



# Friends of Temescal Creek

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<http://www.aoinstitute.org/temesca>

July, August, September 2001 **Check out our Website!**

**FoTC Quarterly Meeting: Thursday, Oct. 25,  
7pm. Temescal Library:**

Come to Temescal Library community room, downstairs,  
door in back, 5205 Telegraph Ave., Oakland

Mark your calendar for the following quarterly meetings:

**Wednesday, January 23, 2002, April 24, and July 24, 7 p.m. also  
at the library.**

## **A Special Thanks to Our Volunteers:**

*Kandace Hawkinson:* Mailing List, *Jennifer Stanley:* Web Site.

Please volunteer to focus on one of the many types of tasks:

**Coordination & Grantsmanship, Administration, Publicity,  
Clean ups and Planting, and Mapping.** Your ideas are  
welcome!

**Call 655-0341 or email FoTemescal@aol.com**

You may volunteer within the context of a Merritt College Environmental Studies course in order to get affordable college credit.

## **An FoTC Steering Committee Forms**

FoTC has taken a step toward future growth and activities. The following are now on the initial Steering Committee, which will help decide the direction for the organization:

Bruce Douglas, Current acting President

Paul McGee, Resident of Vicente Canyon

Kristin Hathaway, Creeks Specialist - City of Oakland Environmental Services Division

Robin Freeman, Co founder of FoTC

Pat Nagle, Coordinator of Earthome

Bill McClung, Shelterbelt Builders & Vicente Canyon Resident

A M Fonda, Resident of Watergate at the creek mouth

Margaret Bowman, of St. John's Episcopal Church, on the Thornhill branch

## **Schools Need Volunteers To Help Introduce Kids To Creeks**

Many Elementary teachers include local creeks in their curriculum. They need help taking kids in the field and assisting kids in researching, such as plant identification, drawing, and observation. All you need is to like working with youngsters! Background check required. Call 655-0341, email: FoTemescal@aol.com, or Sherry Minick, Hillcrest School, [sminick@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:sminick@ousd.k12.ca.us)

## **Prop. 13 Grants Available To Local Groups' Creek Projects**

Request for proposals to come out in October, Grant applications due about February.

FoTC can help inform your group how to apply for \$50,000 to \$5 million to implement on-the-ground creek projects.

Eligible projects reduce Non-Point-Source pollution (urban runoff) and /or restore beneficial uses of the State's waters. Municipalities, neighborhood associations, schools, and non-profits such as church groups can apply. Proposals will be due in November.

Contact Bruce Douglas, 655-0341, or Carrie Austin, Watershed Coordinator, 622-1015, or [cma@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov](mailto:cma@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov).

## **UPPER REACHES HAPPENINGS:**

### **Oakland's Creek Ordinance-Upheld!**

Following a public hearing August 28, Claudette Ford, Director, Oakland Public Works Agency upheld Oakland's Environmental Service Manager, Brooke Levin's determination that a 200+ foot reach of the north Tunnel branch of Temescal Creek is a creek and must be protected as prescribed in the Creek Ordinance. The property owner, John Allen, was appealing the invocation of the creek ordinance, stating that the reach is not a creek. His goal is to be able to culvert the reach. Brooke Levin, and Leslie Estes of Oakland Public Works - Environmental Services Division delivered a well researched, clear and powerful presentation of the status, value and health of this reach of creek. The report is available from Oakland's planning department. Many neighbors and creek advocates testified about their experiences with the creek, its vegetation, and its wildlife.

This case is crucial to protecting and restoring the many small reaches of creek remaining intact above ground. Through the creek ordinance, significant but small remnants of natural habitat can be preserved and enhanced.

## **ROCKRIDGE TO TEMESCAL NEIGHBORHOOD REACH HAPPENINGS:**

### **Neighborhood Commemoration at New Temescal Post Office**

**The new Post Office is built!** We are making a fun, interactive announcement that the creek is still flowing underneath.

Join in the creation of a community art project for the new Temescal Post Office, 4900 Shattuck Ave. You can see the final project design model in G&G Hardware's window: on 5008 Telegraph Ave. The outdoor installation will commemorate various aspects of the neighborhood, including Temescal creek, local history and contemporary culture. **Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program** has granted \$1,500 toward the watershed map and mosaic creek with text about creek history and pollution prevention. Total project funding received and promised is now about \$35,000.

