Leave No Trace on Open Space

When enjoying the open space areas of Roseville, remember that the ways we recreate can impact local creeks and disrupt wildlife.

Stay on the trail. Hikers and cyclists should avoid using shortcuts and user-created trails. These “trails” are not properly designed or maintained and can contribute to erosion.

Keep dogs on-leash and on the trail. Dogs can impact creeks by trampling creekbanks, disturbing wildlife and reducing water quality. Some people may find dogs intimidating. Also, not all dogs play well with others and might not be up-to-date on their shots.

Pick up after your dogs. Dogs are not shy about where they go to the bathroom and this can really hurt the environment and also makes the open space less enjoyable. Dog waste increases bacterial levels and contributes excess nutrients to creeks.

Use binoculars to get a closer view. Chasing or catching wildlife can be detrimental to the open space ecosystem. Children are naturally curious, but they can unintentionally scare or harm wildlife.

How You Can Help

Those fortunate enough to live by open space can directly help protect this valuable resource. Inside are recommendations that can help you start keeping Roseville’s open space healthy for humans as well as plant and animal life.

Why Do We Have Open Space?

These areas allow us to preserve natural resources in perpetuity. They also enhance the quality of life for current Roseville residents as well as for generations to come.

For many in Roseville, the City’s open space setting is a highly cherished natural resource. These areas provide:

- Beautiful scenery
- Passive recreation
- Natural filtering of urban runoff
- Flood protection
- Habitat preservation
- Improved air quality

Currently, Roseville has 4,000 acres of open space—that’s about 1 acre for every 25 residents!

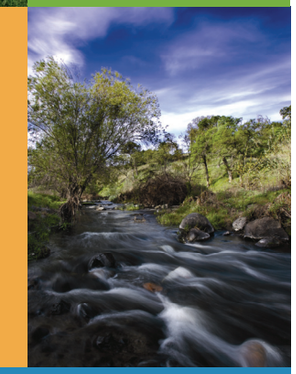
To find out more, call (916) 774-5748
or visit, www.roseville.ca.us/openspace

CITY OF ROSEVILLE CALIFORNIA

Parks & Recreation Department
2005 Hilltop Circle
Roseville, CA 95747

Doing Your Part to Care for Our Open Space

City of Roseville
Parks & Recreation Department



www.roseville.ca.us/openspace

CITY OF ROSEVILLE CALIFORNIA

Only Rain Down the Stormdrain

Home repair and upkeep are essential, but can be done in a way that minimizes impacts to creeks. Unlike sinks and toilets, water entering stormdrains flows directly to creeks without treatment. Even small amounts of common hazardous materials can contaminate creeks and harm fish and wildlife.

Take care when washing your car at home. Use minimal amounts of biodegradable phosphate-free soap and be sure to direct spent wash water into a landscaped area. Empty any leftover cleaning solution into a toilet or sink.

Properly care for pools and spas. Many common pool and spa chemicals are toxic to plant and aquatic life. To obtain approval to discharge your pool or spa water, call the City's Industrial Waste Section at (916) 746-1876.

Use water-based paint and paint removers. Water-based paints are less toxic than oil-based paint and can be recycled. Solvents and thinners used with oil-based paints are also highly toxic. Rinse paintbrushes in the sink.

Avoid hosing down or pressure washing paved surfaces like driveways. Use a broom instead. For spills, use an absorbent such as kitty litter or sand to soak up oil and antifreeze. Sweep the mixture up and throw it in the garbage. If you must wash a paved surface down, direct flows to a landscaped area.

Creek-Friendly Landscaping

Landscaping can turn a basic house into a beautiful home. When maintaining your yard, use the following tips to help both yourself and your open space.

Keep yard waste away from open space. Never dump leaves, grass clippings, or other organic waste into the open space. Although they are biodegradable, adding them to the creek system depletes oxygen in the water and can stress or kill fish and aquatic life.

Keep leaves and yard litter out of stormdrains. These materials not only clog stormdrains, but can also wash into our creeks and streams disturbing the sensitive ecological balance. Pruning waste, leaves and grass can be disposed of through the City's Green Waste Collection Program. The City also offers a leaf pick-up program during November through January. For more information visit www.roseville.ca.us/eu.

Avoid or minimize use of fertilizers and pesticides. Always follow application directions and use non-toxic pest controls. Excessive amounts of some nutrients are toxic to aquatic life. To learn more about non-toxic alternatives to keep your garden green go to www.roseville.ca.us/stormwater.

Properly irrigate lawns and gardens. Over-watering adds water, excess fertilizers and pesticides to stormdrains and creeks. The City can help establish a proper watering schedule. Call (916) 774-5761 for a free Water-Wise House Call. For other water-saving tips visit www.roseville.ca.us/savewater.

More than 60 miles of creeks run through Roseville's open space, enjoy them today while preserving them for tomorrow.

Help Keep it Natural, Don't Plant a Pest

Native plants are more tolerant of drought conditions and are better suited to local soils and pests. Avoid planting non-native species that "jump the fence" and invade natural areas. These invasive plants can become serious wildland weeds that displace native species and reduce the habitat value for wildlife. The following are some **plants and trees that pose problems** in the local area:

Periwinkle (Vinca major) This aggressive grower has trailing stems that root wherever they touch the soil. This ability to re-sprout from stem fragments enables periwinkle to spread rapidly in creeks and drainages, smothering the native plant community.
Instead try Giant alumroot/Coral bells.

Broom (Scotch, French, Spanish, Portuguese Broom) These four brooms have invaded over one million acres in California. The flowers produce thousands of seeds that build up in the soil over time, creating dense thickets that can obliterate entire plant and animal communities.
Instead try Bush poppy; Island bush poppy.

Chinese Tallow Tree This popular ornamental tree can grow up to 40 feet. Seeds are spread by birds and flowing water, and new shoots can sprout from roots. Tallow trees are a serious threat because they rapidly replace native vegetation along streambanks.
Instead try a Tupelo or Valley Oak.

Jubatagrass or Pampasgrass Wind can carry the tiny seeds of these plants up to 20 miles. The massive size of each pampas grass plant with its accumulated litter reduces wildlife habitat, limits recreational opportunities in the open space and can create a serious fire and flood hazard.
Instead try Deer Grass.

For more examples and photos of invasive plants that invade California's wildlands, visit the California Invasive Plant Council's website at www.cal-ipc.org. To learn more about landscaping with native plants visit the California Native Plant Society's website at www.cnps.org.