



# *The Los Angeles Greening Resources Guide*

*produced by*  
**Environmental Affairs Department  
City of Los Angeles**

April 2002



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Dear Greening Friends,

As we embrace the new millennium and all of the changes that the 21<sup>st</sup> century will bring, we are challenged more than ever to work to solve the many urban problems that affect the environmental quality of our lives. We have seen the vital role that greening has played in helping to improve our City's environment, and can attest to the many benefits of a healthy urban forest. Trees and vegetation not only beautify our neighborhoods, but provide enhanced nutrition for residents, clean our air, reduce stormwater runoff, provide wildlife habitat, reduce our energy consumption, and help cool our City.

The many dedicated organizations listed within this guide have made a tremendous impact in our effort to make Los Angeles a greener, healthier, more sustainable City. Still, there is much work to be done, which is why we have updated The Los Angeles Greening Resources Guide. This guide is intended to assist you in your greening efforts by answering many of the "who, what, when, where, why and how" questions of creating a greener L.A. It contains helpful information that we hope will increase your interest and involvement in our greening efforts. It provides an excellent overview of opportunities available for greening our City, as well as directs you toward other available resources to assist you in beginning or expanding your own greening projects.

I encourage and applaud your greening efforts, and hope that you will find The Los Angeles Greening Resources Guide to be an inspiration and a very helpful tool in creating greener neighborhoods for your communities for this and future generations. Be sure to visit our web site ([www.lacity.org/EAD](http://www.lacity.org/EAD)) for updated information. If you have any questions or comments regarding this guide, please call our Environmental Information Center at (213) 978-0888. Thank you for your interest in making Los Angeles a better place to live, work, and play.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Detrich B. Allen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Detrich B. Allen  
General Manager  
Environmental Affairs Department  
City of Los Angeles



# Benefits of Greening



*To cherish what remains of the Earth and to  
foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of  
survival.*

*- Wendell Berry*



# *Chapter 1*

## *The Benefits of Greening*

There are many benefits of tree planting and other greening projects for the individual, community and environment. This is especially important since approximately 80 percent of all Americans live in urban areas, many of which have less than ideal amounts of park and open space. Bringing trees and green space into Los Angeles neighborhoods where residents can see and interact with them on a daily basis will maximize the benefits.

Parks, green spaces and trees affect our quality of life through our everyday moods, activities, and physical and emotional health. Research performed by social scientists has found substantial evidence of this. People who view nature after a stressful situation exhibit reduced physical indicators of stress as well as fewer feelings of fear, anger, and aggression. Hospitalized patients recover faster when their view through the window includes trees. Clearly, trees and other greening does much more for us than just beautify our neighborhoods.

Trees and shrubs can provide enhanced privacy for urban residents, emphasize attractive views or screen objectionable ones, reduce glare and reflection, and create a barrier for noise and wind. Planting trees around your home is a good investment since, according to the International Society of Arboriculture, property values are 5 to 20 percent higher for landscaped homes than for homes without landscaping. Well-placed trees or vines also lead to lower utility bills because shading your home lowers your need for fans or air conditioning. Greening improves our communities by making them more visually appealing and by providing color and character to individual neighborhoods and business areas.

Trees can significantly alter our environment by lowering air temperatures and alleviating air pollution. Los Angeles, like all cities, experiences the urban “heat island effect”, which causes higher temperatures brought about by the heat-absorbing pavement and buildings. A National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council study found that about 12% of the air quality problem in cities can be attributed to heat island conditions, so lowering temperatures with shade trees also will reduce air pollution. Trees also improve air quality by removing carbon dioxide, particulates, and other pollutants from the air, and by producing oxygen.

Greening also conserves rainwater and reduces water pollution. By removing paved surfaces to plant trees and other vegetation, groundwater recharge is increased and surface runoff is decreased. Stormwater flowing from our streets often carries a variety of pollutants directly into the ocean. When this water is allowed to soak into the ground instead, many pollutants are removed and don't reach the ocean. Roots act as a natural filter, removing nutrients and pollutants as water percolates down through the soil.

Greening provides much-needed habitat for wildlife in cities where that habitat can be scarce. By planting the appropriate vegetation or installing a pond or other water feature, you can attract a wide variety of birds, butterflies, and other wildlife to your yard. Native plants are the best way to provide food and shelter for local species. Greenways can offer habitat by themselves, but also connect parks and open spaces to offer a larger area of contiguous habitat.

Gardening can be an important source of ready produce and enhanced nutrition for those who otherwise may not be eating fresh fruits and vegetables. This is true if the produce is grown in your own backyard, a community garden, or purchased at a local farmers' market. Gardening is also great exercise and provides an opportunity to spend time outdoors.

All in all, greening is important to us as individuals, communities, and environmental stewards. So plant a tree or garden, take a walk in the park, or just remember to stop and smell the flowers as you go through each day.





# Greening Groups

*Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.*

*- Ralph Waldo Emerson*

*The difference between the possible and the impossible lies in a person's determination.*

*- Tommy Lasorda*

## Chapter 2

### *Greening Groups*

The groups listed in these pages play an important role in changing the face — and the streets, of Los Angeles. They plant trees, cultivate gardens, and build neighborhood parks. They do this work with dedicated staff and volunteers whose greatest payment is the joy of greening. Their projects are as localized as a single street or as expansive as the entire city. The groups may be widely diverse, but they share a common vision. They believe that by caring for the environment, Los Angeles will become a healthier, happier, greener place to live.

The listing for each group contains a brief description of their programs and services. Many use volunteers and could use your time and energy. If you would like more information on any of the groups, you are invited to contact them directly.

#### **ARTScorps LA/La Tierra de la Culebra**

Tricia Ward

P.O. Box 421133

Los Angeles, CA 90042

213/617-3877 phone

213/617-3878 fax

**Established:** 1992

**Hours:** Variable

**Areas Served:** City of LA

#### *Background and Greening Projects*

Provides opportunities for youth to develop and implement basic living, communication, and leadership skills through creative environmental art projects. Hires people for green-related work and maintains a resource list of trained workers. Greening projects include urban tree planting and community fruit orchards, neighborhood revitalization and beautification, and developing vacant lots into art parks and gardens.

#### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Youth education program combines art and the environment. Volunteers needed to help with plantings, office work, mailings, and education programs or to lead tours.

### **Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park**

Sallie W. Neubauer  
1501 Cerro Gordo  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
323/666-9651 phone  
323/666-9651 fax

**Established:** 1965  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Downtown LA,  
Inner City and Mid-City

#### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to preserve and enhance Elysian Park. Sponsors memorial tree plantings. In 1996 CCSEP successfully prevented the expansion of the police academy in Elysian Park. In 1997 and 1998 they lobbied to prevent the building of a football stadium. Holds annual tree planting in Elysian Park, usually in the fall.

#### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteer opportunities for both skilled and non-skilled workers to help with mailings, educational programs, and lobbying.

### **Cold Creek Docents**

Mr. Stephan A. Harris, Executive Director  
7050 Owensmouth Ave., Suite 206  
Canoga Park, CA 91303  
818/346-9620 phone  
818/346-9676 fax

**Established:** 1977  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Countywide

#### *Background and Greening Projects*

Offers public education about the natural and cultural resources of the Cold Creek area of the Santa Monica Mountains. Membership available. Volunteers help with education programs and can take docent training.

#### *Education, Training and Involvement Opportunities*

Free public education walks offered. Education program for grades 4 - 12. Docent training from September to December. Programs can be customized to suit teachers' needs.

## **Community Environmental Institute**

Kreigh Hampel  
324 North Ontario Street  
Burbank, CA 91505  
818/846-8659 phone  
818/846-8659 fax

**Established:** 1993  
**Hours:** 9am – 5pm  
**Areas Served:** Southern California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Provides composting and gardening programs for schools and community groups. Supports the creation of environmentally sound community parks and green spaces. Along with composting and recycling programs, greening projects have included the creation and development of a vegetable garden and fruit orchard for Burbank Environmental Science Park at Washington Elementary School. Currently involved in designing recycling centers and educational centers and displays.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Offers composting workshops to schools and their communities. Volunteer opportunities occasionally exist on a variety of projects.

## **Concerned Citizens of South Central**

Juanita Tate  
4707 South Central Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90011  
323/846-2505 phone  
323/846-2508 fax

**Established:** 1985  
**Hours:** 9:30am - 6pm  
**Areas Served:** South Central

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Established to foster interest in the community about social and environmental issues and assist in the development of affordable housing. Has held several fruit tree giveaways in conjunction with TreePeople's *Fruit Tree Distribution Program*. Surplus fruit trees given to low-income residents who also were trained in the proper care and maintenance of the trees.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with office work, mailings, and education programs. Offers computer training in addition to training in tree-planting and planting supervision. Gives environmental justice presentations to local schools and community groups.



## **Earth Island Institute — Stewards of the Earth: LA Urban Farms Project**

Sandy Lejeune  
598 North Fairview Avenue  
Goleta, CA 93117

**Established:** 1987  
**Hours:** 9am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** South Central L.A.

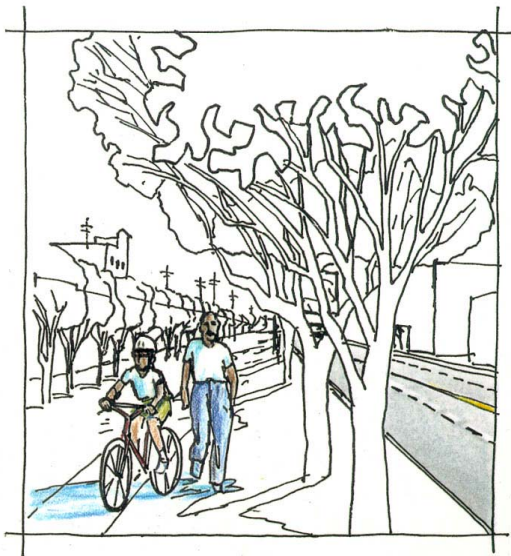
805/967-7369 phone  
805/967-0188 fax

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Project designed to create meaningful economic opportunities for area minority and youth, and to provide production quantities of fresh fruits and vegetables to urban neighborhoods not normally receiving them. Also provides residents with the environmental and social benefits of a farm in an urban setting. In addition, has established edible food landscaping at the Santa Barbara AIDS Hospice and supports other community gardens in the South Central area.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Farm tours open to public schools. Lectures and workshops offered. On-site training programs available.



### **\*Green Note:**

The greening groups listed in this chapter are actively involved with greening projects. By volunteering, you can become a part of their team and learn more about the process of coordinating your team's future efforts. If you or your group seek funding or technical assistance, see the groups listed in Chapter 7 - *Additional Resources*, Chapter 8 - *Funding Sources*, or Chapter 9 - *Getting Involved on a State or National Level*.

## **Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR)**

570 W. Ave. 26 Suite 250  
Los Angeles, CA 90065  
323/223-0585 phone  
323/223-2289 fax  
www.folar.org

**Established:** 1986  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Citywide, also  
San Gabriel Valley and  
Long Beach

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to revitalize and protect the Los Angeles River, a living urban river system, through advocacy, education, inclusive planning and wise stewardship. Successfully fought against the freeway-in-the-river idea. Greening projects include a call for commuter and recreational bike paths along the river, including a 52 mile long LA River Greenway, urban and mountain plantings, native riparian plant restoration, and creation of community parks and art work.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Sponsors the annual Great Los Angeles River Cleanup. Skilled and non-skilled volunteers help with general office work, mailings, education programs, such as River Keepers, and plantings. Docents also used. Some literature available in Spanish.

## **Gardens for Kids**

Bill Mabie  
6105 Mt. Angeles Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90042

**Established:** 1991  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Citywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed to assist area schools and youth organizations in establishing educational gardening projects, including design and construction aspects and fundraising. Student garden at Crenshaw High School developed into *Food from The Hood* and has become a student-run business.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Skilled volunteers assist teachers and students in building student gardens. Schools are selected based on teacher and student commitment. Priority given to inner-city schools. Please contact by letter as the organization is small and does not have an office or paid staff.

### **Hollywood Beautification Team (Los Angeles Beautification Team)**

Sharyn Romano  
P.O. Box 93114  
Hollywood, CA 90039  
323/469-5100 phone  
323/762-9076 fax

**Established:** 1991  
**Hours:** 7am - 3pm, 7 days/wk.  
**Areas Served:** Countywide

#### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to restore the beauty of Hollywood through greening, painting, and cleaning, and to build community involvement. Developed greening job training project with homeless youth through LA Free Clinic. Planted trees and installed landscaping throughout community as part of job training. Involved with the *Cool Schools Program* with DWP.

#### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with plantings, cleanings, paintings. Conducts tree planting training.

### **Jefferson High School and Community Garden**

Jon Mannion  
1319 East 41st Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90011  
323/232-2261 phone  
323/231-4755 fax

**Established:** 1994  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Inner City

#### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to beautify Jefferson High School and its surrounding community. School grounds have been planted and a nearby nuisance alley cleaned and beautified. Also involved with urban tree planting, creation of community fruit tree orchards and area parks, community gardens and campus plantings.

#### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with plantings and education programs. Lends shovels and work gloves.

## **Los Angeles Conservation Corps**

Bruce Saito  
605 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 450  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
213/362-9000 phone  
213/362-7959 fax

**Established:** April 1986  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday:  
6am - 6pm,  
Saturday: 6am - 4pm  
**Areas Served:** Countywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Provides general environmental repair, renewal and disaster relief support to Los Angeles, including support for local community group greening and beautification efforts. Hires and trains young people for such conservation work as landscaping, horticulture and tree planting. Planted over 6000 trees with community groups in highway mitigation projects, involved with the *Cool Schools Program* with DWP. Programs also available in Spanish.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers can help with plantings, education programs and disaster relief. On-the-job training program in conservation and community improvement that gives young adults aged 18-23 work experience and a chance to continue their education (college, GED or high school). *Clean and Green* is a junior conservation corps division of LACC aimed at junior high students, designed to eradicate litter and graffiti and provide an alternative to gang activity.



## **Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.**

Lori Gay  
3111 South Flower Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90007  
213/749-7797, ext. 11 phone  
213/749-3325 fax  
[www.lanhs.org](http://www.lanhs.org)

**Established:** 1984  
**Hours:** 9am - 5:30pm  
**Areas Served:** Citywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Produces urban and campus tree plantings, works to create community parks and gardens, does graffiti removal and mural painting. Also involved in neighborhood revitalization, development of affordable housing, affordable financing.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers assist with office work, plantings, mailings, education programs, and other community revitalization activities. Hires youth for graffiti removal and tree planting.

## **Mountains Restoration Trust**

Mr. Stephan A. Harris  
7050 Owensmouth Ave., Suite 206  
Canoga Park, CA 91303  
818/346-9675 phone  
818/346-9676 fax  
[www.mountainstrust.org](http://www.mountainstrust.org)

**Established:** 1981  
**Hours:** 9am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** National and  
International

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to preserve, protect and enhance resource values of the Santa Monica Mountains. Owns and manages Cold Creek Preserve. Full time and seasonal work available on an as-needed basis. Resumes accepted and kept year round. Hires weekend patrollers — job includes restoration work and interns. Membership available. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education programs, trail work, restoration of preserve area, and oak tree planting and maintenance.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Education programs available through Cold Creek Docents. Planned giving opportunities for individuals, corporations and family foundations. Income tax deductions available for donations of property, land and/or stocks.

## **North East Trees**

Lynnette Kampe  
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90065  
323/441-8634 phone  
323/441-8618 fax

**Established:** 1990  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Northeast LA

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to form an urban forest in northeast Los Angeles, to provide expert information about tree planting and maintenance, to develop educational programs for all age groups, and to foster a sense of civic pride and involvement. Greening projects include the planting of 1800 native trees on the LA River/Arroyo Seco Greenbelt to partially restore an historic wildlife corridor; collaboration on the DWP-sponsored *Cool Schools Program*; and numerous other street tree, school, and park projects.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Skilled and non-skilled volunteers help with plantings, mailings, and telephone tree. Adult education includes tree care workshop. Planting training available before each planting event. Hires people for landscaping work--first consideration goes to qualified volunteers.

