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(Overlooking East Field. Photo courtesy of Laura Hartung)

How Can I get Involved?

Regular volunteer work days and internship opportunities in site restoration and guardianship are offered by 2 great campus groups:

1) UCSC Site Stewardship sponsors restoration and guardianship for sensitive natural areas within the UCSC campus. Contact the Grounds Department: grounds_interns@ucsc.edu

2) UCSC Natural Reserves sponsors restoration within the Campus Natural Reserves. For more information, visit <http://ucreserve.ucsc.edu>

Report Concerns:

Storm Water Quality Hotline:

Please report any concerns, illegal dumping into storm drains, or suspicious activities that may cause environmental harm to the Storm Water Quality Hotline (459-2553).

Report an Emergency: call 911 from any campus phone or 459-2345 when calling from a cell phone (911 calls made from cell phones will not reach Campus dispatch).



(Photo courtesy of Carolyn Lagat-)

Learn more about the UCSC Storm Water Management Program and UCSC Storm Water Management Plan at cleanwater.ucsc.edu

This brochure is created by Joanne Yee, Storm Water Management Program Intern for the UCSC Storm Water Management Program.

Like us on Facebook at UC Santa Cruz Storm Water Management Program

Contact us at: cleanwater@ucsc.edu

(831) 459-4520

UC SANTA CRUZ STORM WATER:



Spring 2011, Volume 1, Number 2.1



Unofficial Pathways

Unofficial Pathways

What are unofficial pathways?

Unofficial or ad hoc paths are created when people walk around constructed paths creating new pathways. Some examples of such pathways at are seen north of East Field (*bottom photo*), above the Oakes Trail, Kerr Hall, College Eight (*photo at right*) and many others.

What are the effects of unofficial



pathways and how do they affect storm water quality?

The creation of unofficial pathways destroys natural ground cover and compacts the underlying soil. The natural services provided by vegetation are impaired when ground cover is reduced due to trampling. The soil becomes exposed and the rate of infiltration is reduced while the rate of storm water runoff increases during a rain event. The impact of rain droplets on exposed soil can break up soil particles and influence soil erosion. Increased rates of runoff can also result in erosion of soil and higher sediment loads in runoff.

The runoff drains into the campus storm drains and delivers the eroded sediment into the natural drainages. Erosion reduces the rate of infiltration and aquifer recharge in natural ground cover and drainages.



Solutions:

UCSC Grounds Department:

Erosion control methods include using mulch, rice straw, rock, jute netting, fiber rolls, erosion control fabric, silt fencing, redwood logs, seeding and planting. Methods to prevent pedestrian traffic include temporary and permanent fences (*photo at bottom right of the next page*), signs, obstructive plantings and tree debris. The Site Stewardship Program (Grounds Department) works on trail restoration across the UCSC campus. One of trails includes the Upper Jordan Gulch Project between the Fire Station and College Nine. For more information on restoration projects, visit: <http://ucscplant.ucsc.edu/ucscplant/Grounds/index.jsp>

UCSC Natural Reserves:

Erosion control and prevention of direct runoff methods include water bars, slope regarding, mulching, rerouting, planting native species, and rolling undulations in ground surface.

Methods to redirect or prevent pedestrian traffic include trail closures, such as fences, and natural barriers, such as branches and rocks, that can be disguised amongst the landscape.

Long Range Development Plan (2005 LRDP):

A mitigation measure in the 2005 LRDP Final EIR requires the Campus to install signs and expand public education programs to inform and educate the campus population about the importance of staying on paved roads and approved paths. Another mitigation measure requires the inclusion of fencing, signing, and/or other design features to control pedestrian/bicycle circulation and minimization of potential shortcuts when designing and planning for new pathways and bikeways.

How you can help:

Please stay on paved roads and approved/official paths. Educate your peers and encourage them to avoid using unofficial paths. Help protect soil and storm water quality, prevent erosion, and preserve the aesthetics of our UCSC campus. Volunteer or Intern with UCSC Grounds Department and UCSC Natural Reserves.

