

# COTTONWOOD CREEK AND YOU

A NEWSLETTER BROUGHT TO YOU BY COTTONWOOD CREEK WATERSHED GROUP

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## STAKEHOLDER MEETING LOCATION CHANGED...

CCWG will start holding the stakeholder meetings at their office at 3233 Front Street. The office is quite large and rated to hold 62 persons. Having the meetings at the office will give us the opportunity to show you the distance we have traveled in the last five years--you will have an opportunity to view the reference materials that are available for your use, and reports that have been completed.

As CCWG moves forward to finalize the management strategy and develop a cooperative WMP that outlines the desired watershed conditions, CCWG needs your participation and input! The final strategy meeting will be held at the CCWG office on the afternoon of July 21. This is your last opportunity to set in motion the direction CCWG will take in the future. Please contact Vieva for meeting time, as details on that are still in development.

***"Funding for this (Strategy) project has been provided full or in part through an Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) pursuant to Proposition 50 and CALFED and any amendments thereto for the implementation of California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program."***

## NEW FIRE REGULATIONS

The State of California has changed the regulations regarding the removal of brush around your home. The new regulation is **"at least 100 feet from your home."** This is the defensible space around your home that gives the firefighters a fighting chance against fire. It means clearing away all dead grass, brush and dead leaves from around your home.

Also eliminate the fire ladder--This means removing tree branches that would allow the fire to move upward and crown, moving faster and hotter from tree top to tree top. Space trees about 10 feet apart, and keep branches trimmed at least 10 feet from your roof.

For additional information, log onto [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org) and [www.firesafecouncil.org](http://www.firesafecouncil.org) for landscaping and making your home **Firesafe**.

**For the Shasta county residents:** It may be in your best interest to let both the National Forest and the Shasta County RAC know that you would appreciate them more if they were to funnel some of the National Fire Alliance funds into the forest areas near the "communities at risk" such as Igo, Ono, and Platina as well as the many ranches and homes in this watershed. For the past two years, the Shasta County RAC has been funding projects such as trails restoration, and fish restoration for mountain streams, etc. None of these efforts will mean much if there is a major fire going through the forest and wild land area, destroying the communities at risk as well as the watersheds.

To learn more about the Shasta County RAC and the funding it is responsible for allocating, check out the web site below to learn more about the RAC, Title II funds, and Title III funds; perhaps you would be interested in assisting CCWG to obtain funds in order to do some of the necessary work around these communities at risk?

[http://wwwnotes.fs.fed.us:81/r4/payments\\_to\\_states.nsf/RAC/Shasta+County?OpenDocument](http://wwwnotes.fs.fed.us:81/r4/payments_to_states.nsf/RAC/Shasta+County?OpenDocument)

**DON'T FORGET! CCWG is IRS -recognized as a non-profit 501(c) 3, meaning donations can be used as tax deductions!**

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**Mission Statement:** *"The Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group will work to preserve the environment, private property and water rights, and economic resources of Cottonwood Creek watershed through responsible stewardship, liaison, cooperation, and education."*

CCWG 10/27/99

## COASTAL CLEAN UP DAY IN COTTONWOOD- MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Shasta Roots & Shoots is again coordinating Coastal Cleanup Day in Shasta County and Cottonwood Creek. This year it is 9AM-12PM, September 17th. We want to pick up the trash before the fall rains wash it into the Creek. It will save the lives of many wild animals and keep our water pollution free. Last year we found entire cars in the Creek, at least a dozen car batteries, and 2 dozen tires. **Beach captains and volunteers are needed for Farquhar, Evergreen and I-5 beaches.** If you would like to be a beach captain, please call Karen at 347-1687 or email [kscheuer@c-zone.net](mailto:kscheuer@c-zone.net). If you are under 18, you will need to bring a parent.

## CHANGES AT CCWG

Jenny Coelho, CFO has tendered her resignation. Her husband left his employment here in the watershed and moved to Idaho where the landscape is a bit more agriculture friendly. We will miss both of them, especially Jenny's efforts on behalf of CCWG.

CCWG is looking for additional directors, especially someone to represent the upper watershed. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, please give the office a call. 347-6637 and ask for Vieva.

## IRRIGATED LANDS WAIVER IN SHASTA AND TEHAMA COUNTIES

The Shasta Tehama Water Education Coalition has been notified that California water code section 13267 letters are being sent to some 38 growers in Yollo and Merced counties, which require a response in thirty (30) days or are subject to fines up to \$1,000 per day and that the party is guilty of a misdemeanor. STWEC has also been advised that the growers in Butte/Yuba/Sutter counties are probably the recipients of the next round of compliance requirements.

What is your status with STWEC or the RWQCB?

See what's on the flip side!

## NEWS FROM THE PAST

An excerpt from Dottie Smith's book, *History of Cottonwood, Now and Then*.

### 1875:

John Williams arrived from Michigan took over operation of the old Janesville Hotel (became known as the Gas Point Hotel and Country Store) owned by father-in-law Dr. Kenneth Davidson. **NOTE: -Don't get this store confused with the present Gas Point Store on Gas Point Road near Shirley Street.**

Williams established the Gas Point Post Office in the hotel/store and served as postmaster.

The name "Gas Point" is somewhat of a mystery because versions of it vary. Some claim it came about as a result of the many tall tales told around the hotel stables by the "gassed" mines, another states it is named for the prospectors who gathered around the hotel tables to "gas and spin yarns", while another claims it is named for the natural gases that escaped from the marshes in the nearby hills which supposedly existed in paying quantities in 1865 but no record or exact location exists.



This photo was taken a couple of years ago on Lower Gas Point Road. This is all that's left of the old Gas Point Store-Hotel-Post Office and Livery stable and is located on private property.

## Red Legged Frog Inventory

The inventory request and results have been completed and sent to USF&WS. After they have completed their review, CCWG will request additional funding to move ahead with the actual ground inventory of the lands where permission was granted.

CCWG will keep you posted.

## DISTRICT FAIR DISPLAY RECEIVES AWARD



Our first display at the local Shasta District Fair received first place with an award of \$100.00. Before leaving, Susan Williams along with Julia Arnold, Director and my self prepared and set up the display. We are very proud of our efforts and plan to take the display board to local businesses as well as the Tehama County Fair. Stop by the office and take a look!

Due to family conflicts, Susan will not be involved in the KIDS grant next year. She was very enthusiastic about working with the children and carried the program out into the Cottonwood elementary school.

The Board of Directors is looking at other candidates to fill the position and finish this grant. One goal will be working to provide science education for students that are currently being home-schooled as this seems to be a current void in the schools in the CCWG watershed.

**Stakeholder's Meeting Schedule:**  
**When: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:15 pm**  
**Where: NEW! 3233 Brush Street, south of Front St.**

Cottonwood, CA 96022

Upcoming meeting dates:

**July 26: Photo tour of the watershed**

**August- Watershed Information Model (WIM)**

**September-**

**Watch for the newsletter online at our new website at:**

**[www.cottonwoodcreekwatershed.org](http://www.cottonwoodcreekwatershed.org)**

This newsletter was brought to you by the Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group. If you would like to participate in the group or have questions, please contact us. We'd also appreciate any volunteer help you can provide. We look forward to hearing from you! 347-6637.