



## Friends of Rose Creek \*

*"Connecting Our Communities"*

4629 Cass Street #188  
San Diego CA 92109



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### The Friends of Rose Creek – First Five Years

The Friends of Rose Creek started working in the watershed in late 2004 and we just passed our five year anniversary. At our last meeting of 2009, we put together a list of accomplishments (in no particular order):

- Nine trees planted between the creek and the Bay View Terrace Elementary School – Oak, Torrey Pine and Mexican Elderberry – in conjunction with San Diego Urban Corps, San Diego Environmental Services and San Diego Earth Works.
- One hundred feet of the embankment near the Rose Creek Cottage covered with native plants done by volunteers working with the Friends of Rose Creek including a stretch planted by Boy Scout Troop 506 as part of an Eagle Scout Project organized by Matt Gray.
- Erection of kiosk to display information on Rose Creek thanks to an Eagle Scout Project organized by Matt Gray
- A rustic bench and a small stand to distribute flyers built by the Rose Creek Cottage thanks to an Eagle Scout Project organized by Alex Chipman.
- Extensive invasive non-native plant removal by the Friends of Rose Creek and the City of San Diego Environmental Services
- Ten tons of trash removed by various cleanup projects involving the support of the local community, I Love A Clean San Diego, San Diego Coast Keeper, San Pasqual Winery, Campland on the Bay and others.
- Assorted bird/nature walks guided by Friends of Rose Creek volunteers who shared the history and birds of Rose Creek with interested community members and tourists.
- Organized cleanup events along Rose Creek including Coastal Cleanup Day and the Creek to Bay Cleanup.
- Volunteers with the Friends of Rose Creek have advocated for the creek and the community on a variety of project including California High Speed Rail, Metropolitan Wastewater Storm Drain Maintenance planning, the proposed

*\*A member of the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance*

*\*A Friends Group of San Diego Canyonlands, Inc.*

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## **Friends of Rose Creek**

intermittent stream discharge project and others. Actions taken include formal comments on plans, meetings with stakeholders, educating the community on potential impacts and engaging elected officials to participate in efforts to protect the creek.

- Worked with other stakeholders in the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance to obtain the San Diego City Council's acceptance of the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance Opportunities Assessment as a watershed based planning document.
- Staffed the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance booth at San Diego Earth Fair (three years) for community outreach and education.
- Increased the number of birds using the creek by reducing the amount of trash in the stream.
- Provided work opportunities for interns and students seeking community service credits.
- Started the Friends of Rose Creek group and implemented monthly meetings.
- Four years work of monthly weed and water gardening events.
- Encouraged additional police presence along the creek to discourage illegal activities.
- Secured a donated source of water for trees and habitat restoration projects (Water provided by the Rose Creek Cottage/Pacific Beach Town Council).
- Through the cleanup and gardening activities provided school groups and scout troup hands on activities that improve the creek.
- Obtained a storage area for gardening supplies (provided by the Rose Creek Cottage/Pacific Beach Town Council).
- Improved relationship with the Rose Creek Cottage.
- The Friends of Rose Creek is an active member of San Diego Canyonlands and the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance. We work actively to improve our wild spaces in neighborhoods across San Diego.