

2012 Community Clean Water Initiative



CONTRA COSTA
CLEAN WATER
PROGRAM

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This information is provided as a public service from the Contra Costa Clean Water Program. For more information call (925) 313-2360 or visit: www.ccleanwater.org

and towns and Contra Costa County, in a cooperative effort to prevent water pollution. This joint effort is known as the Contra Costa Clean Water Program ("Clean Water Program").

The Clean Water Program is now tasked with implementing new State and Federal clean water mandates. If local creeks, reservoirs, lakes, the Delta and Bay are not cleaned up, local communities may be forced to pay large fines and could be subject to third-party lawsuits. As a result, the Clean Water Program is proposing the 2012 Community Clean Water Initiative, a property owner election, to improve local water quality and protect our communities from toxic and dangerous pollutants.

Each year, tons of harmful and dangerous pollutants, bacteria and trash are carried through our communities and enter local creeks, reservoirs, lakes, the Delta and Bay. As water drains from streets, parking lots, and lawns, pollutants are picked up and enter the drainage system through thousands of catch basins throughout Contra Costa County. From there, this polluted water flows through a system of pipes, channels and creeks straight into the Delta and Bay.

The Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has teamed up with all 19 of the incorporated cities

BACKGROUND

Protecting Clean Water in Antioch, Bay Point, Brentwood, Discovery Bay, Oakley, Pittsburg and other East County Communities



Marsh Creek Reservoir

PHOTO: ELOINE CHAPMAN



San Joaquin River Shoreline



Horseshoe Creek



Los Vaqueros Reservoir

PHOTOS: STEVE THUMAN

The following local creeks and water bodies would benefit from clean water services and projects:

- ▶ Antioch Reservoir
- ▶ Contra Loma Reservoir
- ▶ Deer Creek
- ▶ The Delta
- ▶ East Antioch Creek
- ▶ Lake Alhambra
- ▶ Los Vaqueros Reservoir
- ▶ Marsh Creek
- ▶ Marsh Creek Reservoir
- ▶ Markley Canyon Creek
- ▶ San Joaquin River and Shorelines
- ▶ Sand Creek
- ▶ West Antioch Creek

The proposed 2012 Community Clean Water Initiative will:

- ▶ Protect local sources of clean drinking water from contamination and pollution.
- ▶ Remove harmful and dangerous pollutants, toxic chemicals, and potentially infectious bacteria and viruses from our local creeks, reservoirs, lakes, the Delta and Bay.
- ▶ Capture, clean and use rainwater to irrigate local parks and landscaping. This “rainwater harvesting” will also decrease the impacts of polluted stormwater and urban runoff on our local creeks, lakes, reservoirs, the Delta and Bay.
- ▶ Prevent illegal or toxic discharges from industrial and commercial properties.
- ▶ Provide other clean water and pollution control services and facilities required by Federal and State clean water regulations.
- ▶ Keep trash and pollution away from local shorelines, creeks, reservoirs, and the Delta and Bay.

Fiscal Safeguards

- ▶ Funding from the proposed Clean Water Initiative can ONLY be used for local clean water and pollution control services and facilities in Contra Costa County.
- ▶ **ALL funding stays local.** 100% of the funding received from this measure will be used in the individual community where it was generated (*i.e.* 100% Return-to-Source).
- ▶ This measure will expire in 10 years. This funding cannot be extended without a new vote of local property owners.

Election Schedule

- ▶ This is a **property-owner** election defined by and subject to California State Constitution Article XIII D.
- ▶ Property owners should receive their ballots by mail the week of February 21, 2012.
- ▶ Completed ballots can be mailed OR hand-delivered to the Clerk of the Board of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, 651 Pine Street, 1st Floor, Room 106, Martinez, California. To count in this election, **ALL completed ballots must be received by the County on or before April 6, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.**