

# Help Keep Yard Waste Out of Our Creeks



**IN THE COMING WEEKS, THE NAPA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (DISTRICT) IS PLANNING TO DO ITS ANNUAL WALK-THROUGH SURVEY OF THE CREEK ON OR ADJACENT TO YOUR PROPERTY.** We will be looking for downed trees, debris blockages, severely eroded banks and channel-choking invasive plant species within the creek channel. If we identify a potential issue in the creek channel that is on or affects your property, we will contact you to discuss the matter. Depending on the nature of the problem, and with your approval, we may be able to undertake certain work at no cost to you. Should your streambank have severe, ongoing erosion problems, you may want to inquire about the District's **Cost-Share Streambank Repair Program**, which is available to private landowners. Our services are provided and funded through the District's Maintenance and Watershed Program in which each property owner in the County contributes to annually as part of their property taxes.

When yard trimmings or other debris is placed along streambanks, it inhibits the growth of native vegetation, increases erosion and degrades water quality. Yard debris exacerbates erosion through inhibiting the growth of native plants and the expansion of their root system, which stabilizes soil and the streambank. Yard and other debris can cause blockages, increasing the risk of flooding, and as it decomposes, reduces available oxygen in the water, which can kill fish. Furthermore, it is often forgotten that dumping debris into a waterway is illegal.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the upcoming annual creek survey, the overall condition of your creek, or if you would be interested in obtaining a free copy of the publication *Caring for Creeks in Napa County*, please feel free to call us at 259-8600. Thank you.

**Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
804 First Street, Napa, CA 94559**

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**To property owner/resident:**