## **Pacoima Beautiful**

Marlene Grossman  
11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Suite 3  
Pacoima, CA 90029  
818/899-2454 phone  
818/834-5186 fax

**Established:** 1994  
**Hours:** 9am-5:30pm  
**Areas Served:** Pacoima

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Provides environmental education, leadership development and advocacy to create a clean, healthy and safe environment for residents of Pacoima. Designed and planted gardens at Pacoima Youth and Family Center, Hillery Broadous Elementary School, Maclay Middle School and Maclay Primary School. Distributed over 1000 fruit trees. Helped plant 500 trees on parkways in and around local schools. Monthly clean up days include tree plantings.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Landscape Designer assists in designing, building and maintaining gardens. Community Inspectors are trained to identify and find solutions to problems in the community. All programs are designed to teach employable skills.

## **Palisades Beautiful**

Carole Horn  
P. O. Box 1072  
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272  
310/459-2528 phone

**Established:** 1974  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** West Side of LA;  
Pacific Palisades

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed to add more greenery to the Pacific Palisades area. Greening projects include the planting of over 800 street trees, 104 trees being planted in public areas in the honor or memory of someone, and the development of a native plant garden and a xeriscape garden in Temescal Canyon Park.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with planting events. Yearly educational tours are offered of the xeriscape and native plant gardens in Temescal Canyon. Makes referrals to other resources.

## **Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy**

Wendy Millet  
916 Silver Spur Road #108  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274  
310/541-7613 phone  
310/541-7623 fax  
[www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org)

**Established:** 1988  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** San Pedro and the  
South Bay

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Dedicated to preserving open space on the Palos Verdes Peninsula for historical, educational, environmental, recreational, and scientific purposes. Greening projects include the acquisition of undeveloped land in Lunada Canyon and Chandler Preserve. Also does habitat restoration and revegetation of open space.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with general office work, mailings, and education projects. Docents lead nature walks. Youth education program covers the history/geology/ecology of the Palos Verdes Peninsula.



## **Pasadena Beautiful Foundation**

President

140 South Lake Avenue #268

Pasadena, CA 91101

626/795-9704 phone

626/795-8030 fax

**Established:** 1960

**Hours:** 8:30am - 5pm

Tuesday - Thursday

**Areas Served:** Pasadena

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed to unite individuals and groups in beautifying Pasadena. Residential and commercial beautification awards given. Launched fundraising effort among Pasadena citizens to replace eliminated tree planting funds from city budget, which the City matched. Plants on city streets and on school campuses. Established Mayor's Grove — a tree planted for every Pasadena mayor.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Annual public education tree care workshops. Volunteers help with plantings, mailings, education programs and other beautification projects. Planting and pruning workshops offered. Publishes newsletter, "Beautification Matters." Sponsors *Pasadena Beautiful Day*.

## **People for Parks**

Murray Rosenthal

10951 West Pico Boulevard, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90064

310/474-4248 phone

310/474-8251 fax

**Established:** 1989

**Hours:** 9am - 5pm

**Areas Served:** Citywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Advocacy group formed to preserve, enhance and expand open space in LA County. Successfully sponsored Prop A, a \$550 million bond act for capital improvements to LA parks and recreation facilities, and works to fully and best utilize the funds. Assists in urban, mountain and campus plantings, community gardens and orchards, creation of parks. Encourages public/private partnerships, community involvement in parks. Park Renew project revitalizes degraded parks.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with office work, planting, mailings and education programs. Occasional conferences, workshops and seminars. Fundraising assistance offered. Makes referrals.

## **Rhapsody in Green**

Jon Earl  
11684 Ventura Boulevard  
Studio City, CA 91604  
323/654-5821 phone  
323/630-7341 fax

**Established:** 1989  
**Hours:** 9am – 5pm  
**Areas Served:** Citywide, plus  
Santa Monica, San Gabriel, Santa  
Susana and Santa Clarita Mountains

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed to involve community members in restoring southern California's natural environment. Currently restoring the El Segundo sand dunes. Involved in urban, mountain and campus plantings; wetlands, grasslands, mountain and sand dune restoration; establishment of community fruit tree orchards.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Training held in conjunction with current projects. Volunteers help with general office work, plantings, mailings, education, restoration work and harvesting fruit for people in need.

## **Tree Musketeers**

Gail Church  
136 Main Street  
El Segundo, CA 90245  
310/322-0263 phone  
310/322-4482 fax

**Established:** 1987  
**Hours:** 10am - 6pm  
**Areas Served:** South Bay, El Segundo  
and national

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Empowers young people to improve the environment through personal action and to encourage other youth and businesses to participate. Urban forestry projects include a memory tree program. Also involved in waste management/curbside recycling.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers help with office work, mailings, and plantings. Training for tree planting and planting supervision offered. Referrals made to other resources. Youth leadership programs available.

## **Treecyclers**

Jon Jay  
1933 Grace Avenue #2  
Hollywood, CA 90068  
323/876-8575 phone  
No fax

**Established:** 1991  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Citywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed to promote a greener environment through preservation of existing trees and plantings of new trees and vegetation. Has annual Christmas Tree Program to pick up your live trees for the holiday and then plant them in local parks. Successfully halted the removal of 31 mature ficus trees from Hollywood Boulevard, getting them relocated instead to area schools. Also involved with community fruit tree orchards, provides trees and flowers for community parks.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Training in tree planting as needed. Tools and some supplies available. Makes referrals to other resources.

## **TreePeople**

Andy Lipkis  
12601 Mulholland Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
818/753-4600 phone  
818/753-4635 fax

**Established:** 1973  
**Hours:** 9am – 5pm  
**Areas Served:** Citywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Established to inspire LA residents to get involved in community improvement through tree planting and care, and to promote community and urban forestry. Projects include the planting of 300 trees along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (the largest single day planting in LA history); annual fruit tree distribution program; and DWP's *Cool Schools Program*.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Youth education for grades K - 6 includes eco-tours of park headquarters and classroom assemblies; *Campus Forester Training* encourages students to create planting/maintenance projects for their school grounds; *Citizen Forester Training* (page 37) teaches urban tree planting and care. Occasional matching funds available to support designated neighborhood plantings. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education and plantings.

## **UCLA Stunt Ranch Santa Monica Mountains Reserve**

Carol Felixson

900 Veteran Avenue, Warren Hall

Los Angeles, CA 90024

310/206-3887 phone

310/825-9433 fax

**Established:** 1995

**Hours:** By prior approval only

**Areas served:** Southern California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

As part of the University of California's Natural Reserve System, the Stunt Ranch Reserve is dedicated to the protection and wise management of natural resources by acting as an outdoor classroom and laboratory, supporting research, teaching, and public programs to improve public appreciation and scientific knowledge of chaparral communities.

### *Education, Training and Involvement Opportunities*

Educational programs of all levels (university level and K-12) from all institutions that can make use of this reserve are welcome. Working with federal, State, and local agencies and organizations, the reserve hopes to link groups with specific interest in the Santa Monica Mountains to create joint projects supporting environmental education and conservation.

## **Weingart Center**

Frank Valencia

566 South San Pedro Street

Los Angeles, CA 90013

213/627-9000 phone

213/488-3419 fax

**Established:** 1984

**Hours:** 24 hours a day/  
7 days a week

**Areas Served:** Skid Row

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Developed to assist homeless men and women in becoming economically self-sufficient and to achieve independence. Planted urban trees to beautify Skid Row; created a community "green space" at Weingart Center Park Plaza for Skid Row community and center residents.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Skilled and non-skilled volunteers help with office work, mailings, education programs and client support services.

**The Wilderness Institute, Inc.**

Bradley V. Childs  
28310 Roadside Drive #140  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
818/991-7327 phone  
818/991-0743 fax

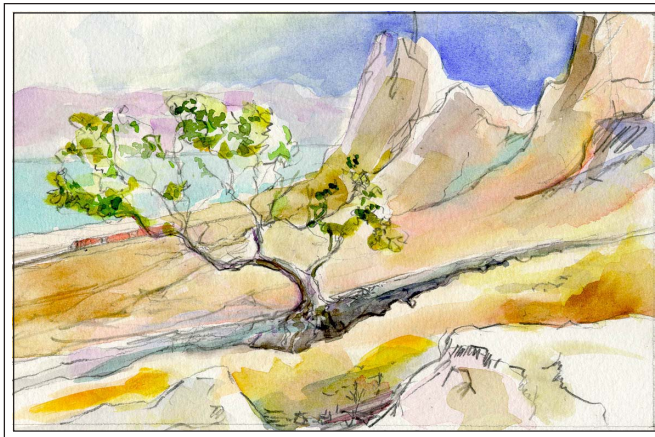
**Established:** 1984  
**Hours:** 9am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** Citywide

*Background and Greening Projects*

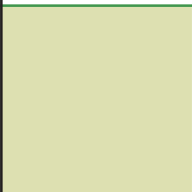
Created to provide wilderness experiences which foster community building, interdependence, increased environmental awareness and enhanced self-esteem while inspiring others to protect the environment and improve their quality of life. Does tree plantings in Santa Monica Mountains.

*Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Offers Wilderness Challenge program for youth-at-risk and Wilderness Wheelers program for those with physical challenges. Also has on-site Outdoor Classroom education program. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education programs, trail-building work, and fundraising. Hires people to lead nature hikes, serve as camp counselors, work with native and wild, edible plants. Offers training in tree plantings, outdoor education and wilderness leadership skills. Makes referrals to other resources.



# *Notes*





# Tree Planting



*Then here's to the oak, the brave old oak,  
Who stands in his pride alone!  
And still flourish he a hale green tree  
When a hundred years are gone!*

*- H.F. Chorley*

## *Chapter 3*

### *Tree Planting*

**G**reening is an active process. Among other things, it requires a great deal of commitment, enthusiasm and willingness to learn. This chapter is about the “willingness to learn” part. Like anything else, there are right and wrong ways to plant, and care for, trees. A large part of greening involves making commitments and concerns both personal and environmental responsibility, which includes learning how to properly support the good health of urban plants and trees.

#### **Planting Street Trees**

So you want to plant a tree in the parkway in front of your home? Can you go to your local nursery, buy whatever tree you want, and plop it in the ground? You may have serious problems if you do. The wrong tree in the wrong place planted the wrong way can cause more problems than you would ever imagine. In the City of Los Angeles, here’s how to plant a street tree the right way:

- Contact the City of L.A. Street Tree Division (*see page 26*) and request an Application for Site Permit. The application packet includes copies of all of the required documentation needed. You must get permission from the property owner (if it’s not you) to plant trees in their dedicated parkway area, provide maps and photographs of exactly where you want to plant, and make arrangements for the ongoing care of the trees.
- There is no charge for the permits in the application packet. However, if your project requires cutting of the sidewalk, you must obtain an “A” Permit through the Bureau of Engineering (and pay for the concrete cutting yourself). This permit can be obtained from the Bureau of Engineering office in your region (*see list page 26*). Cost for the permit is \$106. In addition, there are fees of \$7 per tree well (the “well” is the hole cut into the concrete to make room for the tree and provide an area to water the tree) and \$58 for the tree well cover, plus a 9.0 % processing charge. The permit fees can be waived for neighborhood or community group tree planting projects. Contact your City Councilmember for assistance with a fee waiver.

- After the application is processed, a City inspector will come to visit the site, finalize the number and species of trees to be planted (usually the species designated for the street in the City’s Master Street Tree Plan) and mark each location. Although the preference is to have a single species on a street, the inspector may agree to a difference choice, particularly if the Master Plan tree has proven to be inappropriate for the location.
- Once the permit is issued, you will begin organizing the actual planting - obtaining trees, raising funds, and arranging for volunteers, tools, and supplies.
- Ask for help! The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (*see pages 13, 93, and 102*) is a great resource for tree planting assistance, and TreePeople offers the *Citizen Forester Training* (*see page 37*), a step-by-step program designed to take residents through the entire process of a community tree planting project – including encouraging and organizing community involvement, getting permits, choosing appropriate species, and proper planting and maintenance techniques.

## **Contacts:**

### **LA. City Street Tree Division**

600 S. Spring St., 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Los Angeles, CA 90014  
 213/485-5675

### **L.A. City Bureau of Engineering District Offices**

#### **CENTRAL DISTRICT DIVISION**

201 N. Figueroa St.  
 Room 400, Counter C-8  
 Los Angeles, CA 90012  
 213/977-6041

#### **HARBOR DISTRICT**

638 S. Beacon St.  
 4th floor  
 San Pedro, CA 90731  
 310/732-4663

#### **WEST LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

1828 Sawtelle Blvd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 Los Angeles, CA 90025  
 310/575-8384

#### **VALLEY DISTRICT**

14410 Sylvan St., Room 202  
 Van Nuys, CA 91401  
 818/756-8421



## **Planting Trees in Your Yard**

Unlike planting a tree on public property or parkways, you are free to plant whatever species of tree you wish in your yard. However, you would be wise to choose your tree carefully to ensure that you will be as happy with your tree in ten or twenty years as you are the day you plant it. A carefully chosen tree can bring beauty to your yard and increase your property value as it cools your home, reduces runoff from your yard, and improves your air quality for many years to come. On the other hand, the wrong tree in the wrong place can become a nuisance, causing damage to your roof or walls, dropping slippery or sticky litter on your walkways or driveway, conflicting with overhead wires, leading to conflicts with your neighbors, or causing other problems that may necessitate its removal at an early age. For these reasons, it's wise to do some research before you choose the species and location of your tree.

First of all, decide what functions you want your tree to fulfill. Do you want it to shade your home during the hot summer months or provide your children with a shady play area year round? Do you want it to have edible fruit, spring flowers, or fall color? Do you want it to be evergreen or deciduous? Native or exotic? Fast or slow growing? Most importantly, how much room do you have? Don't forget to look up and down. You don't want your tree growing into your utility lines or sewer pipes or lifting your driveway or walkway. A tree planted under power lines generally should be one with a maximum height of 25 feet, but the line into your home may be as low as 10 feet. You should plant your tree at least 5 to 10 feet from your home, patio, wall, driveway or walkway to ensure adequate space for the roots to grow. Also consider the width of the canopy when the tree is mature.

An evergreen tree will give you year round shade, whereas a deciduous tree will help cool your home during the summer months, but allow light and warmth into your home during the winter. Native trees are excellent for attracting birds and wildlife to your yard, but an exotic tree may remind you of your home or other faraway place. Think about the best shape for your tree as well. Trees come in many shapes, such as round, oval, spreading, vase-shaped, pyramidal or narrow. You will get the most shade from round, spreading or vase-shaped trees, but an oval or narrow tree may fit into your space better.

Think about the water needs of your tree. There are many beautiful trees that need little water once established. Also, some trees can tolerate lawn watering while others can't -- so keep this in mind if the tree will be planted in your lawn. Choose a tree that will thrive in your microclimate and soil type. Look around your neighborhood to see what types of trees are successfully growing and check with a local nursery for their suggestions. Finally, sometimes you'll find that your chosen spot doesn't have enough space for a tree in its natural form to thrive. Some trees can be trained against a wall as an espalier. Also consider shrubs or vines on a trellis. Any of these options can help shade your home and bring many of the other benefits of a naturally shaped tree.

Some of the trees you might consider if you're looking for a large tree include the California Sycamore, a deciduous native that grows quickly to 50-75 feet; Coast Live Oak, an evergreen native with a moderate growth rate to 40-50 feet that requires little water; or Eldarica Pine, a fast-growing evergreen from Southwest Asia that requires little water and thrives in poor soils.

Medium sized trees to consider include the California Bay Laurel, an evergreen native with strongly scented leaves used in cooking; Melaleuca, a fast-growing, evergreen, narrow tree from Australia that can be planted near a wall or building; or Jacaranda, a semideciduous tree from Brazil with beautiful lavender flowers in May and June, that should be planted away from driveways and paths due to its sticky, slippery flower drop.

Small trees to consider include the Western Redbud, a deciduous native with bright pink flowers in spring and yellow or red leaves in fall that uses little water; Purple-Leaf Plum, a deciduous, fast-growing tree from Asia that has pink flowers in spring, followed by purple leaves and produces small red plums; or a Lemon, which is evergreen and moderate to fast growing, although fruit trees generally need more watering, pruning, fertilizing, and pest control to boost fruit production.

