

The 19-mile lower section of the LA River is mainly a concrete channel to reduce flood risk for the communities adjacent to the river. **But it's much more than that.**

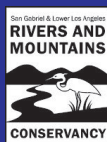
LEARN MORE

The river can be an outdoor classroom and recreation area for the entire community.

Visit [LOWERLARIVER.ORG](https://lowerlariver.org) for ways you can engage and learn about the Lower LA River.



THE LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER





The Lower LA River Revitalization Promotes:



PARKS

And multi-use paths, and open spaces



HEALTH

Environmental and public health improvements



JOB & HOUSING

And other economic development



MOBILITY

Bikeways, walkways, & street improvements



HABITAT

Restoration



WATER

Quality and treatment



CULTURAL & ART SPACES



PUBLIC SAFETY



History of the LA River

The LA River historically was a natural streambed that meandered freely across an open flood plain during rains. It was a source of water and food for the indigenous Tongva, providing habitat for fish, birds, deer and even bear. It was also a primary source of water for Los Angeles until the early 1900s.

With increasing urbanization, winter rains led to sometimes devastating flooding in the surrounding communities. After flooding repeatedly damaged homes and businesses, starting in 1938 the Lower LA River was channelized and lined with concrete to protect our lives and properties. The Lower River now passes through 14 cities and many unincorporated County communities on its way to the ocean.

The Lower LA River

The LA River starts in the mountains and runs about 51 miles to the ocean. In dry weather, most of the water in the river comes from wastewater treatment facilities in the San Fernando Valley—cleansed water that has been used in and around our homes and businesses.

When it rains in urban areas, or when we over-water gardens or wash our cars, that water runoff collects trash, pet waste, and oils from our streets and sends it right to the river and the ocean.

Water Flow in the River



2.4 Million
gallons/hour
= 4
Olympic pools



5.9 Billion
gallons/hour
= 9,000
Olympic pools

Our River. Our Future.

The Lower LA River Revitalization Plan aims to connect residents to the river that flows through the communities. Did you know you can walk, bike, and horseback ride along the river? Did you know the river provides habitat for wildlife along its banks?

The Revitalization Plan identifies how we can reduce flood risk, while restoring natural features where possible, increasing our access to the river and creating opportunities for recreation.