

# NORTH DAVIS DRAINAGE CHANNEL



## Overview

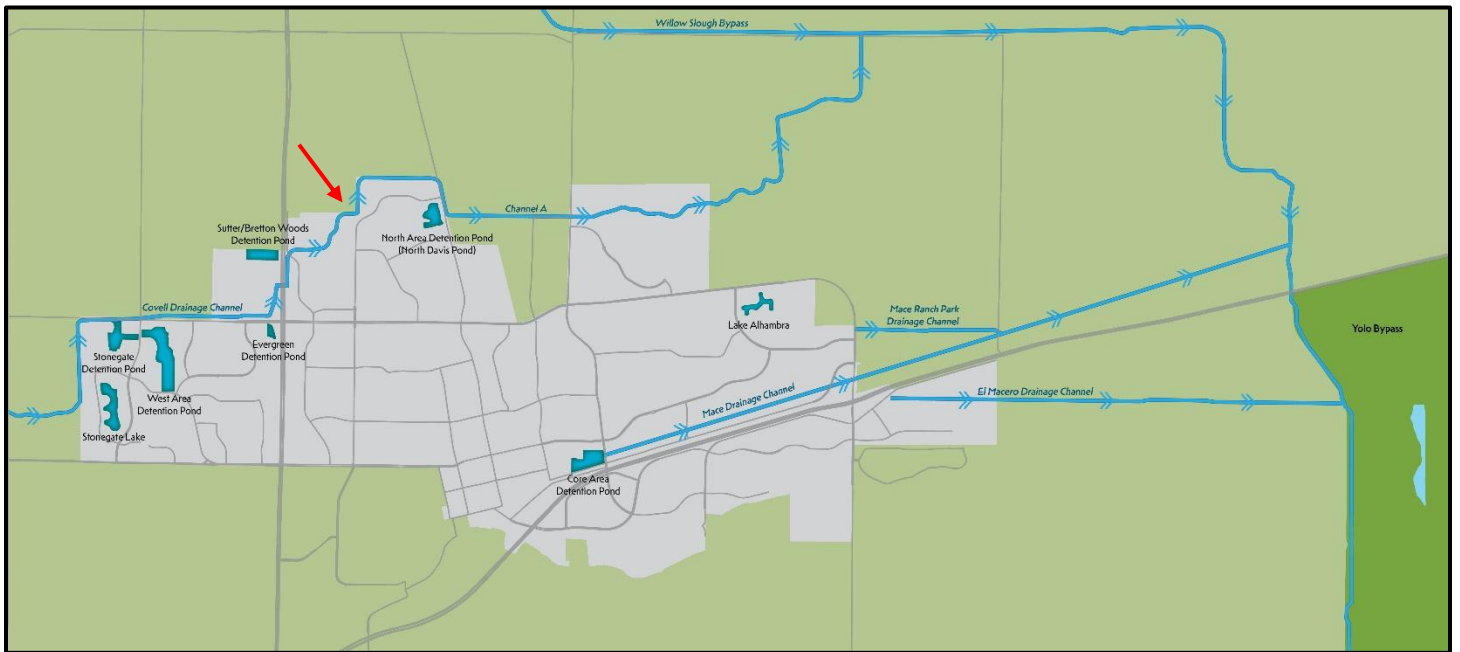
Even though they look like open spaces, the City's drainage channels, detention ponds and wetlands are not maintained by the City's Open Space Program. Instead, they are maintained by the City's Public Works Department because they are part of the City's vast stormwater drainage system that protects the City from flooding. In Davis, these drainage features all have natural soil surfaces and vegetation, which act as a natural water treatment filtration system and provide seasonal habitat for aquatic plants and wildlife. The stormwater flows into the Yolo Bypass and eventually into the Sacramento River and the San Francisco Bay.

The North Davis Drainage Channel (also known as the Covell drainage channel, Channel A, or the North Davis ditch) is one of the City's primary stormwater conveyance channels. It conveys stormwater from West Davis, through North Davis, and out to the Willow Slough Bypass. The channel offers opportunities to enjoy a naturalized waterway within an urban environment and views of the adjacent farmland.

Key information:

- The channel features a meandering paved trail, meandering packed-dirt trails along the channel's southern bench and north bank, benches, native shrubs and trees, native grassland habitat, pollinator nodes, two pedestrian bridges over the channel, and interpretive panels.
- Dogs are allowed but only on-leash and on the designated paved and packed-dirt trails.
- Public access is allowed on designated trails only.
- Bathrooms and potable water are not available.
- The channel is open seven days a week, from dawn to dusk.

A 1.25-mile section of the channel recently underwent a habitat enhancement project. In total, 240 pounds of native grass and wildflower seeds, 6,000 herbaceous plugs, 3,000 shrubs, and 600 trees were planted in a 17-acre area along the channel. City Open Space staff help City Public Works staff maintain these native plantings. A map showing the location of the channel can be found below.



## Things you can do at the North Davis Drainage Channel

- Take a walk/hike/run.
- Take a bike ride.
- View birds and wildlife.
- Learn about the area from the interpretive panels.
- Walk your dog on leash on the paved and packed-dirt trails.
- Meditate/commune with nature.

## Rules and Regulations

Even though the North Davis Drainage Channel is not an open space area, visitors should treat it like an open space area. Key rules and regulations at this location include:

- Dogs are allowed at this location, but they must be leashed and remain on designated trails.
- Dogs are not allowed to be off-leash on the trails or in the habitat areas.
- Pedestrians must stay on designated trails and not walk into the habitat areas.
- Biking is allowed at this location, but only on the paved trail.
- No horseback riding.
- No hunting.
- No camping.
- No fires.
- No smoking.
- No drones.

## Directions

The North Davis Drainage Channel can be accessed via Sandpiper Drive off of Anderson Road. The channel can also be accessed via Mockingbird Place, Waxwing Place, Robin Place, Oriole Avenue, Anderson Road (at Bird Entry Park), Harrier Place, Peregrine Avenue, Kestrel Place, Falcon Avenue, Eagle Place, and Valencia Avenue.

## Photo Gallery





Some photos courtesy of Marc Hoshovsky.