When you do decide on a tree species, choose a healthy tree with a healthy root system and make sure you plant it right. Refer to the guidelines which begin on page 30. For more information on choosing a tree species for your yard and some more suggestions for “smart trees” for Los Angeles, read *Smart Planting for the New Urban Forest – A Guide to Planting Trees Around Your Home*, available from the Department of Water and Power. There are also many good books available at your local library or bookstore that will allow you to check the needs and characteristics of specific tree species.



## **How to Properly Plant a Tree**

### ***Choosing Your Street Tree***

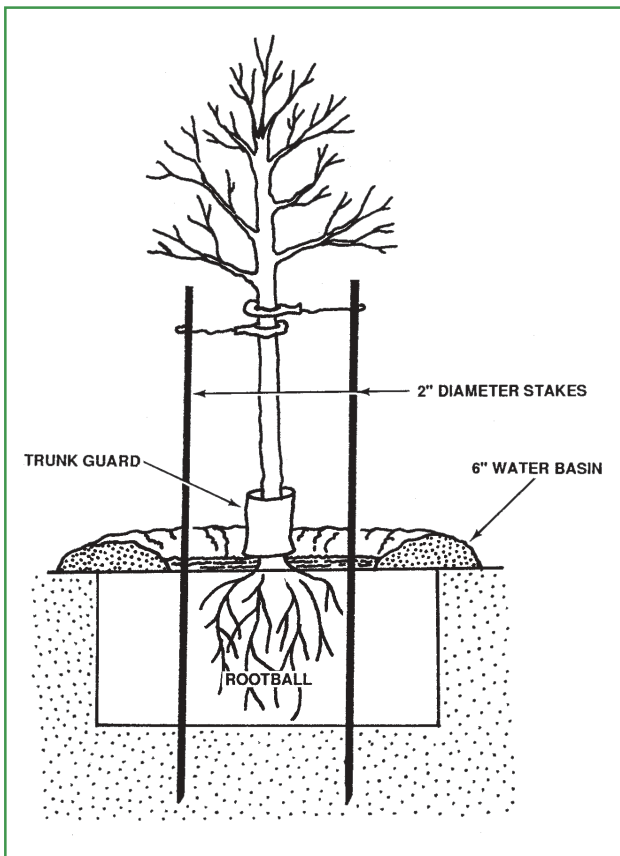
The City of Los Angeles maintains a Master Street Tree Plan to promote an attractive, healthy urban forest that is cost-effective to maintain. The Master Plan lists which trees may be planted on which streets throughout the City. Criteria for these choices included growth rate, ultimate size, disease and pest control, root disposition and tolerance for urban living. If you ignore the Master Plan and plant another kind of tree, the City may require you to remove it at your cost. Talk to City staff about which tree species they'll approve as appropriate for your street. They may also need to approve the individual trees before they can be planted. When you purchase your tree, you must choose a minimum 15-gallon size with at least a 1/2 inch diameter trunk. Pick one with evenly spaced branching and a strong central leader (stem). Also, ask the nursery person to assist you in checking to see that the tree is not root-bound. Your own inspection can reveal a problem, such as if you can see large roots circling the container or growing on the soil surface. Remember to purchase the necessary planting materials when you purchase your tree: gravel, stakes, root barriers, etc.

### ***Digging In!***

1. Forty-eight to seventy-two hours prior to digging, contact DigAlert (Underground Service Alert) at 1-800-227-2600 or 1-800-422-4133 to inquire about underground utility lines. They will notify all local utilities, which will visit your site and mark any underground lines. This is a free service. Then, dig your hole at least two feet away from any underground lines, slightly larger than the circumference of the root barrier, and deep enough that its top is about two inches below the level of the surrounding ground. Place the barrier in the ground, and plant the tree inside it as described below. As you backfill the inside of the barrier with soil, add gravel to the space between its outside edge and the side of the hole. The gravel helps to promote good drainage and encourages roots to grow downward.



*Note: The City of Los Angeles currently requires you to install a root barrier when you plant your street tree. A root barrier is a sheet of flexible non-biodegradable plastic that can be bent into a cylinder and which is specifically designed to encourage downward root growth. Root barriers are commonly used in street tree plantings to promote vertical root growth and to lessen the risk of damage to streets and sidewalks from bulging roots rising to the surface.*



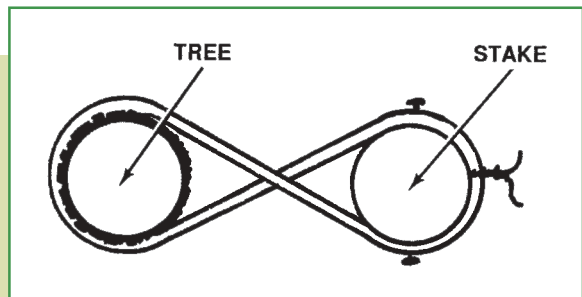
**Figure 1**

*Plant the tree so that the root crown is even with, or slightly higher than, the ground level. A trunk guard is recommended to prevent damage from mowers, weed whips, and other lawn care equipment that could kill the tree.*

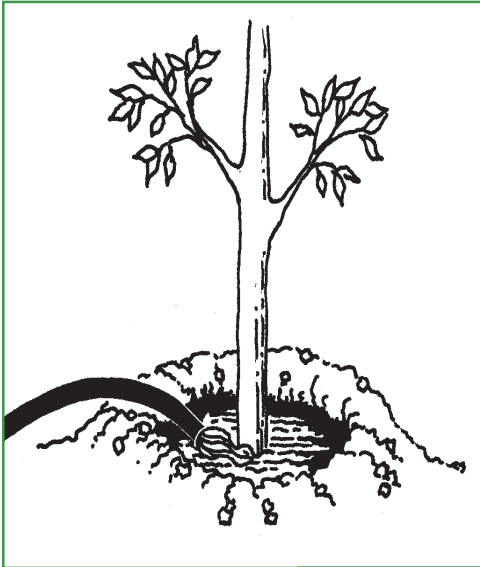
2. Ease the tree out of its container by gently laying it on its side – being very careful to protect the foliage – and roll it back and forth. Hit the bottom and the sides of the container until the root ball is loosened, then carefully pull the tree out. (Stand with your back to the sun as you do this to protect sensitive roots from getting burned or drying out.) If the roots are growing in a circle, gently pry them loose. Then stand the tree straight up in the hole and direct loose roots downward. (*See Figure 1*).
3. Backfill enough soil to raise the root crown slightly above the level of the ground surface (the root crown is where the roots meet the base of the tree). ***Do not bury the root crown!*** To do so may kill the tree.
4. Continue backfilling the hole with native soil. Release air pockets as you go by regularly, and firmly, tamping down the soil with the handle of your shovel. Fill the hole to *just below* the root crown.
5. City planting requirements include large metal stake support for the tree (versus the temporary nursery stakes that come with the tree). Position the stake beside the tree in the direction of prevailing winds. Then wrap the rubber-coated tree ties in a figure eight position around the stake and the tree to keep the tree secure. Make certain, though, that the tree has enough room to still move freely. (*See Figure 2*). Alternately, you can use two separate tree ties, as was shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 2**

*Secure the tree with rubber-coated tree ties using the figure eight method to prevent the tree from rubbing against the stakes.*



6. Finally, use the remaining soil to build a watering basin around the tree. Cover the bottom of the basin with mulch and then start watering. Remember – you are helping a young tree get established. It has just gone through the shock of being transplanted. Water it gently and thoroughly. The standard 15-gallon tree should receive about 20 gallons of water to ensure the root ball getting completely soaked. (See Figure 3). Deep watering encourages roots to grow downward!



**Figure 3**

*Build a water basin and use a slow-running garden hose to direct water to the root ball. A newly planted 15-gallon tree requires approximately 20 gallons of water every 7 to 10 days. Lawn sprinklers do not provide adequate water to the rooting area. Do not rely solely on them to meet your tree's water needs. Keep the water basin built-up and the area around the trunk free of weeds and grass.*

## **Caring for Your Tree**

Many people mistakenly believe their responsibility to a tree ends after the last shovelful of dirt or the final bucket of water. Planting a tree is just the beginning. Like most living things, it requires ongoing (though sometimes minimal) attention until it becomes established.

There are a number of variables — such as weather conditions, tree species, and soil type — that will affect the frequency of your follow-up watering. A general rule of thumb is to soak the tree thoroughly when the top inch of soil has become dry, or to administer a

deep watering at least once a week for the first eight weeks. This includes drought-tolerant trees. (Once they are established, their water needs diminish greatly.) Lawn sprinkling near the tree is not sufficient for reaching roots and encouraging correct growth. For more information about the specific water needs of your tree, consult a qualified nurseryperson or refer to a good nursery resource book, such as the *Sunset Western Garden Book*.

**Here are a few other things to remember *after* planting day:**

- keep lawn equipment, such as mowers and weed whips, away from tree trunks
- inspect your tree regularly for pests and evidence of disease
- remove stakes and ties after about one year or the establishment period
- learn healthy pruning techniques
- prune dead or injured branches immediately
- replace mulch as needed and keep area clear of weeds and grasses
- deep water for an average of five years after planting
- ***NEVER EVER*** top a tree to reduce its height!

## **Proper Pruning**

Trees need proper care to grow and thrive, particularly in an unforgiving urban environment. When trees receive poor treatment and are pruned improperly, they can become diseased and/or die. Street trees in Los Angeles are pruned by the City's Bureau of Street Services. Residents can get a permit to prune their own street tree if they feel the tree needs more immediate attention. If a hazard exists, such as limbs about to fall, or to request any other services, call the Service Request Line at 1-800-996-2489. While it's best to leave the pruning of large trees to an arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), you can prune smaller street trees with a permit and a little know-how. Here's what to do:

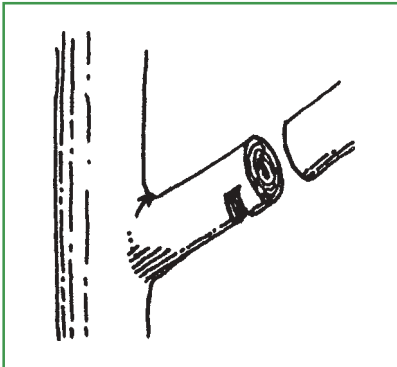
- Get educated. *TreePeople's Citizen Forester Training*, which will guide you through the planning and implementation of your community tree planting event, also covers tree care and maintenance. Also check out available classes at area colleges, such as Los Angeles Pierce College and UCLA Extension.
- After you get some training, call the L.A. Street Tree Division (*see page 26*) to request a free pruning permit.

*Remember — proper pruning promotes a tree's good health! Only use equipment that is clean and disinfected with household bleach. Diseases can be carried to a healthy tree by dirty pruning equipment. When you're ready to prune, be sure to follow ISA's recommended procedure in order to keep your tree safe and healthy:*

- A. Remove any dead, dying, broken or diseased limbs. Cut away any sucker growth sprouting from the base of the tree.
- B. Remove any crossing or weakly attached branches to preserve the safe structure of the tree.
- C. Seldom remove more than 25% of a tree's living foliage, and, most importantly, **NEVER EVER** top a tree! This results in new growth that is weak and bushy. This will create an even greater need for constant trimming, cause hazardous conditions, and shorten the life of the tree.

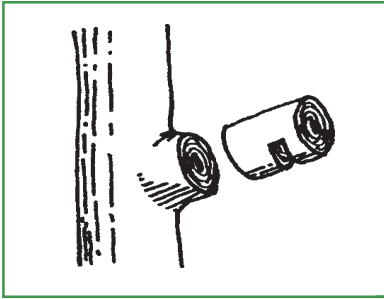
Here is the Natural Target Pruning Method recommended by ISA:

1. Large branches should be cut back until a lightweight, reasonable length of limb remains. Make an undercut before making the final cut to reduce the risk of torn or damaged bark (*see Figure 4*).



**Figure 4**

*Shorten large branches to make them easier to work with. Before making your final cut, make a small notch (called an undercut) on the branch's underside to ease pressure and prevent bark from tearing.*



**Figure 5**

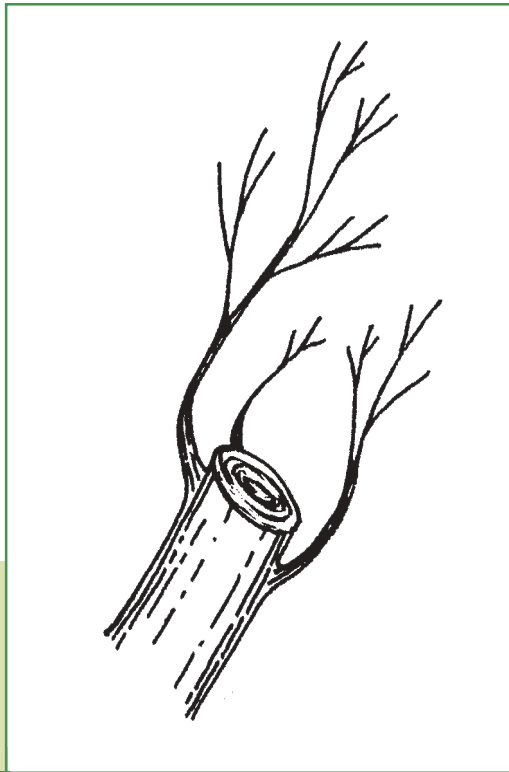
*Use a sharp pruning saw to remove the branch, being careful to make the cut just outside the branch collar. DO NOT leave a stub!*

2. Find the branch collar (the bulge or wrinkle where the limb meets the tree trunk). This is where you will make your final cut (*see Figure 5*).

3. Make the final cut, taking care to keep it smooth. This allows the wound to callous over properly and lets the tree's natural defense mechanisms take over. Leaving stubs, cutting inside the branch collar, or reducing a tree's height by topping can compromise its innate ability to create a barrier against insects and disease (*see Figure 6*).

**Figure 6**

*Topping results in weakly attached new growth. It's an open invitation for insects and disease to spread throughout an otherwise healthy tree.*



## **Citizen Forester and Campus Forester Training**

There's more to planting trees in your neighborhood or at your school than just visiting a nursery and digging holes in the ground. To do it right requires paperwork, legwork and hard work. Fortunately, you don't have to do it alone. One of the best ways is to become a Citizen or Campus Forester. These are trained, action-oriented people committed to making our streets, neighborhoods and schools greener, healthier places, and who pursue that goal through community-based tree plantings.

**Citizen Forester Training** was developed by TreePeople (*see listing, page 19*), a local environmental education/citizen action group with over 25 years of experience in volunteer-supported urban and mountain forestry. The training has enjoyed such success that it has become a model for other community and urban forestry efforts across the country.

The interactive workshop is offered four times a year at a cost of \$50 per attendee (price includes literature and TreePeople's book, *The Simple Act of Planting a Tree*), and is intended for those with specific neighborhood projects already in mind. It takes place over five Saturdays and consists of classroom exercises, practical field experience and discussions with guest experts. The training covers all steps necessary to create an urban planting event, including project creation and development; permits; working with municipal or county agencies; enlisting community support; fund raising; publicity; tree physiology; and planting, maintenance and long-term care. Tools, supplies, volunteers and continuing staff support from TreePeople are available for each Citizen Forester event.

**Campus Forester Training** was developed by TreePeople as a workshop to give students, teachers and parents a pathway toward the greening of school campuses. The interactive, daylong session is offered free of charge, and is modeled after the previously established Citizen Forester Training. The training includes discussions on working with school administrations, both locally and district-wide; enlisting the support of students, teachers and parents; project creation and management; fund raising; publicity; tree physiology; and planting, maintenance and long-term care. Tools, supplies, volunteers and continuing staff support from TreePeople are available for each Campus Forester event.

In addition, **Planting Supervisor Training** is offered each month of the planting year to teach more experienced volunteers how to assist in the quality planting of trees at community events. Supervisors learn the proper method of planting trees, how to work with volunteers to create rewarding and safe experiences, and the mission of TreePeople to enable the Supervisors to be “ambassadors” of TreePeople during planting events.