**Mark your calendars for the following volunteer workdays: October 20-21, November 3-4, and 17-18.**

**Work days off site, call for location.**

We need all kinds of help, from hammering to digging dirt. To find out more about *PostMark Temescal*, call: (510)655-0341, email: [jnorman@california.com](mailto:jnorman@california.com).

### **Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt**

### **Help Build Play Structures for the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt**

**Catch the last few days of the BIG BUILD, October 3-14**

Friends of the Rockridge-Temescal Greenbelt (FROG) invite adults and kids to participate in building play structures designed by our neighborhood kids! The play structures will be in

Redondo Park (next to Global Video) and Hardy Park (at Claremont & Hudson).

. For more info. see Rockridge News, and the Greenbelt website, [www.frogpark.org](http://www.frogpark.org).

### **Greenbelt Ground Has Broken!**

Construction crews are working on the Greenbelt, clearing and grading for the new walk ways and landscaping connecting Hardy Park to the DMV area and in the Redondo/Clarke Street park. Planning and installing of the plants, art work and interpretive information will soon start. Keep posted about volunteer opportunities: **Bruce Douglas 655-0341**.

#### **EMERYVILLE REACH HAPPENINGS:**

### **TEMESCAL CREEK GREENWAY PLAN: The Report For Emeryville Is Available.**

See and purchase a copy: \$ 22 in color or \$ 5 for black and white.

**Report outlines the basic features and contacts for turning Temescal Creek into a vibrant, urban, green corridor. Call (510)655-0341.**

Construction is beginning on "Bay Street", the new shopping and residential development on the Emeryville shellmound site. A pedestrian railroad overcrossing is the in the city's draft Capital

Improvement Plan. The city will search for funding to plan and build it. The crossing is an important link to connect Temescal Creek neighbors with the bay and the new East Shore State Park.

The Bay Trail will be built along Shellmound St., crossing Temescal Creek at "Bay Street" also.

Protecting the creek's mouth, East Shore State Park's planning process is ongoing. There will be public meetings; see [eastshoreshatepark.org](http://eastshoreshatepark.org) for information

### **Intertidal Study & Fire and Watershed Convention**

FoTC is a partner with **Environmental Science Institute**, dedicated to environmental justice, and **Merritt College** to produce a guide on how to restore the creek as it enters the bay. Creek-related part-time administrative assistant work is available on both the **Intertidal Study** and the **East Bay Hills Fire and Watershed Convention** projects. The Convention will be held mid-March, 2002 at the Merritt Environmental Center. There will be a special Botanical plant monitoring workshop as part of the Convention. **Call (510) 434-3841 or email: FoTemescal@aol.com.**

### **Merritt College Environmental Program FALL Semester courses.**

Call (510)436-2409 or (510) 434-3841, or visit website: <http://ecology@atmerritt.net> **You can register at the course.** The Merritt College course, **Ecological Design Installation and Maintenance** will work with **Vicente Creek, north Oakland hills** neighbors on restoring frog habitat and fire vegetation management. Also, the course will help with the **Firesafe 2001 Fire and Watershed landscape** and house fire management demonstration: **Green and Fire Safe Living**. Saturday, October 13, 11am to 3pm at Merritt's **Environmental Center (SRH)** next to Leona Open Space Reserve. Call Robin Freeman at 434-3841 for information and to register for any of the workshops. **Environmental Careers**, Introduction: Tuesday Nov 6, 6pm at Merritt's **Environmental Center (SRH)**.

**Thank you!** If you can, please donate. Clip and return this portion to update your mailing information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail and/or fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friends of Temescal Creek, has received assistance from the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program, the Strong Foundation, Emeryville, and California Trails and Greenways Foundation, Merritt College, California Dept. of Forestry, the San Francisco Foundation, and Aquatic Outreach Institute.

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**Friends of Temescal Creek**  
**448 48th Street**  
**Oakland, CA 94609-2133**

**Next Meeting: October 25, 7pm**  
**PLEASE POST, THANKS!**