Protect Your Watershed

I f you live in the Salt Lake Valley, there's a good chance that a portion of your drinking water supply comes from the creek that flows through City Creek Canyon. Human activity can have far reaching impacts on our drinking water quality. While some areas that supply drinking water in America have been closed to the public because of pollution, areas like City Creek Canyon have remained open while maintaining a pristine water supply because of careful stewardship. Other protected watersheds include Big Cottonwood Canyon, Little Cottonwood Canyon, Parleys Canyon, and beyond. You can make a positive contribution to our water quality by following these simple watershed regulations:



Vehicles may be on the road at any time.



Bicycles are allowed on the canyon road on ODD days except holidays during the summer season. Bicycles are allowed throughout the winter season unless otherwise posted. No biking allowed on trails in City Creek except on the Bonneville Shoreline Trail. Uphill bicycle traffic must be on the creek side of the road. Obey speed limit of 15mph.



All pedestrain traffic must stay on the creek side of the road.



Cars are allowed in the canyon on all holidays and EVEN days during the summer season with a paid fee. Obey speed limit of 15mph.



No camping allowed in City Creek Canyon.



Above Site #16, no swimming or body contact with the water. Anglers must wear waders.



Picnic sites available. Reservations can be made for the summer season for even numbered calendar days when cars are allowed.



Leashed pets are allowed below the water treatment plant (picnic area #16). Pick up all animal waste. Dog leashes must not exceed 6 feet.



Campfires are allowed in developed facilities with fire rings or within barbecue grills. Do not leave campfires unattended. Seasonal fire restrictions may apply. Fireworks are prohibited.



Off-road vehicles are not allowed in City Creek
Canyon or along any ridgeline.

Print Version

Fall 2023

Welcome to City Creek

The watershed area above the water treatment plant, located 3 miles up the canyon, is part of Salt Lake City's "Protected Watershed" which provides the Valley with high quality drinking water. Careless recreation and pollution of the water supply resulted in the closure of the Canyon from 1952 to 1966.

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is a geographical or geological area of land that catches the rain and snow drained by a single river system. If a drop of rain lands near a ridgeline, it will eventually flow to the stream at the bottom of the canyon.

All surface and ground water that contributes to a stream is a part of that watershed system.

Canyon Operating Hours

Year-Round Hours: 8:30am - 10:00pm

Summer Season: First even day of Memorial Day weekend through September 30th.

Winter Season: October 1st until Memorial Day weekend.

Holidays: Canyon closes at 8:00pm and no cars allowed in after 6:30pm.

Contact Us

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