

Restoring Creeks in Difficult Urban Sites: Options for Orinda
Wednesday, October 4th, 2017 at 6:30 PM
Orinda Library Garden Room



San Pablo Creek circa 1910

The restoration of San Pablo Creek as it flows through Orinda Village is a key component of the Downtown Revitalization plan. Imagine a naturalized creek complete with a pedestrian path and even a restaurant (or two) with creekside dining. Come learn more about what this project entails and its many benefits from an expert in the field, Dr. Ann Riley. Restoration techniques can include removing failing concrete sides, “daylighting” streams that were once encased underground in culverts, and restoring old concrete flood control channels; these techniques have the potential to improve flood capacity and reduce erosion problems. Most of all, these projects revitalize business districts and local economies and provide needed urban park space. In addition to slides of the many similar successfully completed restorations in other San Francisco Bay Area communities, we will have visual displays of the currently proposed restoration in Orinda. Light refreshments will be served and discussion will follow.

Dr. Ann Riley is the executive director of the Waterways Restoration Institute, and watershed and river restoration advisor for the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. Dr. Riley’s work in river restoration is nationally recognized and she has garnered numerous awards over her long career. She is the author of two books on urban stream restoration and her latest book, Restoring Neighborhood Streams, provides some of the cases she will show in her presentation.