## **Suggested Reading List**

A New Tree Biology Dictionary:

Terms, Topics & Treatments for Trees & Their Problems & Proper Care

by Alex Shigo

Field Guide to North American Trees

by The Audubon Society

Pruning: How-to Guide for Gardeners

by Robert L. Stebbins and Michael MacCaskey

Smart Planting for the New Urban Forest

by TreePeople and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Street Trees Recommended for Southern California

by Street Tree Seminar, Inc.

Sunset Western Garden Book

by Sunset Magazine

The Simple Act of Planting a Tree

by Andy and Katie Lipkis, TreePeople

Trees

by Charles Fenyesi





# Community Gardens

*Earth is here so kind, that just tickle her with a  
hoe and she laughs with a harvest.*

*- Douglas Jerrold*

## *Chapter 4*

### *Community Gardens*

#### **Starting A Community Garden**

A community garden can supply urban dwellers without sufficient space for their own gardens with a supply of “home-grown” fruits, vegetables, and herbs. Although there are several tasks that need to be accomplished to create a community garden, the outcome is well worth the effort involved. Along with fresh, flavorful produce and recreational opportunities, a community garden can also beautify the neighborhood, bring residents closer together, and reduce crime.

The first step to creating a community garden is talking to your neighbors to determine who is interested in participating in the project. There’s lots of work to be done so the more hands, the better. At a minimum, you should find ten families interested in creating a community garden. Form a garden club that meets monthly to plan the garden and share the workload. When the garden is up and growing, the garden club will be responsible for setting the rules, assigning individual plots, collecting money, paying bills, and resolving conflicts. Contact other community gardens to learn from their experiences. This is also a good time to contact your City Councilmember, who can provide much support and assistance throughout the process of creating your garden.

Finding a suitable location for the garden is the next step. Contact the City’s Public Works, Bureau of Street Services at 213/485-5675 for available City-owned sites. Look around your neighborhood for a vacant lot that receives at least six hours of sun per day and is relatively free of debris, at least debris too large to remove. Identify a few possible locations since one or more may be unavailable for various reasons. Determine who owns the land. This can be done by looking up the address at the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor’s Office. Once you have the name and address of the property owner, write a letter requesting permission to use the site. In your letter, highlight the benefits that a community garden would bring to both the community and the property owner, specifically that the gardeners would maintain the property and keep it weed free. Determine the terms and length of the lease. Try to negotiate a lease for at least three years. Often a group can lease land for a community garden for \$1 per year. After all, a vacant lot generates no income for the owner and maintenance can be expensive.

Before finalizing the lease, check water availability and soil conditions at the site. The Department of Water and Power (*see page 73*) can conduct a site investigation to determine if your proposed site has access to water. If the site has had water service in the past, it is relatively inexpensive to start up the water service again. If water has never been brought to the site, it can be expensive to install a line from the street main to the site. Next, have the soil tested to ensure no contamination exists from past land uses. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (*see page 108*) can provide you with a list of labs that can perform the testing and assist with interpreting the results of the tests.

Although your lease will probably contain a “hold harmless” waiver to protect the landowner from any lawsuits arising from injuries at the garden, the landowner also may require that you obtain liability insurance. Even if it’s not required, you should consider obtaining insurance for your own protection. Fortunately, inexpensive insurance is available with the cost based on the number of gardeners at the site. For more information, contact the American Community Garden Association (215/988-8785; [www.communitygarden.org](http://www.communitygarden.org)) or locally, Metropolitan Neighborhood Gardens and Farms Inc. (323/876-6040), a nonprofit organization that sponsors several Los Angeles gardens.

Once you have a signed lease and liability insurance, you can move on to the fun part – planning and planting the garden. Involve all interested community members in the design of your garden. Determine the size and location of individual plots, community areas, pathways, compost bins, tool shed, and other garden components. Include a bench or picnic table, preferably in the shade, where gardeners can rest and enjoy the beauty of the garden. Don’t forget to have a sign with the garden’s name, sponsors, and contact person’s phone number so that new gardeners can get information on joining.

Your design will determine the amount of start-up money needed. Approach local businesses about sponsoring your garden through cash or material donations. Have fund-raisers, such as car washes, pancake breakfasts, bake sales, or rummage sales. Look for grant opportunities, but be aware that the grant process can take several months. Contact LA Grows (213/362-9000, extension 201) and the Common Ground Garden Program (<http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/garden/index.html> or call 323/838-4532) for information to help neighborhood groups start and sustain community gardens. LA Grows can provide labor, materials, and technical assistance to your garden. Common Ground, a part of the University of California Cooperative Extension Program, can provide technical and educational assistance.

It can take months of planning to launch a successful community garden, but plant something as soon as possible. Seeing a visible change at the site will keep community enthusiasm high. Schedule work days to clean up the site, install the irrigation system, mark out the individual plots and pathways with stakes and twine, and plant some fruit trees or landscaping. When your site starts to look like a community garden, celebrate! Have a grand opening and publicly thank your sponsors and hard-working members of the community. Then, enjoy the garden!



### \*Green Tip:

To check on the availability of City-owned lots that could be used for community gardens, contact the Department of Public Works' Bureau of Street Services, Street Tree Division at 213/485-5675.

## Composting

*Compost* is a dark, crumbly, nutrient-rich form of decomposed organic matter used as a soil conditioner and organic fertilizer. It is one of the best and certainly the least expensive way to improve the fertility and health of your garden. It also helps the soil retain moisture and reduces water runoff. It can be worked into the soil prior to planting, spread on top as mulch, or used as a potting mix.

Composting also is an excellent waste reduction method. Yard wastes make up approximately 20% of all household wastes and take up valuable space in our landfills. Collection, transportation, and disposal costs also are a sizeable expense for the City. By composting your yard wastes, you can reuse valuable natural materials, prevent filling our scarce landfill space with unnecessary waste, benefit the environment, save tax dollars, and improve your garden.

Materials can be composted in a pile covered with a plastic tarp or a homemade or purchased bin. The best size pile or bin is one cubic yard. Choose a location that receives equal amounts of sunlight and shade during the day. Fill your bin with equal parts of high-in-nitrogen

“green” and high-in-carbon “brown” materials mixed together (*see lists below*). Using as many different types of organic materials as possible is important for success. All materials should be chopped to maximize their surface area. This can be done by hand with a machete or shovel or materials can be run through a shredder or lawnmower. Add water to moisten to the level of a wrung out sponge. The pile should be turned weekly to provide good air circulation. Be careful as the center of the pile will be hot (up to 120 degrees). A fast, hot pile will produce compost ready to use in 4 to 6 weeks. If additional materials are added during the process, it may take several months for the compost to be ready.

The City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation offers free workshops on basic composting, grasscycling and worm composting at various locations throughout the City. They also have discounted bins available for purchase. Call them at 800/773-CITY or 213/847-1444 for a schedule or more information, or check out their website at [www.lacity.org/SAN](http://www.lacity.org/SAN).

### ***What to compost:***

#### **GREEN**

Vegetable trimmings  
Livestock manure  
Yard clippings  
Coffee grounds  
Egg shells  
Fruit peels  
Tea bags

#### **BROWN**

Shredded cardboard  
Chopped cornstalks  
Shredded paper  
Dried leaves  
Wood chips  
Sawdust  
Straw

### ***What NOT to compost:***

Dog or cat feces  
Treated wood  
Fatty foods

Diseased plants  
Meat, bones, or fish  
Milk products

***Sources:*** City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Solid Resources Recycling and Planning Division: Backyard Composting Education Program.

Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works: Backyard Composting and Grass Recycling Program.

## Assistance

L.A. Grows is a free program that helps neighborhood groups start and sustain community gardens in greater Los Angeles. It is a project of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps and the L.A. Community Garden Council, a coalition of organizations who support community garden projects in the Los Angeles area. L.A. Grows serves community garden groups that include and benefit residents of targeted low-income neighborhoods. The City of Los Angeles has provided \$85,000 to the program to support community gardens and other greening projects, including tree-planting, within City boundaries.

L.A. Grows has several services to offer that will help your community garden become a success. These fall into the areas of education, project assistance from the Garden Crew, supplies from the Green Bank, and garden coordination assistance.

***Educational Services:*** L.A. Grows provides free Start-up Guides to anyone interested in starting a community garden. L.A. Grows also maintains a demonstration garden at the Los Angeles Conservation Corps' Hammel Street Center in East L.A., which features a variety of options for building garden structures and raised beds, terracing slopes, gardening in containers, composting, etc. The demonstration garden also hosts periodic workshops on techniques for construction, irrigation, planting, and garden maintenance.

***Special Project Assistance from the Garden Crew:*** L.A. Grows staff includes a team of Garden Crew specialists who are trained in community organizing and all aspects of garden construction and maintenance. They are bilingual and are equipped with a truck and a wide range of tools, including rototillers, a chipper/shredder, and a variety of power and hand tools. The Garden Crew is available for special projects and can enlist additional labor assistance for large-scale projects.

***Supplies from the Green Bank:*** L.A. Grows collects material donations and warehouses them until needed. The Green Bank maintains an inventory of lumber, tools, compost and soil amendments, mulch, plants, fruit trees, seeds, irrigation supplies, fencing, and recycled concrete.

***Garden Coordination Assistance:*** L.A. Grows sponsors new gardens each year. In addition to getting priority access to all of the services listed here, the groups working to establish new gardens receive hands-on assistance at every step of garden development. For further information, contact L.A. Grows at 323/526-1460 or call their Greening Hotline at 213/362-9000, extension 201.







## Certified Farmers' Markets In Los Angeles County

Everyone probably remembers hearing “Eat your vegetables!” when growing up and this turned out to be sound advice since research has shown that eating a variety of vegetables and fruits can reduce the risk of many diseases. Although not everyone has the time, energy, and space to grow their own produce, everyone has access to tree-ripened, just-picked fruits and vegetables by shopping at a certified farmers’ market.

A certified farmers’ market is a location approved by the County agricultural commissioner where farmers can sell only the produce that they grow themselves. These markets are operated under regulations established in 1977 by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The number of certified farmers’ markets has grown over the years and there are currently over three hundred throughout California.

Certified farmers’ markets offer many benefits to both consumers and farmers. These markets can sell tree- and vine-ripened fruits that are too delicate to withstand the handling involved in shipping to a supermarket. Produce is fresher having been picked a day or just hours before arriving at the market. There is a wider variety than can be found at the supermarket. It’s not unusual to see twenty different varieties of tomatoes or a dozen varieties of apples. Another advantage is lower prices since there is no “middleman” involved. There is also the opportunity for consumers to talk directly to the farmers who grow their food and that doesn’t happen at the grocery store.

Following is a list of certified farmers’ markets in Los Angeles County. Market locations in surrounding areas or more information can be obtained by calling the Southland Farmers’ Market Association at 310/481-0167. A list of certified farmers’ markets throughout California can be found at <http://farmersmarket.ucdavis.edu>.





<b>City</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Agoura Hills	Tuesday	2:30 to 6:30 p.m.	Wizen Shopping Center at Cornell and Agoura
Alhambra	Sunday	8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	East Bay State at Monterey
Bellflower	Monday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	John Simms Park, Oak and Clark Aves.
Beverly Hills	Sunday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	200 block of North Canon Drive
Brentwood	Wednesday	3:30 to 7 p.m.	Chayote St. btn. Barrington. and Sunset
Burbank	Saturday	8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	3rd St. and Orange Grove Ave.
Calabasas	Saturday	8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Calabasas Rd. and El Canon Ave.
Carson	Thursday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Carson St. at Civic Center Dr.
Claremont	Sunday	9 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Yale and Bonita
Commerce	Wednesday	3 to 6 p.m.	The Citadel, 5675 E. Telegraph
Compton	Friday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Alameda St. at Compton Blvd.
Covina	Friday	4 to 9 p.m.	Citrus Ave. and School St.
Culver City	Tuesday	3 to 7 p.m.	Culver Blvd. and Canfield Ave.
Downtown LA	Thursday	Noon to 4 p.m.	735 S. Figueroa St.
Eagle Rock	Friday	5 to 9 p.m.	1200 block of Merton Ave.
El Segundo	Thursday	3 to 7 p.m.	Main btn. Grand and Holly
Encino	Sunday	8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	17400 Victory Blvd., near Balboa Blvd.
Gardena	Saturday	6:30 a.m. to noon	13000 S. Van Ness Ave. at El Segundo Blvd
Glendale	Thursday	9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	100 N. Brand Blvd.
Glendora	Thursday	5 to 9 p.m.	Glendora Ave. btn. Foothill and Bennett
Hermosa Beach	Friday	Noon to 4 p.m.	Valley Dr. btn. 8th and 10th
Hollywood	Sunday	8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Ivar St. and Hollywood Blvd.
Long Beach	Friday	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Promenade North at Broadway
Long Beach	Saturday	7:30 to 11:30 a.m.	El Dorado Center, Norwalk and Wardlow
Long Beach	Sunday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Marina Dr., south of 2nd
Los Angeles	Wednesday	2 to 6 p.m.	Adams Blvd. and Vermont Ave.

Monrovia	Friday	5 to 9 p.m.	Library Park at Myrtle and Lime Aves.
Montrose	Thursday	5 to 9 p.m.	Honolulu btn. Ocean View and Las Palmas
Northridge	Wednesday	5 to 9 p.m.	Fashion Center at Tampa and Plummer
Norwalk	Tuesday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Alondra Blvd., west of Pioneer Blvd.
Palos Verdes	Sunday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Peninsula Center, Hawthorne and Silver Spur
Pasadena	Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Paloma St. and Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena	Tuesday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Villa Park, 363 E. Villa St.
Pomona	Saturday	7:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Pearl St. at Garey Ave.
Redondo Beach	Thursday	8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Harbor Dr. south of Redondo Pier
San Dimas	Wednesday	4 to 7 p.m.	Bonita Ave. btn. Monte Vista and San Dimas
San Pedro	Thursday	3 to 7 p.m.	6th and Mesa
Santa Clarita	Sunday	8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.	College of the Canyons, Parking Lot 8
Santa Monica	Saturday	8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Pico and Cloverfield Blvds.
Santa Monica	Saturday	8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Arizona Ave. and 2nd St.
Santa Monica	Sunday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	2640 Main St., at Ocean Park Blvd.
Santa Monica	Wednesday	9 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Arizona Ave. and 2nd St.
South Gate	Monday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	South Gate Park at Tweedy and Walnut
South Pasadena	Thursday	4 to 8 p.m.	Meridian Ave. at Mission St.
Studio City	Sunday	8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Ventura Place, btn. Ventura and Laurel Cyn
Torrance	Saturday	8 a.m. to noon	Wilson Park, 2200 Crenshaw Blvd.
Torrance	Tuesday	8 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Wilson Park, 2200 Crenshaw Blvd.
Venice	Friday	7 to 11 a.m.	Venice Blvd. and Venice Way
West Covina	Saturday	7:30 a.m. to noon	Glendora Ave. at State St.
West Hollywood	Monday	9 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd.
Westchester	Wednesday	8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	6200 block of West 87th St.
Westwood	Thursday	2 to 7 p.m.	Weyburn Ave. at Westwood Blvd.
Whittier	Friday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Greenleaf Ave. and Bailey St.

## **Suggested Reading List**

A Patch of Eden: America's Inner-City Gardeners  
by H. Patricia Hynes

Burpee: The Complete Vegetable and Herb Gardener: A Guide to Growing Your Garden Organically  
by Karan Davis Cutler

Common-Sense Pest Control  
by William Olkowski, Sheila Daar, Helga Olkowski

Heirloom Vegetable Gardening: A Master Gardener's Guide to Planting, Seed Saving, and Cultural History  
by William Woys Weaver

Let It Rot! The Gardener's Guide to Composting  
by Stu Campbell

How to Grow More Vegetables  
by John Jeavons

Rodale's Chemical-Free Yard and Garden: The Ultimate Authority on Successful Organic Gardening  
by Anna Carr and Fern Marshall Bradley

Sunset Western Garden Book  
by Sunset Magazine

Vegetable Gardening with Derek Fell: Practical Advice and Personal Favorites from the Best-Selling Author and Television Show Host  
by Derek Fell

# *Notes*





# Community Greening Projects

*Reality can be beaten with enough imagination.*

*-Anonymous*

## *Chapter 5*

### *Community Greening Projects*

#### **Parks, Mini-Parks, and Alley Conversions**

**P**arks in Los Angeles present additional opportunities for expanding and enhancing green space. Even small areas can become neighborhood “mini-parks” of shade trees to meet the needs expressed by the local community.

