OUR MISSION:
To champion the creation of a river park system along the 52-mile San Diego River.

This river park system will provide the community with recreational activities and a greater connection with nature.

By connecting the community, creating a river park system, and conserving natural and cultural resources, the River Park celebrates the San Diego River's unique natural and cultural legacy, while enhancing quality of life.

Who are the Friends of Santee’s River Park?
The Friends of Santee’s River Park were founded under the umbrella of the San Diego River Park Foundation. We are a community group united by the common goal of conserving and enhancing the San Diego River in Santee.
For over 8,000 years, the San Diego River has been vital to our region. In 1769, it became one of the most important rivers in the United States with the founding of the first European settlement on the west coast along its banks. For this reason, the San Diego River is recognized as “California’s First River.”

The river has become neglected and forgotten in recent years. It is now polluted to the point that it is considered one of our nation’s most polluted waterways. As such, the river’s vital ecological functioning is in danger of being lost.

The San Diego River Park Foundation is dedicated to engaging community members in returning the river to health and celebrating it with the creation of a river-long park system.

But what has become of the river?
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Our work in Santee is in partnership with:

**CONNECT**
- We’re connecting the community to the San Diego River and to each other through:
  - award-winning volunteer programs
  - social gatherings, hikes, and community events
  - education and outreach

**CREATE**
- We’re creating a river park system and advancing signature projects by:
  - being a leading voice in advocating for the River Park
  - advancing river trail and park connection projects
  - enhancing sense of place with signage and interpretive elements

**CONSERVE**
- We’re conserving the river’s natural and cultural resources through:
  - river clean-ups, surveys, monitoring, park watch, and planting
  - research and scientific collaboration
  - resource protection and management

Our vision is a river that is a healthy part of our community for generations to come!

There are many fun and rewarding opportunities to get involved with the San Diego River Park Foundation. You can make a difference!

**VOLUNTEER**
- Participate in a river clean-up
- Get your hands dirty at the community garden
- Park Watch
- Join a river survey
- ... and lots more!

**DONATE**
Donate to our annual fund to help support our many programs to create and conserve the River Park. 100% of your donations go to programs that help the river.

The San Diego River Park Foundation is a 501(c)3 public benefit organization. EIN 01-0565671.

**CONTACT US**
San Diego River Park Foundation
PO Box 80126
San Diego, CA 92138
(619) 297-7380
www.sandiegoriver.org

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