTED
Community Booth Events	47
Education Outreach Teacher Bags	33 (this month) 235 (Flood Season: Oct. 1- Feb. 29)
TOTAL	315

LOOKING AHEAD

- Stanford Water Treatment Graduate Class SVAWPC Tour - **March 4**
- Grantee Downtown Streets Team update to the Homeless Ad Hoc Committee - **March 13**
- Educator Workshops with Santa Clara Unified School District science teachers - **March 13**
- Water Reuse CA Conference Tour SVAWPC Tour - **March 15**
- Water 101 Academy Session 2 - **March 18**
- NextFlex with Lincoln High School SVAWPC - **March 20**
- Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) workshop with Santa Clara County Office of Education - **March 21**
- SJSU Ecological Biology Class SVAWPC Tour - **March 25**
- Coyote Creek Spring Cleanup Site-Coordinator Meeting - **March 26**
- Water Infrastructure Bus Tour - **March 27**
- Pilot Adopt-A-Bench artwork presented to the Board (**March 10**) and respective city arts commissions as required - **March/April**