Whether large or small, many park areas can accommodate additional greening such as trees or flower beds. However, as parks are public property, greening enhancements must be approved by the appropriate agency, either the City Department of Recreation and Parks or the recreation department of the State or of Los Angeles County, depending upon park ownership and operation. Contact your local park staff to discuss what can be done and to coordinate a greening project.

Parks often have an existing advisory board made up of local residents, businesses, community organizations, and park staff, and would welcome additional membership and participation. For parks that do not have an established board, consider starting one that can serve as a structured means of communicating local concerns and requests to park staff and administrators. Contact other park boards as well as park staff for recommendations on the organization and operation of a new advisory board. You can find out contact information for a particular park by calling the City’s Department of Recreation and Parks (*see page 54*).

Along with established parks, some effort and innovation by local residents can enrich a neighborhood through the greening of “found” areas. With the approval of the property owner, vacant lots can be transformed into temporary green space for the community. In addition to arranging the labor and materials to landscape a lot, insurance and liability as well as maintenance issues will need to be agreed upon with the property owner. Information on lot ownership can be obtained from property records maintained by the County of Los Angeles.

In Los Angeles, unused or nuisance alleys that meet specific requirements can be converted into green space for the adjacent residents. Contact the City’s Alley Conversion Program or your Council District Field Office to determine whether or not an alley qualifies for the program and to discuss the conversion process.

Working together, park staff, property owners, and neighborhood organizations can bring together the design, planting materials, employees and volunteers necessary to create a wonderful greening enhancement for the community. The following contact information can help you start the process:

City of Los Angeles

Department of Recreation and Parks	213/473-7070
Department of Public Works	
Public Reference	213/847-6430
Street Tree Division	213/485-5675
Public Affairs Office, Alley Conversion Program	213/978-0235

County of Los Angeles

Department of Parks and Recreation	213/738-2961
Registrar/Recorder Real Estate Records Section	562/462-2133

California State Parks	818/880-0350
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***Examples of existing park advisory boards in Los Angeles are:***

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Steering Committee	818/756-9710
Ask for James Ward, Steve Moe, or Ramon Barajas	
Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park:	310/548-7515



# Greenways

## ***What is a Greenway?***

Charles Little, author of *Greenways for America*, defines a greenway as, “*a linear open space established along either a natural corridor, such as a river front, stream valley, or high ridgeline, or overland along a railroad right-of-way converted to recreational use, a canal, scenic road, or other route. It is any natural or landscaped course for pedestrian or bicycle passage.*”

## ***How Greenways make a difference***

Greenways are more accessible than the typical community or neighborhood park. Because greenways are linear, they often are adjacent several communities, therefore there is an increased number of people that may use them. This makes greenways ideal places to bring many people together for recreational activities such as hiking, bicycling, or walking the family dog. Greenways also make terrific connectors. They may link to parks, nature reserves, cultural features and historic sites, further increasing the accessibility and use of these facilities by providing landscaped, traffic-free paths for pedestrians and bicyclists. Greenways also produce a “traffic-calming effect” when they are adjacent streets and traffic medians. In this way, greenways also help to soften the city hardscape, as well as provide valuable habitat corridors. In the increasingly urbanized and “built-out” cities, greenways offer a unique opportunity to protect, maintain and enhance the natural environment by providing vegetation and other wildlife with continuous habitat. When the greenway is a part of a stream or river channel, such as the growing LA River Greenway, it may even connect the mountains to the ocean. Greenways can improve the surrounding communities by increasing property values and transforming vacant areas strewn with weeds, trash and other debris into community assets. Although narrow, greenways also may provide communities with space for garden plots, and improve air quality and summertime temperatures by providing additional trees and shade.

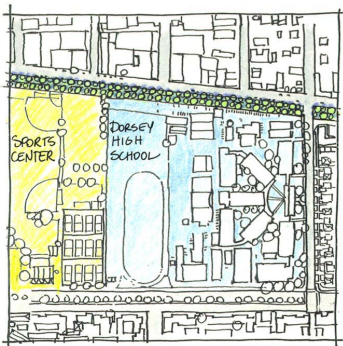
## ***Creating a Greenway***

Are there any potential greenways in your neighborhood? Powerlines, abandoned rail lines and other rights-of-way, stream and riverbeds, ridges and bluffs are excellent places for greenways. Consult your community planner and your local neighborhood or homeowners’ association to see if there is an interest in creating a greenway, and who owns the right-of-way. You can build your greenway team by creating a nonprofit organization (NPO) and partnering with other NPOs, such as bicycle advocacy organizations, as well as with local government, business and neighborhood associations, schools and other organizations. Host a neighborhood meeting to

discuss opportunities, and be sure to include as many people as possible in the design and implementation process to achieve a greenway that everyone can use and enjoy.

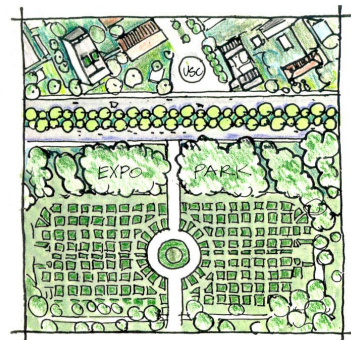
### *The Expo Greenway*

The Expo Greenway is the Environmental Affairs Department's demonstration project to promote and support the creation of greenways in Los Angeles. Through a City agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), the right-of-way owner, the six-mile greenway of trees was planted along Exposition Boulevard through densely populated areas, critically lacking in open space. Expo also connects several churches and schools with Exposition Park and USC and has transformed a neglected area, once filled with trash and weeds, into a neat, tree-lined community greenway. Through the Expo project, fifty young people were hired to plant and care for the trees. Today, Expo contributes significantly to a cleaner, safer and healthier environment. A bikeway along the route is planned to open in the winter of 2001. It is hoped that the Expo Greenway and bikeway will one day extend west to the ocean and east to the LA River Greenway. For more information on the Expo Greenway, check out the Department's website: [www.lacity.org/ead](http://www.lacity.org/ead).



The Expo Greenway at Dorsey High School...

...and the USC-planted section adjacent Exposition Park.



## Schools

At many public schools in Los Angeles, playgrounds and lunch areas have been paved with concrete and asphalt to minimize maintenance costs. These areas generally are without trees or other greenery, lack adequate shade and can be bleak places for children to play and eat lunch. The lack of trees and greenery also means classrooms and buildings often are unshaded, causing classrooms to be hot or, if air conditioned, forcing equipment to operate very inefficiently.

Since children spend about 300 hours each year outdoors while at school for breaks, lunch, sports, games, assemblies, and other activities, greening schools would have a large impact on their daily lives. Fortunately, there are programs in the City aimed at doing just this. The Department of Water and Power is sponsoring the *Cool Schools Program*, which plants trees at Los Angeles schools to conserve energy as well as to provide shady places for children to gather and play.

Through the Cool Schools Program, trees are being planted by nonprofit organizations, including (in the first year of the Program) the Hollywood Beautification Team, Los Angeles Conservation Corps, North East Trees, and TreePeople, in association with the children, teachers, and parents at each school. Working with the school's community, the tree groups identify planting sites that shade eating areas, parking lots, play areas and, to facilitate energy conservation, south and west-facing sides of buildings, windows, and air conditioning units. Trees also are planted in the surrounding community, particularly along the routes used by children on their way to and from school.

This program is proving to be very popular with everyone involved. The students benefit by having cooler play areas and classrooms and a more beautiful campus. Schools benefit from the reduced energy costs to operate air conditioning or fans. The community benefits from improved air quality and the employment of at-risk youth as well as the beautification of their neighborhoods. For more information on the Cool Schools Program, contact the Department of Water and Power or the tree groups, all of which are listed in this guide.

Many schools also have gardens where the students grow a variety of vegetables, herbs, and flowers. Gardens offer many educational opportunities in a fun, interactive manner. The gardens can be used to teach science, nutrition, and ecology. Students can work on their math skills by measuring and charting plant growth. They can work on language skills by learning the names of plants. Studying the origins and uses of plants can teach geography, history, and cultural diversity. The Kids Food Cyber Club at <http://www.kidfood.org>, a web site created by the Connecticut Association for Human Services and Kaiser Permanente, covers nutrition and has gardening projects for elementary school children as well as a free teaching guide and tips for parents.

Larger gardens also can teach business skills if the school sells the produce at a farmers' market. One successful example of this is the garden at Crenshaw High School, which led to *Food from The 'Hood*, a student-owned and operated business. In addition to selling produce at a farmers' market, they created their own salad dressings, which are available at local markets or by mail. The profits from this business provide college scholarships for the student owners. For more information on *Food from The 'Hood*, check out their webpage at [www.foodfromthehood.com](http://www.foodfromthehood.com), call 888/601-FOOD (3663), or fax (323) 759-7070.

The State Board of Education, having seen the benefits of gardens, is expanding programs to enable more schools to participate. Their goal is a garden in every school in California. The City of Los Angeles is supporting this effort by kicking off Gardens for Kids L.A., a Mayor's initiative to fund the creation of twenty-five new school gardens in its first year.

As the lead City department for the initiative, the Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) has brought together several partners to select the school sites and to develop the garden program. Partners include the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), UC Cooperative Extension Common Ground Gardening Angels, California Integrated Waste Management Board, Urban Resources Partnership (URP), and Gardens for Kids (GFK).

Through Gardens for Kids L.A., funding will be available for plants, tools, and materials to build school gardens, as well as for additional labor from the LACC to assist the school students and volunteers. Training, technical assistance, and curriculum ideas also will be provided for the garden team and community volunteers through the UC Common Ground program, Gardens for Kids, and URP. LAUSD has developed extensive tie-ins for garden lessons with school curriculum.

For more information on the Gardens for Kids L.A. program, call 213/362-9000, extension 201. To start a garden at your school, talk to the principal or contact the LAUSD Division of Instruction at 818/762-1156 for more information.

Information on children's gardens is presented in Chapter 6 (*see page 82*).



# *Notes*





# Greening Details

*When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.*

*- John Muir*



## Chapter 6

### Gardens for Wildlife

Gardens can be a relaxing place for us to spend time, but, with careful planting, they also can be home to a variety of birds, butterflies, and small animals. It's not difficult to create a wildlife-friendly habitat and your garden may already have some of the necessary elements. There are four components needed in a wildlife-friendly garden:

- *Food*
- *Water*
- *Shelter from weather and predators*
- *Places to raise young*

Food can come naturally from the fruits, seeds, or nectar of trees, shrubs, and flowers growing in your garden or it can come from supplemental feeders providing nectar for hummingbirds and a variety of seeds for other birds. The “Creating a Bird Garden” article in this chapter suggests many California-native plants that local and migrating birds will find especially beneficial. Songbirds also can be attracted to your garden by planting many varieties of flowers, especially those in the sunflower family.

Flowers also are a good source of nectar for both hummingbirds and butterflies. Hummingbirds especially like bee balm, cardinal flower, foxglove, fuchsia, hibiscus, honeysuckle, larkspur, lily, petunia, phlox, salvia, verbena, and zinnia. Butterflies are fond of butterfly weed, butterfly bush, lantana, purple coneflower, zinnias, honeysuckle, lavender, lilac, pansy, phlox, and snapdragon. Butterflies rarely feed in the shade, so plant flowers in the sunny parts of your garden. Hummingbird feeders, however, should be hung in the shade. It's easy to make your own hummingbird nectar. Just combine one part table sugar with four parts water, bring to a boil, then cool. Clean and refill your feeders often and store any leftover nectar in the refrigerator. Since hummingbirds are very territorial, hanging a few feeders throughout your garden will attract many birds. Since many birds, even hummingbirds, also eat insects, refrain from using pesticides and insecticides. In addition to reducing the food supply in your garden, they can be lethal to small birds and butterflies.

Water is another important element in your garden. Water for drinking and bathing can come from a pedestal-mounted birdbath or a shallow water dish placed on the ground. A small pond also creates habitat for frogs, dragonflies, fish, and other aquatic animals.

Shelter from weather and predators can be provided by a variety of trees and shrubs. Piles of rocks, logs, or mulch will protect small mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Different species of birds have distinct ideas of the perfect places to raise their young. Many trees and shrubs provide nesting areas, but you also can construct a variety of houses to attract birds to your yard. Many bird books contain specific requirements for the types of birds that you want to attract.

The National Wildlife Federation has a Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program. Once your habitat has been created, you can get it certified through this program. More information is available by writing to them at

Attn: National Wildlife Federation  
Backyard Wildlife  
11100 Wildlife Center Drive  
Reston, VA 20190-5362



### \*Green Note:

*Integrated Pest Management* is a practice aimed at reducing – and even *eliminating* the need for toxic chemicals like pesticides. By encouraging the presence of beneficial insects such as ladybugs, which are known to eat mealy bugs and scale, we help our gardens grow safer for all who enjoy them... (*pests excepted!*)

# Creating A Bird Garden

*by Melanie Ingalls*

It is a little known fact that you can see more species of birds in Los Angeles County than in any other county in the country except San Diego. This is because Los Angeles is host to an incredible variety of terrain and lies along the Pacific Flyway, the major west coast migration route for birds travelling between wintering grounds in Mexico, Central and South America, and nesting grounds in Alaska and Canada. But it is not easy being a bird in Los Angeles, particularly as we continue to alter the natural landscape on which birds and other wildlife depend.

While paved parking lots and new developments cause conspicuous loss of bird habitat, a potentially greater but subtler problem is the replacement of native plant communities by monotonous groups of exotic and aggressive plants from other continents. So many Asiatic trees, shrubs and vines and European weeds are now loose in the Los Angeles landscape that native trees and shrubs – those that provide a combination of food, nesting places and shelter for birds – are being crowded out.

Improving the local landscape for wildlife is one of the most constructive steps that any of us can take to assist wild bird populations. By planting certain carefully selected native trees and shrubs, providing water and, in some cases, supplementary food, you can create an attractive landscape that will encourage a wide variety of birds to visit your backyard in Los Angeles, whether you have acres of land or just a small garden.

There are many books on birds and bird gardening, including *The Backyard Bird Watcher* by George H. Harrison (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1979) and *The Bird Garden* by Stephen W. Kress (London: Dorling Kindersley, 1995). The Los Angeles Audubon Society Bookstore in Plummer Park in West Hollywood has a fine selection. They can be reached at 323/ 876-0202, or faxed at (323) 876-7609. For more information on local birds, you can call the National Audubon Society at 212/979-3000. A large selection of California plants and wildflower seeds are available at the Theodore Payne Foundation Nursery in Sun Valley, 818/768-1802 and at many other local plant nurseries.

The following list of plants (*and birds that appreciate them!*) was put together by the Theodore Payne Foundation and the Los Angeles Audubon Society to guide you in enhancing your yards. Happy birding!

## California Native Plants Desirable for Gardens and Bird Sanctuaries



### *Shrubs which bear attractive fruit relished by many birds:*

(Quail, Doves, Mockingbirds, Robins, Thrushes, Cedar Waxwings, Phainopeplas, Grosbeaks, Finches, Towhees, Sparrows, Thrashers.)

*Arctostaphylos*. Manzanita. About 35 species of woody plants from low shrubs to small trees with crooked branches, reddish brown bark, growing in dry or well-drained soil.

*Berberis nevadensis*. Nevin's Barberry. Birds are fond of the red berries, which ripen about July. A thick growing, spiny shrub, making good cover and succeeding well in dry places. Provides food and shelter for birds.

*Berberis pinnata*. California Barberry. Dense clustered racemes of bright yellow flowers, followed by large purple berries. Thrives best in shade but will stand sun. Berries of these and other species of Barberry are eaten by Thrushes, Robins, Phainopeplas and Towhees.

*Comarostaphylis diversifolia*. Summer Holly. Loose clusters of dark red berries in late summer.

*Forestiera neomexicana*. Forestiera. Produces clusters of small blue-black fruits. Deciduous.

