

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West



Guadalupe Garden – San Jose, California



San Jose Area Water Reclamation and Reuse Program City of San Jose, Calif. –
Photo Credit: Winetta Owens

The Guadalupe Community Garden, located on Walnut Street and Asbury Street in San Jose, Calif., is the newest addition to the City of San José’s Community Gardens Program. As the first community garden in California to be irrigated with recycled water, the garden addresses Mayor Chuck Reed’s “Green Vision” goal to recycle or reuse 100 percent of San Jose’s wastewater and has gained renown as a demonstration site for environmentally-friendly gardening. The City of San Jose, South Bay Water Recycling and the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy have received over \$35 million in federal funds for the Guadalupe Community Garden Program. This is a joint effort of local municipalities and water districts administered by the City of San Jose to serve recycled water throughout Santa Clara County. Current infrastructure includes more than 120 miles of pipeline, four pump stations and 9.5 million gallons of storage. Recycled water is used for multiple purposes, including environmental restoration, urban agriculture, landscape and industry.

Since November 2008, San José has provided an avenue for residents to cultivate their own vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers, amidst an urban city environment. The Community Garden Program provides a means for over 900 gardeners to learn different growing methods from one

Public Affairs Office - Mid-Pacific Region

916-978-5100

mppublicaffairs@usbr.gov

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

another, while cultivating friendships. These gardens demonstrate that even a small plot of land in an urban setting can produce an abundance of fruits and vegetables for the community and each gardener can creatively designs his or her own plot to grow a variety of produce.

One of the plots, planted and maintained by the Santa Clara County Master Gardeners, is used for demonstration, education and research. Gardeners share compost bins, a tool shed with tools specially labeled for use with recycled water and a sink for washing produce.

Today, the garden has become so popular, there is a waiting list for aspiring urban gardeners.

For more information on Guadalupe Community Garden, please visit:

<http://sanjoseca.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Guadalupe-Community-Garden-340>

<http://www.grpg.org/the-park/river-park-gardens/community-garden>

<http://www.examiner.com/article/guadalupe-river-park-community-garden-opening-celebration>