

City of Santa Cruz

Urban Tree Planting & Inventory Project

The City of Santa Cruz received grant funding from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to plant 500 additional trees in 2018 and 2019, increasing the number of trees typically planted annually in the city from approximately 300 to 800. The project also includes development of a Geographical Information Systems based urban tree inventory to assist in identifying future tree planting sites and effective urban forest management.

Trees are the key to vibrant communities



Trees are the building blocks of our "urban forests," the living, breathing, life-sustaining part of our city environment.

As natural forests are eliminated globally, limiting the impacts of climate change can be mitigated through urban reforestation.

Trees beautify our parks, shade our neighborhoods, and enhance our city sidewalks, but they also do much more.

Trees build vibrant communities by:

- **Creating comfortable shared spaces** that calm traffic, encourage us to get out of our cars and walk, get exercise and interact with our community.
- **Decreasing energy consumption** by shading nearby buildings and pavement.
- **Reducing air pollution** by removing carbon emissions, dust, smoke and particulates from the air.
- **Reducing ocean pollution** by capturing stormwater run-off and recharging groundwater aquifers.
- **Strengthening our local economy** by increasing foot traffic and business sales.

And sometimes they simply provide a much-needed place of solace in a bustling urban center.



Planting
500 trees will
sequester 1,355
metric tons
of CO₂

How can YOU help grow a vibrant tree-filled community?

Get Informed.

- **Learn more** about the Vibrant Cities and Urban Forest movement at: www.treesarethekey.org.
- **Learn more** about the City's tree programs, policy and projects through the **City's Parks & Recreation** website, the draft **Parks Master Plan 2030** or contact the City Forester 831 420-5246.

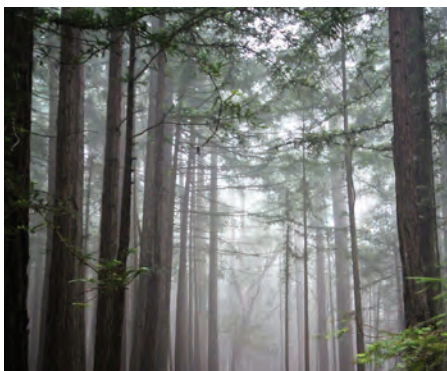


Get Active.

All City residents are invited to come help on future tree-planting days to be announced throughout 2018 and 2019! Contact lkeedy@cityofsantacruz.com to be added to our volunteer list.

Plant a tree at your home or business!

- The City offers free street trees from its **approved Street Trees list** for residents to plant in front of their home or business.
- The City's **tree grant program** was established to assist property owners with the care and maintenance of Heritage Trees or Street Trees, matching up to 50% of the project cost.
- Consult the **Heritage and Street Tree ordinances** and get your **permits** before removing, planting or pruning 25% or more of a tree.
- Call 811 USA underground service alert to locate any underground utilities, call before you dig it's the law!
- Remember! To derive maximum benefits from a landscape tree, planning in advance of planting is a must. Consult the **University of California Home Gardeners information on Landscape Trees** for resources on site and species selection, as well as long term care.



Community Partners on this project include: Monterey Bay Master Gardeners • Ecology Action • Coastal Watershed Council • Santa Cruz Sunrise Rotary • Kirby Preparatory School • Santa Cruz Shakespeare PG&E • UC Santa Cruz Natural Reserves • Sierra Club • Cabrillo Horticulture Department