*Lonicera hispidula californica*. California Honeysuckle. A beautiful climbing plant producing pink flowers and scarlet berries. Hummingbirds visit the blossoms for nectar. Finches eat the berries.

*Lonicera involucrata ledebouri*. Twinberry. Deciduous shrub of upright spreading habit. Yellow flowers, tinged with scarlet, followed by black berries.

*Lonicera subspicata johnstonii*. Wild Honeysuckle. Morone. Generally a sprawling shrub, but sometimes growing into an erect bush. Small cream-colored flowers followed by yellow berries. Hummingbirds visit these and other honeysuckles when in blossom for nectar. The soft berries are eaten by Orioles, Thrushes, Towhees, etc.

*Photinia arbutifolia*. California Holly. Toyon. Abundance of red berries in fall and winter, especially relished by Band-tailed Pigeons, Mockingbirds, Thrashers, Robins, Thrushes, Cedar Waxwings and Western Bluebirds.

*Prunus ilicifolia*. Hollyleaf Cherry. Birds are very fond of the fruits, which ripen in the latter part of August and September.

*Prunus lyonii*. Catalina Cherry. Similar to the preceding but grows taller. Bears a heavy crop of large fruits. California Woodpeckers and Jays eat the fruits of these two cherries. Smaller birds may pick off the pulp.

*Rhamnus californica*. Coffeeberry. Bears a good crop of black fruit in late summer and fall. Band-tailed Pigeons, Jays, Mockingbirds, Thrashers, Robins, Thrushes, Cedar Waxwings and California Purple Finches eat this fruit.

*Rhamnus crocea*. Redberry. Bears a crop of red berries in summer. Mockingbirds and Phainopeplas eat the berries.

*Rhamnus ilicifolia*. Hollyleaf Redberry. Taller than the preceding and bears a heavier crop of berries which come later in the season. Quail and Finches eat the berries.

*Rhus integrifolia*. Lemonade Berry. Bears sour, sticky berries. Grows in dry places. Quail, Flickers and Finches eat the berries.

*Rhus ovata*. Sugar Bush. Dark red fruits. Stands heat, cold and drought. Thrashers and Phainopeplas eat this fruit.

*Ribes gracillimum*. Yellow Flowering Currant. Deciduous. Spreads, making thickets and bears a heavy crop of fruit every spring. Hummingbirds visit blossoms for nectar. Thrushes, Purple Finches and Goldfinches eat this fruit.

*Ribes menziesii*. Canyon Gooseberry. Quail, Thrashers, Robins, Thrushes, Finches and Towhees eat this fruit.



*Ribes sanguineum glutinosum*. Pink Flowering Currant. Deciduous. Bears a good crop of fruit. Hummingbirds sip nectar from blossoms. Quail, Robins, Thrushes, Finches and Towhees eat this fruit.

*Ribes speciosum*. Fuchsia Flowered Gooseberry. Semi-evergreen. Usually bears a good crop of fruit relished by many birds such as Quail, Thrushes and Towhees. Anna's, Allen's and Rufous Hummingbirds are attracted by the flowers.

*Ribes*. Other species. Flowers of all the *Ribes* furnish nectar for Hummingbirds in early spring.

*Rosa californica*. California Wild Rose. Prefers moist ground. Bears a good crop of decorative hips, relished by Pine Siskins, Goldfinches and other birds.

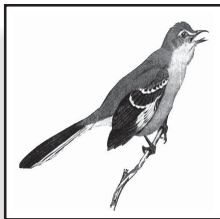
*Rubus vitrifolius*. Western Blackberry. Sprawling, thorny vine. Makes good cover and birds relish the fruit.

*Sambucus glauca*. California Elderberry. Deciduous. Bears a good crop of berries in summer. A favorite with Band-tailed Pigeons, Wren-Tits, Mockingbirds, Phainopeplas, Finches and Towhees.

*Shepherdia argenta*. Buffalo Berry. Shrub or small tree found along streams or winter water courses. Bears attractive red or amber colored berries. As this shrub is dioecious it is best to plant several in order to get both male and female trees.

*Solanum douglasii*. Black Nightshade. Bears a heavy crop of black berries, especially relished by Mockingbirds and Phainopeplas. (Caution: the unripe berries are somewhat poisonous).

*Symphoricarpos mollis*. Dwarf Snowberry. Small pink flowers followed by snow-white berries which Mockingbirds, Finches and Towhees relish.



*Vitis girdiana*. California Wild Grape. Deciduous. Makes a heavy vine and in some localities bears a good crop of fruit. The tangle of vines is a fine nesting site for many birds. The fruit is greatly relished by the Eastern Cardinal in the San Gabriel River Wildlife Sanctuary, also by Band-tailed Pigeons, Mockingbirds, Robins, Hermit Thrushes and Cedar Waxwings.

***Shrubs and trees desirable for food, shelter and nesting:***

*Alnus rhombifolia*. White Alder. Deciduous. Grows in moist places. Warblers, Goldfinches and Pine Siskins are attracted to these trees. The buds are eaten by Cedar Waxwings in the spring.



*Atriplex breweri*. Coast Saltbush. Birds are fond of the seeds. Many birds get salt picking at leaves.

*Atriplex lentiformis*. Quail Bush. Birds are fond of the seeds, which are produced in abundance. Quail, Finches, Towhees and Sparrows are among the species which feed on these seeds.

*Beloperone californica*. Chuparosa. The red flowers are favorites with Hummingbirds.

*Calycanthus occidentalis*. California Sweet Scented Shrub. Deciduous. Prefers moist ground.

*Ceanothus*. California Lilac. All of the twenty or more species range in color from white to deep blue and are visited by Quail, Hummingbirds, Bush-Tits, Wren-Tits, Mockingbirds, Thrashers, Thrushes, Gnatcatchers, Warblers, Grosbeaks, Finches and others.

*Cercis occidentalis*. Western Redbud. Deciduous. An attractive shrub or small tree with magenta or pea-shaped flowers in early spring. Visited by Goldfinches and Hummingbirds.

*Cornus californica*. Creek Dogwood. Deciduous. Grows in moist places. Western Tanagers and Warblers are attracted by the blossoms. Mockingbirds and Hermit Thrushes eat the berries.

*Juglans californica*. California Wild Walnut. Small deciduous tree, often with many trunks. Jays and Band-tailed Pigeons eat the nuts.

*Juniperus californica*. California Juniper. A spreading shrub, grows in dry places, making nesting sites for many birds. The fruit is eaten by Band-tailed Pigeons and Jays.

*Heteromeles arbutifolia*. Toyon. An evergreen shrub with an average height from 10-15'. Toyon, the California State shrub, bears attractive red berries in the fall/winter season. It's an excellent source of food for many birds.



*Lavatera asurgentiflora*. Tree Mallow. Malva Rose. A rapid growing shrub with rose colored flowers followed by capsules containing many seeds. Hummingbirds are attracted by the flowers and the Goldfinches by the seeds.

*Nicotiana glauca*. Tree Tobacco. A naturalized plant from South America. Furnishes food for Hummingbirds, Orioles, Goldfinches, etc., and nectar for Hummingbirds and Arizona Hooded Orioles.

*Platanus racemosa*. California Sycamore. Deciduous. Down on young stems and leaves used as nesting material by Black-chinned Hummingbirds. Seeds eaten by Goldfinches, Cedar Waxwings, House and Purple Finches and Pine Siskins.

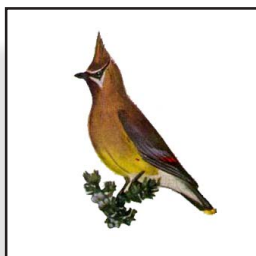
*Populus fremontii*. Fremont Cottonwood. Deciduous. Wet ground. Winter buds and capsules used as food.

*Populus trichocarpa*. Black Cottonwood. Deciduous. Wet ground. The cottony hairs on the seeds used to line nests by many small birds.

*Quercus*. Oak. All species. Jays, Band-tailed Pigeons and California Woodpeckers feed on the acorns. Juncos and Purple Finches feed on buds and leaf galls.

*Salix*. Willow. All species. Wet ground. Warblers, Thrushes, Fox Sparrows and Finches relish the unripe capsules.

*Salvia apiana*. White Sage. Dry places. The silvery white foliage makes it an outstanding plant in the garden at any time. Hummingbirds are attracted by blossoms.



*Salvia clevelandii*. Cleveland's Blue Sage. A beautiful species from San Diego County. Flowers in whorls, large rich blue. Foliage and flowers delightfully fragrant, even after drying. Dry places. Hummingbirds, Bush-Tits, Wren-Tits, Sparrows.

*Salvia leucophylla*. Purple Sage. Button Sage. Silvery gray foliage and large whorls of lilac purple flowers. A profuse bloomer. Dry places. Hummingbirds, Bush-Tits, Wren-Tits, Sparrows.



*Salvia mellifera*. Black Sage. Dry places. Hummingbirds, Bush-Tits, Wren-Tits, Sparrows.



*Tricostemma lanatum*. Woolly Blue Curls. Romero. Flowers blue in spikes often a foot or more in length and clothed with a dense violet colored wool. Dry places. Hummingbirds.

### **Native Perennial Plants**

*Delphinium cardinale*. Scarlet Larkspur. Showy scarlet flowers, in summer. A favorite of Hummingbirds. Dry places. Hummingbirds, Finches, Sparrows.

*Oenothera hookeri*. Yellow Evening Primrose. Bears a good crop of seeds. Grows best in moist soil. Biennial but reseeds itself. Goldfinches, Sparrows.

*Penstemon centranthifolius*. Scarlet Bugler. Hummingbirds and small birds.

*Penstemon heterophyllus*. Violet Beard Tongue. Hummingbirds.

*Penstemon*. Other species. Hummingbirds are attracted by the flowers of all Pentstemons and the seeds are eaten by Sparrows and other small birds.

*Zausserina californica*. California Fuchsia. Scarlet flowers from early September to December. A favorite of Hummingbirds.

## **Water-Wise and Native Plant Landscaping**

*Xeriscape* is a term used for a water-conserving method of landscaping in arid (dry) or semi-arid climates. Xeriscapes consist of drought tolerant plants and trees that require little or no irrigation. In cases where irrigation is used, water-conserving methods such as drip irrigation are employed, and mulch is applied heavily to retain moisture.

### ***Why Xeriscape?***

In southern California's mediterranean and desert climates, annual rainfall often is less than eight inches per year. This is not enough moisture to maintain most traditional gardens and lawns, especially since much of this rain falls in the winter and spring, with long periods of drought occurring in the summer and fall. Here in the Southland, water is a precious resource that often must be transported great distances from places such as northern California and the Colorado River. Therefore, it is important to use water wisely.

### ***How to Xeriscape***

You can conserve water in your own traditional garden simply through careful maintenance. Pruning, weeding, and not over watering and over fertilizing will cut down on the amount of plant material demanding water. Xeriscapes, however, have an advantage over traditional gardens and lawns in that they require little or no maintenance. After the initial year or two following planting, xeriscapes often will take care of themselves, requiring only an occasional pruning. To xeriscape, it is most important to reduce lawn area. Lawn area can be replaced with more drought tolerant species of grass or other types of ground cover, such as ceanothus, coyote brush, or rosemary. Other water demanding plants and trees may be replaced with drought tolerant species. Several popular, drought tolerant varieties of plants and trees include bougainvillea, yuccas and oaks. Whenever possible, it is preferable to use native plants for landscaping, as some varieties of non-native plants become invasive. Invasive plants may look nice in your garden, but can spread to other areas, propagate quickly, and become weeds that choke out native plants and reduce biodiversity.

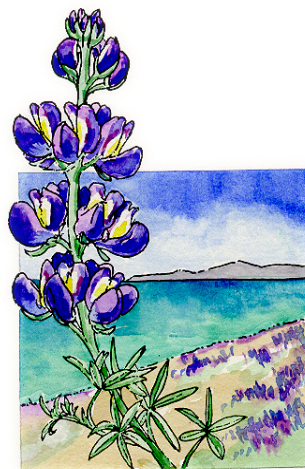
### ***Native Plants***

Plants that are naturally found in Southern California are ideal for landscaping for several reasons. Most native plants are naturally drought tolerant and usually do not require irrigation, pesticides or fertilizers, as they already are adapted to the climate and soil. Many beneficial

insects, butterflies and birds find food and habitat in native plants, which helps increase the local biodiversity. Finally, native plants are beautiful, and include not only cactus, but lush looking plants, colorful flowers, shrubs and trees. The California Native Plant Society (<http://www.cnps.org>) and the Theodore Payne Foundation are excellent resources for people who wish to familiarize themselves with native plants. These organizations offer educational books, nature walks, and tours, as well as native plants and seeds. Some native plants can be found at local nurseries, while specialized nurseries, such as the Tree of Life Nursery in San Juan Capistrano (<http://www.treeoflifenursery.com>), carry a greater variety and have public sales days.

### \*Green Note:

Visit a Botanical Garden or an Arboretum (*see list page 109*) or review the many resources listed in Chapter 7 (*starting on page 89*) to see how you can get more involved with nature, and *natives*!



### Resources:

The Department of Water and Power offers the following free publications with helpful tips on how you can be water-wise:

- *Water Wise Gardening*
- *A Guide to Water Conservation*
- *Creating a Water Conserving Garden*
- *Smart Planting for the New Urban Forest*
- *Water and Power Conservation... A Way of Life*
- *How Much Water Do Your Plants Need... And How Often?*

To request any of these guides, call the Department of Water and Power at 800/ 342-5397.

## Shade and Pollution Prevention

Have you noticed how hot the city summers are? Have you been spending a lot of money on fans or air conditioning? Is your parked car simply boiling at the end of the day? These events are all related to the same problem. The city is experiencing the urban heat island effect. Dark colored, sun-exposed streets, roofs, and building materials absorb heat causing an increase in surrounding air temperature. This combines with a lack of trees to create an intense baking effect. We are all spending more money on energy for cooling, yet generating that energy and the air conditioning process both produce pollutants, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), which lead to higher temperatures. We need trees to break the pollution cycle.

Trees are a way to reduce pollution and the heat island effect by providing shade and cooling. Trees also reduce the warming greenhouse effect in two ways: (1) trees directly absorb carbon dioxide - the primary greenhouse gas - from the atmosphere and; (2) shade from trees can reduce air conditioning and energy use, which reduces the amount of carbon dioxide emitted by power plants.

Taking a few important steps can minimize the urban heat island effect:

*Around your home:* Well placed trees can lower your air conditioning bills by up to 50%. The east, west and south walls of your house receive the most sun. Plant at least three deciduous (leaf-losing) trees around your home to shade these three sunniest sides. Additionally, planting a tree to shade your air conditioner will reduce the amount of energy it uses.

*At work:* Another place in desperate need of shade is the parking lot. Automobiles are a major source of pollutants that lead to the formation of the substance ozone, better known as smog. Approximately 16% of the pollutant emissions can be attributed, not to driving, but to the evaporation of gasoline from sun-baked parked cars. Trees can help reduce this problem. A United States Forest Service study on the effects of tree-shaded parking lots in Sacramento found that cars parked in the shady lot released fewer pollutants than those parked in lots without trees.

Where there is not enough space for trees, vines can be used instead. Vines can shade building walls to further reduce cooling energy costs. Vines can be planted on over-head trellises to shade parking lots and city pavement. Like a tree, a vine on a trellis shades the pavement, reduces surrounding air temperature, and collects the pollution particles that would become contaminants if they reached the ground. Vines have some additional benefits over shade trees in parking areas because:

- they require little or no rooting soil
- they grow very quickly
- their stems are narrower than tree trunks and can be supported on strong metal posts
- since they shade the cars evenly throughout the day, they are the most effective way to reduce gas fumes escaping from overheated gas tanks.

The benefits of planting trees and vines are numerous. You can reduce air emissions and the greenhouse effect, decrease air temperature and lower your energy bill. Greening goes a long way in improving the health and environment of communities.



