

COTATI CREEK CRITTERS

Creek Stewardship Day Guidelines

Here are some simple recommendations for volunteers attending Creek Stewardship Days, which will help to ensure a positive, productive, and enjoyable experience for all.

Dress appropriately for work and weather!

- Wear **boots or sturdy shoes** suitable for wet or muddy conditions and rough ground. **For safety reasons open-toed sandals or flip-flops are not acceptable.**
- Dress in **comfortable, old clothes**, with long pants, and be prepared to get dirty. Shorts are not acceptable as you could be kneeling on rough or muddy ground. Long sleeves can help to protect you from thorns, etc.
- Dress in **layers** – the day may start cool and warm up later, or you may get hot working.
- If rain is forecast, proper **raingear** is essential.
- Wear **sunscreen** and a **hat**, to protect you from sun and/or to keep warm in winter.
- We provide work gloves and tools.

Please arrive promptly or a few minutes early. We will begin with a brief introduction and orientation, and to discuss tasks at hand and safety issues. Unless we notify you otherwise, we will meet at City of Cotati Well Lot #2 on Lakewood Avenue in Cotati (nicknamed “Ladybug Lot”). The Lot is adjacent to Ladybug Park in the City of Rohnert Park. For links to maps and directions see <http://www.cotaticreekcritters.info/maps.htm>

If at all possible please stay for the entire period from 9am -12 noon.

There is a significant amount of preparation and clean up for a work day, so we try to make the most of the time we have! We welcome help with clean up at the end. If you need to leave early please inform the Stewardship Coordinator at the beginning of the day so we can give you a task appropriate for the time you are available.

Students under 18 are welcome with permission of their parents. We ask parents or guardians of unaccompanied minors to sign a [parental consent form](#). Children 6-15 must be under the care of a responsible adult. We do not recommend bringing children under 5 for safety reasons.

Credit for school. We are happy to sign forms verifying your hours for credit for school. Please wait until the end of the workday to request a signature from the Stewardship or Outreach Coordinator.

Safety policy. Please read our [Safety Policy](#).

Don't bring valuables you can't carry with you. We can't guarantee to lock them up safely or keep them dry if it's raining.

We provide refreshments, and there's a drinking fountain at the Lot, but it's a good idea to bring your own re-usable water bottle to take with you to the worksite. Single-use plastic water bottles are discouraged.

We work rain or shine! If it is raining we may take cover under a canopy and work on refurbishing tools or potting up plants in our nursery, and run out to the creek if the weather clears. Bring raingear.

Questions?:

- Contact Jenny Blaker, Outreach Coordinator, at jenny@creeks.cotati.info or (707) 792 4422.
- For last-minute questions or directions on the workday, contact Wade Belew, Stewardship Coordinator, at (707) 694 0586.

Thank you, and we look forward to working with you!