

# The Sausal Creek Erosion Control Project

## What's Going On Here?

Rainwater runoff from Park Boulevard and Oakmore Road has been cutting into the slopes below neighboring homes, creating gullies and filling the creek with sediment. This project is a collaboration between the Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC) and the City of Oakland with funding from the Department of Water Resources to address these issues.

The project focuses on three storm drain outlets that flow into Sausal Creek in Dimond Canyon above El Centro Avenue. The work will slow winter rain runoff, stabilize slopes, reduce erosion, and enhance habitat for the creek's native rainbow trout. Using engineering techniques like those employed recently downstream in Dimond Park, large rocks and tree remnants will be used to stabilize the hillside and create new in-stream fish habitat. Some plants and small trees will be removed and replaced later with locally grown native plants. Heavy construction is expected to take approximately three to four months and will cause trail closures. Next winter FOSC will lead volunteers in planting more than 3,000 native plants and trees to revegetate the hillsides.

The project comprises three sites along the Dimond Canyon Trail starting at the El Centro Trailhead.



For more information, go to the FOSC website: [www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org). Scroll down to Dimond Canyon Project Information. Or contact FOSC Restoration and Nursery Manager, Jay Cassianni at (510) 325-9006 or [nursery@sausalcreek.org](mailto:nursery@sausalcreek.org).



### Project Site 1

Work will take place both between Old Cañon Trail and San Luis Avenue and between Old Cañon Trail and Sausal Creek.



### Project Site 2

Work will occur near the end of Benevides Avenue at the start of the Old Cañon Trail.



### Project Site 3

On the Oakmore Road side of the Dimond Canyon Trail, work will address erosion both above and below the trail.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How long will construction take? Can I still use the trails?

Construction will take roughly three to four months, followed by replanting in winter 2018-2019. Dimond Canyon Trail and/or Old Cañon Trail will be closed at times during construction. FOSC will post project updates at [www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org) and on neighborhood listservs and will work with [OaklandTrails.org](http://OaklandTrails.org) to publicize trail closures.

### How does reducing erosion protect the creek?

The creek banks will be reconstructed using natural materials and the creek restored to a more natural state. More stable slopes and a more natural flow will reduce erosion and sediment buildup, improving water quality and conditions for macroinvertebrates and rainbow trout.

### How will the project look when completed?

Construction requires removing vegetation and grading with heavy equipment, but after replanting it will fill in and be more beautiful and much healthier than before. For example, downstream just below Wellington Avenue in Dimond Park, the creek banks have flourished in just two years since the creek was daylighted. Similarly a large section of Dimond Canyon was completely restored in 2001 and now supports a lush, diverse ecosystem and new recreational opportunities.

### What plants will be planted?

FOSC volunteers will plant more than 3,000 watershed-native plants and trees grown at the FOSC Native Plant Nursery in Joaquin Miller Park. Approximately 500 dogwood stakes, harvested by FOSC volunteers, will be installed by the contractor.

### Was the public notified about the project?

Yes, FOSC and the city did extensive outreach through emails, notices, flyers, meetings, and a project site tour. For a complete list, visit the Dimond Canyon Project Information web page at [www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org).

### How can I help with this project?

Volunteer opportunities will be available in fall 2018 and winter 2018-19 and will be posted at [www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org) > Programs > Event Calendar.