



# Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed

June 2004

## Happy Anniversary!

Happy third anniversary to the Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed! Special thanks to our founders, Dr. Joe Mariotti and Carol Arnold, and to our members and supporters for their efforts to protect and enhance Pinole Creek. You are making a difference!



The United States Environmental Protection Agency has presented the Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed with a Certificate of Appreciation “in recognition of commitment to the protection and restoration of the nation’s water resources.” The EPA’s Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds says to “keep up the great work!”

## Show Your Support for FOPCW—Buy a T-Shirt Today!

More FOPCW T-shirts have been printed and are ready to purchase for only \$10! They feature our logo (designed by volunteer Melissa Lawton) and are available in small, medium, large, extra large, extra-extra large, and children’s sizes. Proceeds go towards protecting and enhancing Pinole Creek and its watershed. Please contact Nicholle at [nicholle@thewatershedproject.org](mailto:nicholle@thewatershedproject.org) or (510) 231-5784 to purchase shirts.

## Contra Costa Open Space Measure Coming to a Mailbox Near You

On June 10, the ballot for the Contra Costa Open Space Measure will be mailed to Contra Costa County property owners. If the measure passes, it will provide money to protect, preserve, and maintain open spaces in the county including seven million dollars for creek and watershed restoration projects. For more information, please call (925) 381-4187 or visit [www.contracostaopenspace.org](http://www.contracostaopenspace.org).

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Questions about FOPCW activities and events?  
Call Nicholle at (510) 231-5784 or email  
[nicholle@thewatershedproject.org](mailto:nicholle@thewatershedproject.org)  
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## Monthly Meeting: Pinole Creek Rapid Bioassessment Results

Wednesday, June 9, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.  
Pinole Library, 2935 Pinole Valley Road, Pinole

In 2003, Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed volunteers assisted in sample collection of aquatic macroinvertebrates, a.k.a creek bugs, from several locations along Pinole Creek. Join us in June to learn about the lives of these fascinating insects and what the 2003 sampling’s can tell us about the health of Pinole Creek. We’ll also meet Aspen Madrone, the new Contra Costa County Citizen Watershed Monitor Coordinator, who will update us on the county’s combined benthic macroinvertebrate and GPS sampling program.

*All meetings are free and open to the public.*

## Native Plant Spotlight: Sticky Monkeyflower

Sticky monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*) is a very common shrub along roadsides and hillsides in the East Bay and will flourish in most garden settings. Sticky monkeyflower can grow up to 4 feet tall. It has narrow green leaves that have a sticky coating to help the plant retain water. Its tubular flowers are the color of orange sherbet and approximately one and a half inches in length. Sticky monkeyflower prefers full sun and moderate water.



Monkeyflowers are a larval food plant for buckeye and the checkerspot butterflies; they also attract hummingbirds.

—Excerpted from The Gardeners’ Guide to Native Plants of the East Bay available for \$5 from the Watershed Project. Sticky monkeyflower is one of the many native plants you can see in the Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed native plant garden at the Pinole Library.

# Aquatic Outreach Institute

1327 South 46th Street  
155 Richmond Field Station  
Richmond, CA 94804

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Richmond, CA  
Permit #226

**Dated Material – Please  
deliver by June 8**

## Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed



Join us at the next **Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed** meeting  
Wednesday, June 9, at 6:30 P.M. at the Pinole Library

Printed on recycled paper

## *Become a Wildlife Gardener!*

*Learn to create wildlife habitat and protect watersheds in your community.*

### What You'll Learn

- How to turn any small garden space into a refuge for birds, frogs, insects, and other wildlife
- How to involve students, teachers, and the community in beautifying their school or neighborhood



### What You'll Do

- Attend 24 hours of training, including field trips to local sites
- Receive extensive resources, training materials, & follow-up support
- Share progress and ideas with other Wildlife Gardeners
- Learn From a professional landscape designer
- Volunteer a minimum of 24 hrs at a school or community garden
- Receive a \$150 stipend upon completion of your volunteer hours

### Training Schedule

- Thurs., June 17, 6:30p.m. - 9p.m. Intro & overview; Martinez
- Sat., June 19, 9a.m. - 3p.m. Field visits & discussion; various sites
- Sat., June 26, 9a.m. - 3p.m. Field visits & discussion; various sites
- Sat., Sept. 18, 9a.m - 3p.m. Garden design and planning; Richmond

**Cost:** \$25, refundable upon completion of volunteer hours - **Volunteer hours can be completed with Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed at our restoration and garden workdays at the Pinole Library!**

For more information visit [www.thewatershedproject.org](http://www.thewatershedproject.org), call (510) 231- 9430, or email [workshops@thewatershedproject.org](mailto:workshops@thewatershedproject.org).



## Upcoming Events

### June

- Wednesday, June 9  
Monthly Meeting  
6:30 - 8:30 P.M., Pinole Library
- Saturday, June 26  
Creek & Garden Work Day  
9:30 - noon, Pinole Library

### July

- Wednesday, July 14  
Monthly Meeting  
6:30 - 8:30 P.M., Pinole Library
- Saturday, July 24  
Creek & Garden Work Day  
9:30 - noon, Pinole Library

## Whom to Call for Dumping and Spills in the Creek

- For dumping in progress, call 911.
- For spills and dumping in Pinole creeks, storm drains, and waterways, call (510) 724-9010.
- For spills and dumping in Hercules creeks, storm drains, and waterways, call (510) 799-8252.
- For spills and dumping in Contra Costa County creeks, storm drains, and waterways, call (800) NO DUMPING.