



WORK -SHOP

4th ANNUAL FREE TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP

by Dan Beeder

The City of Redwood City, in partnership with CityTrees, is pleased to announce the 4th Annual Tree Pruning Workshop! Please join us for this free hands-on seminar, which includes classroom training on proper tree care, pruning, and tree maintenance, as well as hands-on pruning practice on live trees in the field. Reservations and more information are available by calling Dan Beeder at 650-465-6586. The workshop takes place on **Saturday, February 23rd, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to noon** at the Redwood City Public Works Services Department building, 1400 Broadway in Redwood City. Refreshments will be served.

Participants will learn basic tree biology and techniques for young tree care. A demonstration of safe tree pruning practices and handling of tools is also part of the workshop. After the classroom time, the group will then meet at a selected site in Redwood City to practice their newly-learned tree pruning techniques.

"Graduates" of this popular workshop can also volunteer to become part of CityTrees' pruning brigade, and participate in pruning events to help maintain the trees that CityTrees has planted over the past seven years. The more participation the better, so please invite any friends or associates you think might be interested in attending.

For more information:

www.citytrees.org

P.O. Box 984

Redwood City, CA 94064

Tel: (650) 556-9380 ext. 4

Fax: (650) 556-9385

CITYTREES EVENTS FOR 2008

City Trees currently has 5 planting events and 3 pruning/maintenance events planned for 2008. Volunteers from community groups will assist at each of these events to help reach the City Trees goal of enhancing the urban canopy in Redwood City.

We need volunteers to join in the work for each of these events. We start working at 9 a.m. and finish by 12 noon. City Trees will provide the tools and the snacks, including water.

Children under the age of 16 need to be accompanied by a parent or other adult and the adult must sign a waiver of liability. Parents/guardians must provide transportation for minors to and from the planting site.

All volunteers should provide evidence of their health insurance.

See the schedule at right for upcoming events. The schedule will be updated as the information for dates and locations are finalized in conjunction with the City of Redwood City. Please visit us on the web at www.citytrees.org for the most current event schedule.

Upcoming Events:

February 23

Pruning Workshop, Redwood City
Public Works Services Department

March 15

Pruning Trees, location TBA

April 19

Planting Trees, location TBA

April 27

Toast to Trees, Savvy Cellars

May 17

Planting Trees, location TBA

June 21

Planting Trees, location TBA

September 20

Planting Trees, location TBA

October 18

Planting Trees, location TBA

November 15

Pruning Trees, location TBA

PLANT A TREE

GET INVOLVED WITH CITYTREES

by Jason Leith

One of the biggest issues to surface in recent years in the consciousness of the world is the concern over global warming and the degradation of the environment. What used to be a simple dislike for the appearance of a clear cut hillside or the appreciation of a beautiful tree lined street has bloomed into a truly global understanding of how interconnected the environment is and how important it is to every aspect of our lives. With this greater understanding has come a greater desire by the population to take some action to help protect and preserve our fragile ecosystem. The actions we could take cover a large spectrum from what we buy, what we drive, how we spend or free time and even what we choose to eat.

One of the most rewarding and direct activities you can take to preserve and even repair the environment is by volunteering with City Trees. Each tree that gets planted takes that much more carbon out of the air, decreases the need for air conditioning by providing shade for homes and provides an environment for a variety of wildlife to call home. The trees also add warmth and beauty to each street, making the neighborhood more friendly and a nicer place to live. And the best part is that planting trees through City Trees takes only a few hours about once a month and yet has such a long lasting impact for the City and the planet.

City Trees is able to plant so many trees in so short a time by fielding large groups of people for each planting, which can make it possible to plant 50 trees in only a few hours. One of the best ways to get a large number of volunteers out on a given day is to have a group or organization turn out to help. City Trees has been aided by members of both large and small companies, students from local schools, civic and cultural groups as well as a variety of clubs. The benefits of this kind of volunteering are many fold. The participants engage in a positive activity which teaches them about tree planting, growth and care. They also develop a greater sense of camaraderie within the group as well as a greater connection with the community. For a company you have the benefits of showing that you care about the city and the area in which you do business and allow the neighborhood and other volunteers to see your employees as both engaged and caring individuals. Each group that volunteers is mentioned on our website and in the newsletter, which can both increase your visibility and provide a way for potential members to get to know you.