## Stormwater: Rain in Sunny California

When rain falls in a city like Los Angeles, where rooftops, freeways, and paving comprise such a large proportion of the surface area, excess water is abundant. Runoff channels first into catch basins, then into overflow systems called *storm drains*. Besides rain, other sources of stormwater can include water from gardens, streets, car washing, and swimming pools. As flows merge, they collect in our storm drain system and are eventually dumped at a common point called an *outfall site* which releases the flow into a lake, bay or ocean. This makes it important not to leave materials where they might be swept or channelled into a catch basin. Pollution entering storm drains can include: fertilizers, cigarette butts, trash, pesticides, chlorine, automotive fluids, used oil, paint, chemicals, animal waste, and decomposing organic matter. Since most urban stormwater is not allowed to penetrate into the soil and re-enter the natural hydrologic cycle, stormwater systems bypass the organic decomposition of pollutants that occurs naturally in topsoil. When compared to a natural system, storm drains deliver *more volume*, and *more pollution*, into our oceans and lakes.

### ***What about household water?***

There are two separate systems of drainage: the *Wastewater System* (also called the *sanitary sewage system*) and the *Storm Drain System*. The sanitary sewage system is designed to handle water from sinks, washers, toilets, etc. Wastewater flows first through a home's plumbing system, then into an underground sewer pipe. This system terminates at a wastewater treatment plant and is processed before it is released at an outfall site.

### ***What happens with stormwater?***

Stormwater either *infiltrates* the soil, is *conveyed* over the soil surface, or it is *detained* by an impermeable material at the surface. Natural chemical and bacteriological processes that occur in the top few inches of soil break down oils and chemicals to help prevent the surface runoff from contaminating the groundwater. In places like cities where limited permeable surfaces exist, special infiltration basin structures may be built alone or as the base courses to pavement.

Ponds and wetlands function like natural treatment plants because they allow particles to settle out, and chemicals to be absorbed and decomposed in the bottom sediment. Because extended infiltration is a treatment process that relies on the physical properties of nature like sunlight, air, soil and microorganisms, it can also be much less expensive than mechanical treatment.

Sometimes, when ponding occurs over long periods, heavy peat begins to form which makes the soil even less permeable. This can become a problem when the water harbors pests like mosquitos or becomes stagnant.

### ***What about rivers and streams?***

In cases where natural streams have been required to carry urban stormwater flow, stream erosion, channelization, and ultimately the destruction of natural habitat were common results. Before urbanization, soft bottomed natural channels only needed to carry a small percentage of the water that currently flows into storm drains.

You can help reduce stormwater by investigating the design and installation of permeable paving materials at home and in your community greening projects. Landscape practices such as hillside planting and terracing can help reduce runoff and assist in infiltration. Preventing wastewater and pollutants from entering storm drains is another way to help. You can report spills and abandoned waste by calling the L.A. Stormwater Hotline at 800/974-9794. Urban stormwater management is a dynamic process that must be constantly monitored in order to improve current practices. To find out the latest information on stormwater, you can check the L.A. City stormwater home page at <http://www.LAstormwater.org>.

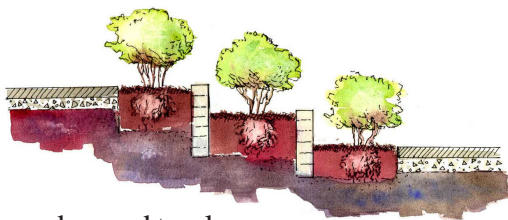
### **Stormwater Terms:**

Catch basin:	The curbside opening which is the entry point into the storm drain system from the street.
Conveyance:	The moving of surface flows or runoff from one point to another. This process normally ends with stormwater discharge at an outfall site.
Detention:	Any reduction in rate of surface flows. Extended detention may be used for water quality control with the settling of particulates in a pond or wetland.
Gutter:	Channel along the edge of a street which is designed to direct flow into a catch basin.

Mains:	Large underground water or sewer pipes.
Outfall:	A flow of drainage water through a smaller into a larger system such as a lake, a bay or an ocean.
Pollution:	<p><i>Point source:</i> Pollution from a single known source such as from wastewater-treatment plants and factories. State and local regulations exist to monitor these known sources of outfall.</p> <p><i>Non-point source:</i> Pollution which does not come from a single identifiable source. Because this category includes all runoff from roofs, turf areas, and pavement, it is the largest contributor to stormwater pollution and is regulated through regional permits such as the countywide Municipal Stormwater Permit.</p>
Potable water:	Water considered safe for drinking and household uses.
Run-off:	<p>Surface water flowing over the ground:</p> <p><i>Stormwater runoff:</i> Surface water flow caused by rain.</p> <p><i>Urban runoff:</i> Rainwater plus runoff from rooftops, paved surfaces, illicit discharges, and post consumer use. Typically contains high levels of pollutants.</p> <p><i>Dry weather runoff:</i> All sources of flow except rain.</p>

\* Green note:

Slope retention practices such as *terracing* can be used to slow down and control the rate of conveyance. This gives stormwater more time to soak in, or *infiltrate*, the soil. Infiltration allows the natural breakdown of pollutants and reduces runoff.





Septic Tank:	Tank that is used to process domestic wastewater in unsewered properties.
Sewage:	Liquid waste matter (e.g. human and domestic waste) carried through the sewer system to local wastewater treatment facilities.
Sewer:	A pipe for carrying sewage.
Sewerage:	The overall system for removing and processing sewage.
Source control:	A plan for action to prevent pollution where it originates.
Stormwater:	Rainwater that enters the storm drain system and eventually may become outfall or may be captured for water quality control. In the latter case, called <i>extended detention</i> or <i>water harvesting</i> , water may be captured in cisterns, wells, ponds, etc. for reuse, or allowed to infiltrate the soil and replenish groundwater.
Wastewater:	A modern term for sewage.
Wetland:	A natural treatment site that makes use of the natural filtering and transforming capacities of sun, air, soils and microbes.
Watershed:	An area of land which drains runoff to a common point or outfall.
Water Harvesting:	The direct capture and use of runoff on-site. This may involve the use of permanent ponds and wetlands.
<b>Reference:</b>	Introduction to Stormwater, 1998 By Bruce K. Ferguson

## **Bee Smart!**

### ***Bee Cool!***

Bees are fascinating and remarkable creatures with a bad reputation. While we all depend on bees for the many services they provide, their ability to occasionally sting humans has given them a reputation as an unwanted pest. In fact, bees pollinate 80 percent of the food consumed by humans. Bees also are responsible for pollinating crops such as alfalfa and clover that are fed to dairy cows and other livestock. In addition to honey, bees produce wax and other useful products. Bees are intelligent and social. They communicate through dance, and work together to care for the hive and future generations of bees. Bees can gather the pollen and nectar they need from as far away as a mile from the hive. They also are fun to watch and will ensure a great fruit or flower season for you and your neighbors.

Recently, we have heard much of the arrival of the “Killer,” or Africanized bees, in Los Angeles. One of the reasons these more aggressive bees are moving in is because populations of European honeybees have decreased in the past few years. Two types of parasitic bee killing mites are causing a reduction in the numbers of free roaming bees and beehives. This means that all of Los Angeles, and indeed all of California, is depending on a very small number of bees for pollination! As a result, arriving Africanized bees are finding plenty of places to live and breed, and the best way to fight Africanized bees is with other honey bee populations. If the honeybees are already established and working in an area, there will not be enough pollen left for the Africanized bees.

### ***Bee Careful!***

While Africanized bees look almost the same as European honeybees, we need to realize there is a big difference between the two. Regular bees attack only when provoked, and the attack is usually a single sting. Africanized bees attack when provoked as well, but sometimes it only takes loud noises or vibrations from power equipment from as much as one hundred feet away to make them feel threatened. Attacks result in several, possibly hundreds, of stings and Africanized bees will travel greater distances than European honeybees when attacking. If you should come into contact with a beehive or swarm, stay away from it. If bees are trying to sting you, run quickly in a straight line to a safe area, such as a car or building. Water or thick brush will not offer enough protection. Also, do not stand and swat at bees, as they will only continue to attack. Remove stingers by scraping them with a fingernail or blade, but do not squeeze the stinger, as the pressure will only release more venom. Wash the area and see a doctor if you have

trouble breathing. If you suspect an Africanized bee problem in your area, call 800/925-3800 for your local vector control district.

### ***Bee Green!***

Have you ever wanted to have your very own beehive with your own constant source of honey? Because bees are important for pollinating many types of plants, beekeeping is a great way to help out nature in the greening process. If you would like to start your own apiary, check your local city ordinances by calling the City Hall Code Enforcement Office for any restrictions or necessary permits. In general, beekeeping is allowed only in agricultural zones where hives can be kept a safe distance from homes.



### **Resources:**

You can go to your local library or bookstore to find some of these books on beekeeping:

*Beekeeper's Handbook*, by D. Sammataro and A. Avitabile

*The How To Do It Book of Beekeeping*, By Dr. Richard Taylor

### **Other Resources:**

The Brushy Mountain Bee Farm, Inc. offers an on-line catalogue ([www.beeequipment.com](http://www.beeequipment.com)) that has a great supply of beekeeping tools, a “getting started” kit, and other informational books and videos. Also, the LA Honey Company in East Los Angeles offers equipment and information for the beginner hobby beekeeper. You can call them at 323/ 264-2383.

## Children's Gardens

What child doesn't like to dig in the dirt? Kids and gardens just naturally go together and encouraging this interest in gardening can bring many benefits such as:

- It gets your children away from the television and outside doing something active.
- It's a great family activity.
- It can teach an appreciation of the natural environment and an understanding that nature is all around us.
- Your children just may eat the vegetables they grow.
- It's fun!

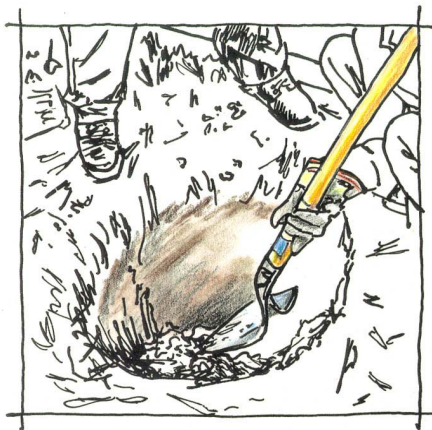
Even small children can help in the garden by digging holes, carrying small watering cans, making signs to mark the different vegetables, or pulling weeds. The garden also can contain a special place just for them. This can be as simple as planting sunflowers or other tall plants around an area to create a "hideout" or as involved as creating a special theme garden. For inspiration on theme gardens, visit the Michigan 4-H Children's Garden website at <http://4hgarden.msu.edu/main.html>. This garden has fifty-six different theme gardens, including the Peter Rabbit Herb Garden, which features plants mentioned in Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit books; the Teddy Bears and Animal Garden, which features big teddy bear topiaries and plants with animal names, such as Lamb's Ear, Spider Plant and Snapdragons; the Crayon Color Garden, which features plants that also are the names of crayon colors, such as Carnation, Goldenrod, and Lavender; and the African-American, Hispanic-American, and Asian-American Gardens, which feature plants introduced by each group of immigrants.

The Department of Horticultural Sciences at Texas A & M University has a kinderGARDEN website covering the many ways children can interact with plants and the outdoors. There is lots of information on gardens and fun projects for kids of all ages. The website can be found at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/kindergarden/index.html>.

The California Native Plant Society has two very educational sites for children. The first answers the question, “why do plants have flowers?” and the second discusses the role of fire in a chaparral ecosystem. These sites can be found at <http://www.cnps.org/kidstuff/kidstuff.htm>.

Treetures are whimsical characters that represent an environmental education effort with a direct focus on trees. These characters help children learn how a tree functions and how important trees, plant life, birds, animals, and insects are to keeping the earth healthy. They can be found at [www.treetures.com](http://www.treetures.com).

Information on school gardens is presented in Chapter 5 (*see page 57*).



## Water Gardens

Whether large or small, water gardens have many benefits, both physical and psychological. The combination of reflected light, wildlife and gentle water sounds gives a harmonious closeness with nature to anyone viewing a water garden.

Water gardens can provide a vital habitat for birds, fish, insects and various amphibians. Many water garden owners have found the phrase “build it and they will come” to be true. They report that wildlife, including frogs, dragonflies and birds, find their own way to the water garden after it is built.

Gardening with water is fairly easy and inexpensive. If you want to construct a backyard pond, all that is necessary is a few items from your local hardware store: bricks, a plastic liner and a few water plants. Half barrels or any large container can be lined and used as well. More elaborate water gardens may include pumps and fountains. Adding fish, frogs and salamanders is optional. The most important thing is to place it in a location that you will see every day. In this way you will get the daily benefits of aquatic beauty and have the fun of watching new wildlife discover your creation.

When you select plants, be careful to get those that won't outgrow your container. Some examples of large, fast-growing plants that you may wish to avoid adding to a small container are:

1. Lotus: Lotuses grow quickly, have extensive root systems and like a lot of room. They can be very invasive and extremely difficult to control in natural bottom ponds so choose a hard plastic container for the lotus. You will need a fairly wide (20 inches plus), shallow container for these plants. They need hot sun and warm water to grow.



2. Charles de Meurville Lilly (*Nymphaea*): These grow quickly and are very strong. They have a spread of 4 to 6 feet.
3. Water Hyacinths (*Eichhornia crassipes*): Tend toward rapid forest-like growth; they can choke off your whole pond in a very short amount of time.
4. Giant Mexican Papyrus (*Cyperus giganteus*): These require full sun, are quite large and have a height of 5 to 10 feet.
5. Apache Flume (*Fallugia Paradoxa*): This requires sun, has a maximum height of 3 to 5 feet and is mostly evergreen.

***Nice sized plants for smaller water gardens include:***

1. Flowering Buttercup (*Ranunculus*): It has a maximum height of 2-8 inches, it needs part sun and part shade, blooms in or out of the water and it produces several coin shaped yellow flowers.
2. Samolius (*Samolius 'rouge'*): This plant has a nice red color, a maximum height of 6 inches, requires sun, and does well in either aquariums or ponds.
3. White Hardy Orchid (*Bletilla Striata White*): This Orchid has a maximum height of 10 inches, requires part shade and makes beautiful pale orchids.
4. Alleghany Pachysandra (*Pachysandra procumbens*): This plant has a maximum height of 4 to 8 inches, requires light to full shade and produces lovely stems with oval and notched leaves.

**\* Green tip :**

Try to achieve a balance of light and shade to avoid algae build-up. You may need to add mosquito fish so that mosquitoes won't be a problem in a water garden with little or no circulation.

## **Suggested Reading List**

A Child's Garden: Enchanting Outdoor Spaces for Children and Parents  
by Molly Dannenmaier and Constance Herndon

Botany for Gardeners: An Introduction and Guide  
by Brian Capon

Greenways: A Guide to Planning, Design, and Development  
by Charles Flink

Greenways for America  
by Charles Little

Hummingbird Gardens: Attracting Nature's Jewels to Your Backyard  
by Nancy L. Newfield and Barbara Nielson

Introduction to Stormwater  
by Bruce K. Ferguson

Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California  
by California Native Plant Society

Landscape Architecture  
by John O. Simmonds

Landscape Plants for Western Regions: An Illustrated Guide to Plants for Water Conservation  
by Bob Perry

Low-Maintenance Water Gardens  
by Helen Nash

Noah's Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Back Yards  
by Sara Stein



Plants for Dry Climates: How to Select, Grow, and Enjoy  
by Mary Rose Duffield and Warren D. Jones

Quick & Easy Container Water Gardens: Simple-To-Make Water Features and Fountains for  
Indoor and Outdoor Gardens  
by Philip Swindel

Pacific States Wildflowers  
by Theodore F. Niehaus and Charles L. Ripper

Reference List of Ornamental Plants for Southern California  
by Philip E. Chandler

Smart Planting for the New Urban Forest  
by TreePeople and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Sunset Western Garden Book  
by Sunset Magazine

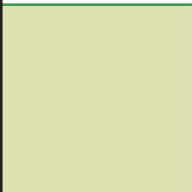
The Bird Garden  
by Stephen W. Kress

The American Horticultural Society: A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants  
by Christopher Brickell and Judith Zuk

Water Features for Small Gardens  
by Ethne Clarke

Western Fertilizer Handbook  
by Soil Improvement Committee of California Fertilizer Association

# *Notes*





## Additional Resources

*When I find myself fading, I close my eyes and realize my friends are my energy.*

*-Anonymous*

## Chapter 7

### *Additional Resources*

Sometimes, as the saying goes, you can't see the forest for the trees. It's easy to get overwhelmed when you're trying to get your project pulled together. It's also easy to forget that resources really are available to help you with whatever problem or situation you may be facing.

