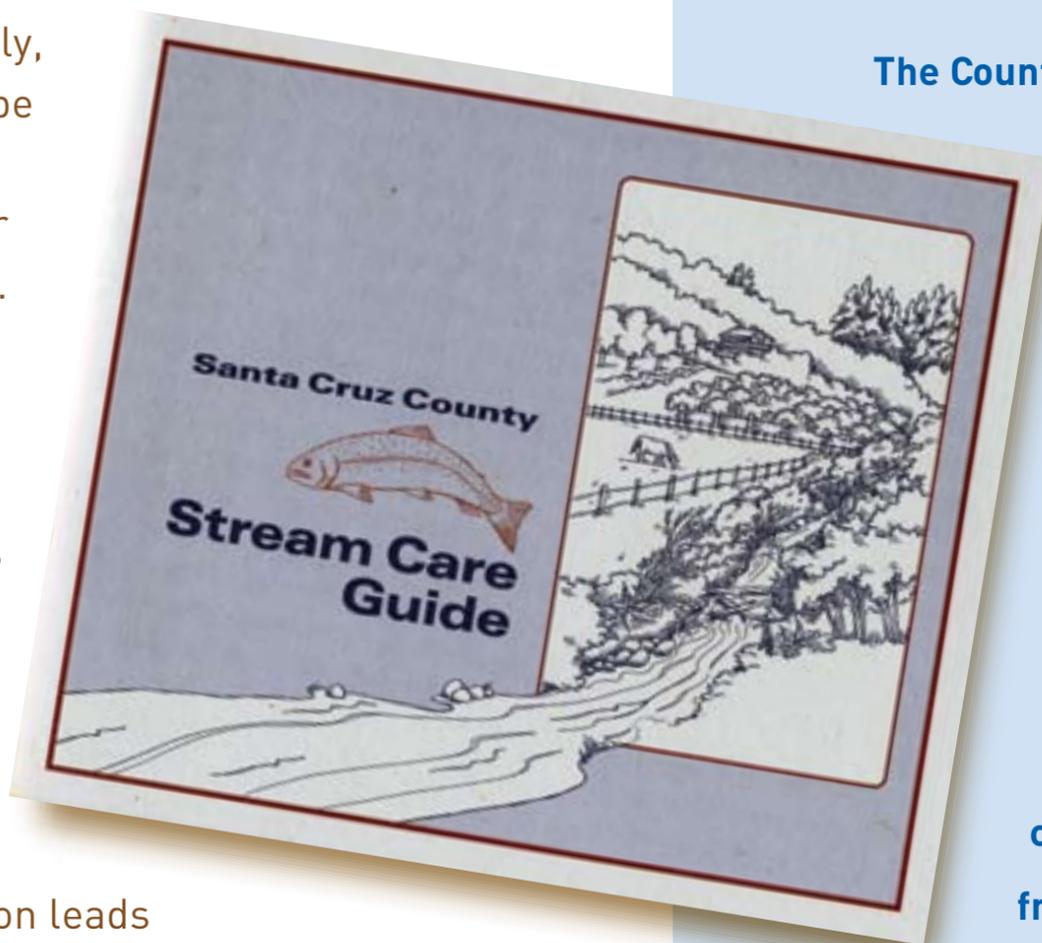


Santa Cruz County Stream Care Guide



The more than 770 miles of waterways found in Santa Cruz County are an invaluable resource—they provide the water we drink, habitat for abundant wildlife, safety from flooding, and aesthetic and recreation value. Unfortunately, this resource can be damaged easily by careless actions or improper land use.

We all play a part in maintaining our waterways; anything that happens in the watershed (the land that drains to a stream) can ultimately impact their health. Erosion leads to sedimentation that reduces water supply and degrades fish habitat; pollutants accumulate on the land and when washed by rain or runoff reduce water quality; and increased runoff from development alters natural channels and causes flooding. Special responsibility rests with streamside residents and property owners. Proper management of stream banks and their vegetation can prevent or minimize erosion, preserve water quality, contribute to the survival of the area's fish and wildlife, and help avoid flood losses.



The Santa Cruz County Stream Care Guide was created to provide information to streamside property owners and residents to help guide their efforts in stream stewardship.

The County of Santa Cruz

Planning

Department

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Department of

Fish and Game.

Copies of this guide can be obtained from the Planning Department's General

Information Desk and online at www.sccoplanning.com/pdf/env/streamcare.pdf