All these benefits of course are secondary to the true accomplishment. With each tree you or your group plant you are helping to preserve this world for your future, and that of your children. It can be hard work, but in the end when you go home after volunteering the satisfaction you feel is well worth it.

For information on how to volunteer or become a sponsor please visit our website at www.citytrees.org or call us at (650) 556-9380 ext. 4. And thank you for making City Trees a great success.

Open Volunteer Positions

CityTrees is currently looking for tree enthusiasts to fill the following volunteer positions: Education Program Coordinator, Outreach Volunteers, Photographer and as always Tree Planters and Pruning Volunteers. To inquire, please call the CityTrees hotline at 650-556-9380, ext 4.

TREE GIFT

GIVE A TREE PLANTING GIFT TO SOMEONE SPECIAL...

by Rick Nordensten

Here's an opportunity to give a special gift and support Redwood City's urban forest at the same time. A CityTrees' Tree Planting Gift is a unique way to honor a birth, a passing, a graduation, a wedding, a birthday, or other special event. Tree Planting Gifts make it possible for CityTrees to plant a new street tree in Redwood City as part of our regular block plantings.

We will send a card on your behalf to whomever you indicate, and we will send you a letter to let you know that we mailed the gift card. You and the gift recipient are welcome to join us at one of our tree plantings to actively participate in a tree planting. We cannot, however, mark or otherwise identify which specific trees are part of the Tree Planting Gift Program. You may choose to give one or several Tree Planting Gifts for \$50 each. Tree gifts are tax deductible.

To give a Tree Planting Gift, access and print the Tree Planting Gift form on our website <http://www.citytrees.org/images/CityTreesPlantingGiftForm.doc> and mail it to CityTrees or leave a message on the CityTrees hotline at 650-556-9380 (extension 4) and someone will get back to you.

NEW FACES

NEW GROWTH AT CITYTREES

by Tom Cronin

Over the past few months CityTrees has added two new people that are supporting the important urban forestry efforts of CityTrees. First, we are pleased to announce that we have added Georgi LaBerge to our board. As many in our community know Georgi has been a leader in the fields of education and international relations, as well as a dedicated fundraiser for many worthy causes. Most recently, Georgi retired as the Executive Director of the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation. In addition to this role, Georgi has been involved with Redwood City International and the Redwood City Library Foundation. Georgi was elected to the Redwood City Council in 1986 and served on the Council for 11 years, two of them as mayor. She has received the following awards: Chamber of Commerce Businesswoman of the year, 1994; San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, 2007; and the Sequoia Award as Outstanding Citizen. Georgi jumped right into her new role on the board and has agreed to chair the Fundraising Committee.

Don Cox recently began working with CityTrees in his role as Redwood City arborist and will be the liaison to the Redwood City Public Works Department (PWD). This is an important role to fill as we work very closely with the PWD to determine planting locations, tree selection. The PWD also provides staff support for our plantings and pruning projects. In fact Don is coming back to the Redwood City PWD after many years and is now on contract to the City to fill the arborist job.

We welcome both Georgi and Don to the CityTrees family and we look forward to working with them on future projects and programs.

**THANK
YOU!**

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN ATTRACTS NEW DONORS

by Georgi LaBerge

Letters to solicit annual campaign funds were sent in November 2007 to approximately 320 previous donors, tree planting volunteers, and friends of CityTrees Board members.

In a strong response, 45 supporters donated \$5,300. A majority of respondents were first time donors. Most of the funds will be used to buy trees to be planted on public streets in Redwood City. In addition, supplies and equipment, such as shovels, pruners, tree stakes, and tarps will be purchased as needed.

"We are pleased to have a number of new donors this year," said CityTrees president Tom Cronin, "We have already planted nearly 2000 trees in Redwood City. Our goal is to plant 7000 new trees. With the help of previous and new supporters, we can reach this goal."

2007 DONORS:

Ellis and Karen Alden
Richard and Darcy Anderson
Nancy Arbuckle
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Patricia Becker
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Joep Rottinghuis
Stuart and Lorraine Rumley
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Proud Sponsors

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Whole Foods Market

Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact Rick Nordensten via e-mail: rick@northstone.org