

Chapter 4. Watershed-Specific Recommendations

4.2.2 Oakmont Creek Watershed

Watershed Setting. Oakmont Creek and twelve mostly seasonal creeks drain the hillslopes adjacent to Oakmont. The divide between the Sonoma Creek Watershed which flows to the San Pablo Bay and the Santa Rosa Creek Watershed which flows into the Russian River splits Oakmont into two separate watershed basins. Three of the Oakmont Creeks make their way to the valley floor and retire east towards Sonoma Creek while the other seven connect with Oakmont Creek and wend their way to Santa Rosa Creek near the northeast boundary of Spring Lake. The headwaters of these creeks are mostly in Annadel State Park and Hood Mountain Regional Park.

Oakmont Creek. Oakmont Creek is a tributary of Santa Rosa Creek.

Oakmont Creek Reach 1: Urban Growth Boundary to confluence Santa Rosa Creek

Maps: Oakmont 1 & 2

Type: Natural Creek and Modified Natural Length: 18,290 linear feet

Existing Conditions and Recommendations:

Natural Resources. Oakmont Creek flows through the Oakmont Golf Course and neighborhood, then alongside Channel Drive and Annadel State Park until it enters Santa Rosa Creek near Melita Road. Prior to meeting Santa Rosa Creek, Oakmont Creek collects water from seven other creeks: Wild Oak, Quarries and Annadel Creeks from the south and Laurel, Badger, Charlotte and Melita Creeks on the north. The tributaries to Oakmont Creek originate in the surrounding mountains and are seasonal creeks. In the more natural sections of Oakmont Creek downstream of White Oak Drive, pools and riffles form aquatic habitat with roots, boulders and undercut banks providing shelter. There are steelhead trout throughout the reach. The plant community consists of California bay, willow, redwood, coast live oak, big leaf maple and valley oak. Tree of heaven, Himalayan blackberry and periwinkle are common invasive plants throughout.

Recreation, Access and Transportation. The creek flows through a mix of public and private property. An existing Class 1 paved trail extends on the south/left bank from White Oak Drive to Timber Springs Road. A proposed on-street connection along Timber Springs Road would connect to an existing unpaved road/trail in Annadel State Park. This trail is proposed to be paved. At Channel Drive a proposed on-street connection would continue to Spring Lake Park and along Montgomery Drive. A parallel on-street connection on the north bank would follow Oakmont Drive and Stone Bridge Road, passing along the driveway to the City's Oakmont Treatment Plant to cross an existing trail bridge (#1) to Channel Drive.

Laurel Creek. Laurel Creek is a tributary to Oakmont Creek.

Laurel Creek Reach 1: Urban Growth Boundary to confluence Oakmont Creek

Maps: Oakmont 1

Type: Natural Creek and Modified Creek Length: 1,829 linear feet

Existing Conditions and Recommendations:

Natural Resources. The headwaters of Laurel Creek are located in the foothills of Hood Mountain and enter the City's Urban Growth Boundary through a culvert under Highway 12. The creek travels approximately 330 feet through an undeveloped field. This reach has a natural bottom with a canopy cover of willows and elderberry. After this natural stretch the creek enters a culvert where it travels over 800 feet. The pipe outfalls into a concrete lined channel downstream of Oakmont Drive before entering

Oakmont Creek. This channel is filled with Himalayan blackberry, cattail and an occasional coastal live oak tree on the top of bank.

Recreation, Access and Transportation. Public access areas/trails could be incorporated with the development of the surrounding area.