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# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## Santa Clara Unit



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### **CAL FIRE funds grants for urban forestry**

Urban forestry project awards announced that reduce greenhouse gases

**Sacramento** – CAL FIRE along with California ReLeaf, announced today that community groups across the state will receive \$385,000 in funding for tree planting projects through the California ReLeaf 2016 Social Equity Tree Planting Program. Individual grants range from \$18,500 to \$70,000 and were funded by a grant awarded by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) as part of the California Climate Investments Program. All projects must reduce greenhouse gases and either be located in or provide benefit to disadvantaged communities (DACs) as defined by the State.

The following organizations are the recipients of the California ReLeaf 2016 Social Equity Tree Planting Program.

- Amigos de los Rios in Los Angeles County - Whittier Narrows Tree Canopy-Emerald Necklace Project
- Earth Team in Contra Costa County - San Pablo Urban Forest Project
- From Lot to Spot in Los Angeles County - Lennox Enhancement and Engagement Project
- Growing Together in Alameda County – Root to Rise: Oakland Youth Community Forestry Project
- Industrial District Green in Los Angeles County - Greening Central Avenue in DTLA Project
- Madera Coalition for Community Justice in Madera County - Madera Tree Planting Project
- Tree Fresno in Fresno County - Trees for Fresno DAC Schools Project
- Tree San Diego in San Diego County - Parks Plus Project
- The University Corporation, CSU Northridge in Los Angeles County - Tree Planting and Education in a Next Century Public School Project

The grant recipients are engaging in a variety of tree planting projects that will reduce greenhouse gasses (GHGs) and enhance urban forests in severely under resourced communities throughout the state. Each project also contains a significant education component that will engage community members and students on how trees are critical to supporting community climate resilience, clean air, and healthy communities.

“Strong, sustainable urban forests are critical to California’s efforts adapt our cities to a changing climate,” said Cindy Blain, Executive Director for California ReLeaf. “These grant projects reflect great inclusivity, creativity, and commitment to making our state a better place to live for those who don’t have the benefit of shade trees and green space in their neighborhoods.”

"CAL FIRE’s Urban and Community Forestry Program is proud to partner with California ReLeaf to provide these grant projects,” said Chief Ken Pimlott, CAL FIRE director and California’s State forester. “These funds will help put trees in communities that will benefit from the numerous environmental, economic, and social benefits that trees provide.”

The mission of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Urban Forestry Program is to lead the effort to advance the development of sustainable urban and community forests in California. For more information visit [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov).

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**Media Notes:**

Photo of tree planting by CAL FIRE and ReLeaf in Downtown Sacramento:

<https://app.box.com/s/e9sih5dy1qszkmzb2ysh5s3fl15wpzss>

Photo of CAL FIRE planting a tree at a Roseville Park:

<https://app.box.com/s/el28xx025g6xyx9eeqw7zfdatpc5x16>

Photo of tree lined streets and houses:

<https://app.box.com/s/vc8sfas9emdihci6gw9i174jp4twbkqi>

Background on CAL FIRE’s Urban Forestry Program:

[http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_urbanforestry](http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry)