

Habitat Restoration FAQs

Why is Habitat Restoration important?

To increase native plant diversity, improve food and shelter for wildlife, and improve the quality of water flowing to the Bay.

Who can volunteer? Is there a minimum age requirement to participate?

Volunteers of all ages are welcome! Children under the age of 12 require a parent or guardian to accompany them.

What will we be doing?

Removing invasive plants, maintaining native plants, sheet mulching, and litter removal from the creek and the surrounding area.

Is experience necessary?

No experience is necessary. Staff and/or habitat stewards will provide guidance.

When are the events?

On the first or second Saturday of each month, 9am-12pm. Please check the Volunteer Opportunity Listings at <https://www.fremont.gov/CSVolunteer> for the upcoming schedule of events.

How can I sign up to receive notifications of events?

Go to www.Fremont.gov/CSVolunteer, scroll down to find the Community Services Volunteer Interest List, and fill out the online form. You'll receive emails to sign up for projects/events and learn about all of the volunteer opportunities. (Select "Park / Creek Clean-ups / Habitat Restoration" as a Volunteer Area of Interest, to receive emails about Sabercat events.)

Where will we be volunteering?

Sabercat Historical Park is located in Fremont's Mission District, south of Washington Blvd and running approximately parallel to it. ([Map](#)) The City maintains five restoration sites along the creek. Exact event site locations will be determined prior to each event. If you've signed up for an event, look for a reminder email with location details. The [Sabercat Interactive Map](#) includes GPS coordinates, photos of the entrances and restoration sites, plus walking routes. Here are [maps and directions to specific sites](#).

Can I take transit?

Yes! Please check triplanner.transit.511.org for routing information, and see the [map](#) and [list of bus stops near restoration sites](#).

Are there restrooms nearby?

A [public restroom is located at Old Mission Park](#), on Ibero Way off of Pine Street. There is also [one located at the Via Orinda trailhead](#). Restrooms are not close. Please use one before you arrive.

What supplies does the City provide?

- Tools
- Thorn gloves
- Water to refill bottles

What should volunteers bring?

- **MANDATORY:** A *signed* [Volunteer Form](#) is required for each participant, **adults included!**
 - **Under 18?** Minors under 18 years of age must bring a [Volunteer Form](#) with their own name and info, also signed by a custodial parent or legal guardian.
 - **If you do not submit a completed form, you will not be allowed to volunteer.**
 - We will have blank Volunteer Forms at the site, in case you forgot yours, but your form must be signed by yourself (if you are 18 years old or older) or your custodial parent/ legal guardian (if you are 17 years or younger) before you begin volunteer work!
 - Please read the [Volunteer Guidelines](#), and check the box on the Volunteer Form acknowledging that you have done so. If you have any questions about them, please ask the work day supervisor.
- A reusable water bottle.
- Outdoor work clothes:
 - Required: sturdy closed-toe shoes/boots
 - Recommended: long pants and a long-sleeved shirt, hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses
- You are welcome to bring your own gloves and tools (please label them).
- Service learning verification forms/community service forms/logbooks, if applicable.
- Map to confirm exact site location.
- Optional: insect and tick repellent

What if it rains?

In general, restoration events are all-weather events and take place rain or shine. Light drizzle does not cancel an event. Lightning does, and heavy rain or high winds might. If you are registered, check your email for a notification of cancellation. If rain is predicted, please bring/wear rain gear, including waterproof footwear and rain/ski coats/pants, if you have them.

What if the air quality is poor?

If the [Air Quality Forecast](#) for the South Central Bay is 101 or higher (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, or worse), then the work day will be canceled. If it is 51-100 (Moderate), the event might be canceled. If you are registered, check your email for a notification of cancellation.

How do I claim my service learning/ community service hours?

Bring any service learning verification forms or community service documents/logbooks provided by your organization. The work day supervisor will sign forms at the end of the work day. We do not provide forms or certificates.

Are there hazards in the park?

Yes. Please visit the [Habitat Restoration Possible Hazards page](#) to learn more about hazardous plants and environmental conditions.

How can I contact the organizer with any questions?

[Community Services Volunteer Coordinator email](#) or 510-494-4333.

[City of Fremont Environmental Services email](#), 510-494-4570, attn.: Sabrina or Barbara

Workday Supervisor: [Sabrina Siebert email](#) or 510-494-4589 Tuesday and Thursday only (Mobile phone number will be sent with Volunteer Confirmation email after you've signed up, in case you get lost trying to find the location.)

Program Manager: [Barbara Silva email](#) or 510-494-4575 to coordinate larger groups.