



OUR CITY FOREST fact sheet



MISSION

- ✓ *The mission of the nonprofit **Our City Forest** is to cultivate a greener, healthier metropolis by mobilizing Silicon Valley neighborhoods, businesses, schools and agencies in understanding, planting, maintaining and protecting the urban ecosystem, including its urban forest.*

GOALS & STRATEGIES

In 1994, Our City Forest launched the "One Million People, One Million Trees" campaign with the following primary objectives:

- ✓ Increase community involvement in tree planting & tree care & related urban ecology activities
- ✓ Demonstrate & recommend best urban forestry practices
- ✓ Develop & train a dedicated & diverse Tree Amigo volunteer corps to uphold best practices
- ✓ Plant and steward trees using the highest professional standards
- ✓ Develop neighborhood, school, government, business and volunteer collaborative opportunities
- ✓ Increase public awareness of the value, benefits & needs of urban trees, vegetation, watershed, & other urban ecosystem elements
- ✓ Protect and enhance urban forests throughout Santa Clara County
- ✓ Achieve high tree survival rates through community-based stewardship
- ✓ Leverage funding – public & private – to support urban forestry & urban ecology programming

PROGRAMS

- ✓ Green Streets - *free trees & help for neighborhoods*
- ✓ Tree Amigos - *volunteer planting coach certifications*
- ✓ Cool Schools - *free shade trees for schools*
- ✓ Healthy Trees - *early tree care, pruning & outreach*
- ✓ Trees for All - *planting assistance for seniors & disabled*
- ✓ Green Neighborhoods - *green living certifications*
- ✓ Tree Bank - *tree nursery*
- ✓ Earth Day & Arbor Day Programs
- ✓ Tree Santa - *trees for homebound*
- ✓ Green San José – *community service urban forestry program*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Donated/planted 40,000+ 15-gallon shade trees at schools, parks, streets & City facilities
- ✓ Donated/planted 8,000+ shade trees to more than 200 schools and 40 City parks
- ✓ Mobilized 100,000+ residents to participate in over 2,000 projects
- ✓ Developed a Tree Patrol program to track young trees for 3 years
- ✓ Developed a volunteer corps of 300 trained "Tree Amigos"
- ✓ Maintained a 90% tree survival rate – as audited by the City of San José
- ✓ Leveraged \$5 million in funding to serve local neighborhoods, parks & schools since 1993

SPECIAL AWARDS

- ✓ 2002 Planting America's Future Award
National Tree Trust, Washington, D.C.
- ✓ 1996 President's Service Citationist Award
Points of Light Foundation, Washington, D.C.
- ✓ 1995 Clean Air Award Finalist
Santa Clara-San Benito American Lung Association
- ✓ 2007 and 2003 Gold Leaf Award
International Society of Arboriculture
- ✓ 1995 Girl Scouts World of Outdoors
Girl Scouts of Santa Clara County
- ✓ 1997 Community Enhancement Award
Peninsula Conservation Center Foundation

Our City Forest is a 501(c)3 organization – your contributions are tax-deductible & appreciated!

151 West Mission Street • San José, CA 95110 • (408) 99-TREES

www.ourcityforest.org

www.ecosiliconvalley.org

Information also available in Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog and Chinese