Well, help has *just arrived*! In this chapter you'll find a wide variety of resources – some of which you probably didn't even know existed. There are technical support systems for all kinds of greening projects and problems; there are local, regional and national organizations that you can join; there are names of educational services and places where you can learn through volunteering; there are sources for on-the-job training; and there are descriptions of professional services.

This last item is important because many grant proposals require projects to be reviewed by a certified/licensed professional. The cost of such services should be built into your budget when you begin submitting proposals for funding.

Whatever your concern, you'll find the help you need from the organizations listed in this chapter. And when your project is all finished and you have time to catch your breath, check out the list of botanical gardens. In addition to being great resources, they're wonderful places to just stop and smell the flowers.



# Greening People You Should Know About

## *The Professionals:*

**Certified Arborist:** one who meets the certification standards of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). A Certified Arborist must:

- have a minimum of three years of tree care experience
- pass a written exam covering knowledge of plant species, pruning, cabling and diagnosis
- participate in continuing education courses
- abide by the ISA code of ethics

**California Certified Nursery Professional (CCNP):** one who meets the standards of the California Association of Nurserymen. A CCNP must:

- pass a written exam
- participate in continuing education courses

**Certified Tree Worker:** one who meets the following ISA standards and requirements:

- have a minimum of eighteen months tree care experience
- pass a written exam covering knowledge of plant species, pruning, cabling and safety
- pass a physical exam displaying pruning and tree climbing skills
- participate in continuing education courses
- abide by the ISA code of ethics

**Forester:** one who meets the State Board of Forestry requirements for practicing forestry in the state of California.

**Urban Forester:** one who meets the State Board of Forestry requirements for practicing forestry in the state of California and who additionally has knowledge of and practices urban forestry management.

**Landscape Architect:** one who meets the certification requirements of the State Board of Landscape Architects. A Landscape Architect must:

- complete degree requirements or have equivalent work experience
- pass a written exam
- be licensed by the state
- participate in continuing education

Landscape Designer: one who designs landscapes but has not yet met state requirements by the State Board of Landscape Architecture.

Landscape Contractor: one licensed with the State of California to build and maintain landscapes and holds proper liability and worker's compensation insurance.

### ***The Trained Volunteers:***

Citizen Forester: one who has received basic technical training in tree planting and tree care from experienced, knowledgeable sources (usually ISA certified). Additional training includes community organizing, fund raising, and the logistics of running a tree planting/maintenance event. TreePeople developed and offers the Citizen Forester Training Program. You can call 818/753-4600 for information.

Planting and Tree Care Supervisor: one who has received basic technical training in tree planting and tree care from experienced, knowledgeable sources; one who oversees the planting and care of trees by other volunteers.

Master Gardener and Master Food Preserver: one who has successfully completed the trainings in these areas offered by the UC Cooperative Extension Common Ground Garden Program. Call 323/838-4532 for more information.

### ***The Job Trainers:***

The California Conservation Corp (CCC) and its local counterpart, the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), offer unique, paid, on-the-job training programs for young people aged 18 to 23. It is a one-year commitment to the environment, education, and community action that's open to applicants year round.

These organizations were established to create a link between young people and their communities. Corps members gain practical experience in the working world, a continuing scholastic education, and the chance to develop leadership skills. California communities also benefit tremendously from the programs. On a regular basis, CCC and LACC corps members participate in on-going conservation efforts such as trail building, litter and graffiti cleanup and planting.

The CCC and the LACC are dedicated to service through conservation and community improvement. Here in Los Angeles, LACC has become a vital part of the effort to improve the quality of life in our City.

California Conservation Corps  
1719 24th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
800/952-JOBS (5627)  
[www.ccc.ca.gov](http://www.ccc.ca.gov)  
(See listing page 95)

Los Angeles Conservation Corps  
605 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 450  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
213/747-1872  
[www.lacorps.org](http://www.lacorps.org)  
(See listing page 13)

## **Larger Groups Offering Technical Assistance (Including City Support)**

### **California Association of Nurserymen**

Robert Falconer  
3947 Lennane Drive - Suite 150  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
916/928-3900 phone  
916/567-0505 fax  
800/748-6214

**Established:** 1911  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday:  
8am - 5pm,  
**Areas Served:** California  
**website:** [www.can-online.org/](http://www.can-online.org/)

### *Background and Greening Projects*

A professional organization dedicated to the promotion and advancement of the nursery industry. Membership and volunteer involvement opportunities. Resumes kept on file for full-time and part-time work (skilled). Internships also available. Scholarships for horticulture students. Offers professional certification program.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Provides technical assistance, on-site inspections and diagnosis, and referrals to other resources. (Some retail nurseries have CAN members on staff to answer technical questions).



## **California Conservation Corps**

1719 24th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
800/952-JOBS phone  
www.ccc.ca.gov

**Established:** 1976  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday:  
8am - 5pm,  
Saturday: 6am - 4pm  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Established to benefit both youth and environment by providing on-the-job training and conservation work to protect and enhance California's natural resources. Also uses volunteers.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Training in environmental work for youth aged 18-23; civil service staff positions also offered. 1-800/952-JOBS (5627) is CCC's free recruitment line. Local service district offices are in Norwalk (562/651-4137). In Los Angeles call 213/744-2254. GED classes and college level classes available, as well as Conservation Awareness class. Provides support for community greening projects as well as aid for disaster relief.

## **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**

### *Southern California Regional Office*

Eric Oldar  
2524 Mulberry Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
909/782-4140 phone  
909/782-4425 fax

**Established:** 1905  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday:  
8am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Protects and maintains California's range, forest, and watershed resources to maximize their economical, environmental, and social benefits. Offers fire protection and other emergency services. Skilled full-time, part-time and seasonal work available. Resumes accepted only when position is open; permanent positions must be applied for through the California State Personnel Board in Sacramento. Volunteers also are used.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Various annual awards and educational programs. Call for specifics. Offers its own funding – and administers that of others – for greening projects, plants and supplies.

**California Department of Water Resources  
Urban Streams Program**

P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001  
916/651-9625 phone  
916/651-9289 fax

**Established:** 1984  
**Hours:** 7:30am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** California

*Background and Greening Projects*

Provides advice plus technical assistance to citizens and local government agencies regarding urban stream flooding and soil erosion problems. Works to restore natural environmental values to urban streams. Volunteers used in many areas. Internships available.

*Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Free slide show programs available upon request. Competitive grant programs offered annually. Funds for restoration projects available on a reimbursement basis. Grants designed to include skills and abilities of volunteers, scientists and engineers in restoration projects. Offers assistance in fund raising and technical needs, as well as on-site inspection and diagnosis. Makes referrals to other resources.

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

10001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916/445-3846 phone  
916/445-6401 fax  
[www.calepa.ca.gov](http://www.calepa.ca.gov)

**Established:** 1991  
**Hours:** 8am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** California

*Background and Greening Projects*

This is the State version of the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

*Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Offers annual awards based on the environment and economic cooperation in projects. Publishes *CAL/EPA Report*, a free monthly newsletter.

## **California Fertilizer Association**

Jennifer Lombardi  
1801 "T" Street #200  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916/446-3316 phone  
916/446-3067 fax  
www.calfertilizer.org

**Established:** 1924  
**Hours:** 9am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to enhance the business environment for the fertilizer industry. Encourages the safe and environmentally-sound handling of fertilizers and agricultural chemicals. Internships offered.

### *Education, and Support*

Funding available for research, development, demonstration and education regarding fertilizer practices and products. Offers a lending library of VHS tapes and slide shows. Makes referrals to other resources.

## **California Native Plant Society**

Halli Mason  
6623 Lubao Avenue  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367  
818/348-5910 phone  
818/345-6749 fax- call ahead

**Established:** 1967  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

A nonprofit organization with 31 chapters across the State. CNPS is made up of both amateurs and professionals who are interested in preserving California's native vegetation. Currently CNPS is focused on standardizing a system and methods to both name and describe rare and natural plant communities. Skilled and non-skilled volunteers help out with general office work, plantings, mailings and educational programs. Docents also are used.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Monthly program meetings, field trips that include plant identification training and photography, and various workshops (all free). Publishes the *Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California*.

## **California Oak Foundation**

Janet Santos Cobb  
1212 Broadway #810  
Oakland, CA 94612  
510/763-0282 phone  
510/208-4435 fax

**Established:** 1989  
**Hours:** 8:30am -5:30pm  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Established to protect and perpetuate native California Oak Woodlands. Membership and volunteer opportunities available.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Provides technical assistance and referrals to other resources. Biannual newsletter, *California Oaks*, offers educational and networking information regarding native oak woodlands. Publishes and sells the books: *Oaks of California* and *Compatible Plants Under and Around Oaks*.

## **Common Ground Garden Program**

Yvonne Savio  
2 Coral Circle  
Monterey Park, CA 91755  
323/838-4532 phone  
323/838-7408 fax

**Established:** 1993  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Los Angeles

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Part of the University of California Cooperative Extension Program. Common Ground assists low-income residents in establishing community gardens and growing their own food to thereby improve their own physical health and that of their communities. Also does greening work on school campuses. See their website at <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/garden/index.html>.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Youth and adult classes available in gardening (*Master Gardener*) and food preservation (*Master Food Preservers*). Established the *Gardening Angels Program* to introduce children to gardening.

## **Community Forest Advisory Council (CFAC)**

CFAC Chairperson

c/o Department of Public Works

Street Tree Division

600 South Spring Street - 10th Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90014

213/485-5675 phone

213/847-0158 fax

**Established:** 1993

**Hours:** Variable

**Areas Served:** Los Angeles

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to develop and facilitate the cooperative interaction of various City of Los Angeles policies, operations and agencies that impact – or relate to – community forestry resources. Serves as a clearinghouse for tree/community forest-related issues in L.A. Made up of citizen representatives from each Council District and the Mayor’s Office, as well as representatives of all City tree-related agencies. Public monthly meetings.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Currently developing public education programs to support urban community forestry in Los Angeles.

## **Community Trees**

A non-profit website sponsored by the USDA Forest Service and the National Urban and Community Forestry Council.

**Established:** 2001

**Website:** <http://www.communitytrees.org>

**Area Served:** National

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Community Trees is a non-profit public/private partnership dedicated to encouraging green space development in cities and towns.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

This website provides general tree-planting guidelines as well as information pertaining to the benefits of having trees. Access to a resource list is also available, detailing information on how to contact local tree planting organizations.

## **Council for a Green Environment**

Sarah West  
1330 21st Street #101  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916/442-7195 phone  
916/442-7198 fax

**Established:** 1911  
**Hours:** 8:30am -5:00pm  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed as a coalition of California landscape and horticultural industry workers to provide an on-going public information program about the benefits of a greener urban environment.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Provides public education materials about proper water usage for landscaping. Pamphlets include *Guilt Free Gardening* and *Greening the Urban Ecosystem*.

## **Earth Share of California**

11340 West Olympic Boulevard #381  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
310/966-9466 phone  
800/441-0446  
310/966-9499 fax

**Established:** 1982  
**Hours:** 9:00am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Federation of environmental organizations in California. Raises funds for its member groups via payroll deduction plan: increases education about – and awareness of – environmental concerns; encourages volunteerism. Full and part-time work available; resumes accepted only as positions open up. Volunteers help with office work, mailings and education programs. For more information call 800/875-3863 or see website at [www.earthshare.org](http://www.earthshare.org).

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Offers fund raising assistance to federation members. Contact them for federation membership. Earth Share is open to well-established, incorporated nonprofit groups. Also makes referrals to other sources.

**Eco-Home Network**

4344 Russell Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90027  
323/662-5207 phone  
323/662-4744 fax

**Established:** 1989  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** Citywide

*Background and Greening Projects*

Created for the study, development and demonstration of an ecologically sound lifestyle in an urban setting. Has a demonstration home which is a resource center of information and guidance on ecological urban living. Check website at <http://ecohome.org>.

*Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Publishes *Ecolution*, a quarterly newsletter.

**Educational Communications**

Nancy Pearlman  
P.O. Box 351419  
Los Angeles, CA 90035  
310/559-9160 phone  
no fax  
[www.ecoprojects.org](http://www.ecoprojects.org)

**Established:** 1958  
**Hours:** Variable  
**Areas Served:** International

*Background and Greening Projects*

Dedicated to improving the life on earth. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education, and assist with producing environmental radio and television programming. Memberships offered.

*Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Many projects including *Econews* television series and *Environmental Directions* and *Environmental Viewpoints* radio series. Video and audio cassettes available. Created the Ecology Center of Southern California and runs an Environmental Resources Library. Publishes the annual *Directory of Environmental Organizations*. Some materials available in Spanish.

## **Green.Gov**

USDA Millennium Office  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 220A  
Jamie Whitten Building  
Washington, D.C. 20250  
202/720-2593 phone

**Area Served:** National

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Green.Gov is a project of the White House Millennium Council and is involved in planting and adopting trees and forests, tending gardens, and protecting and adopting special natural resource wonders and treasures. *Green.Gov* also highlights the many worthy environmental endeavors across the Nation.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteer and engage in hand-on community based stewardship through planting and tending trees, groves, and gardens at Millennium -schools, youth organizations, businesses, civic organizations, foundations, churches, a school yard, a community center, or a corporate office location.

## **International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) (Western Chapter)**

P.O. Box 255155  
Sacramento, CA  
916/641-2990 phone  
916/649-8487 fax

**Established:** 1934  
**Hours:** 8:00am -5:30pm  
**Areas Served:** West Coast Region

### *Background and Greening Projects*

A scientific and educational trade organization which promotes knowledge regarding the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees. Skilled full-time and part-time work available: resumes accepted only when positions open up. Maintains a professional certification program for arborists and tree workers (*see page 92 and see website at [www.wcisa.net](http://www.wcisa.net)*).

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Videos, training, and workshops geared toward professional arborists and tree workers are available. Can provide the public with lists of certified arborists/tree workers upon request. Technical assistance offered. Makes referrals to other resources.



## **Los Angeles Conservation Corps**

Bruce Saito  
605 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 450  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
213/747-1872 phone  
213/362-7958 fax

**Established:** April 1986  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday:  
6am - 6pm,  
Saturday: 6am - 4pm  
**Areas Served:** Countywide

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Provides general environmental repair, renewal and disaster relief support to Los Angeles, including support for local community group greening and beautification efforts. Hires and trains young people for such conservation work as landscaping, horticulture and tree planting. Planted over 6000 trees with community groups in highway mitigation projects, involved with the Cool Schools Program (*see page 57*) with DWP. Programs also available in Spanish.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Volunteers can help with plantings, education programs and disaster relief. On-the-job training program in conservation and community improvement that gives young adults aged 18-23 work experience and a chance to continue their education (college, GED, or high school). *Clean and Green* is a junior conservation corps division of LACC aimed at junior high students, designed to eradicate litter and graffiti and provide an alternative to gang activity.

## **Los Angeles County Arboretum**

John Provine  
301 North Baldwin Avenue  
Arcadia, CA 91007  
626/821-3222 phone  
626/445-1217 fax

**Established:** 1948  
**Hours:** 9:00am - 4:30pm  
**Areas Served:** National

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Established as a horticultural and educational garden to foster the enjoyment and conservation of a living plant and tree collection. Gardening information and wildlife sanctuary. Full- and part-time job opportunities available; resumes accepted and kept year round. Hires for gardening and for informational assistance. Interns used. Memberships available. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education programs, gardening, serve as tour guides and speakers, and staff the library and gift shop. (*Continued on page 104*)

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Training and workshops listed in *Arboretum News*, a quarterly membership newsletter. Offers technical assistance and maintains a reference library. Makes referrals to other resources. Donates trees and shrubs when the supply allows.

### **Los Angeles County Fire Department Forestry Division**

5823 Rickenbacker Road

City of Commerce, CA 90040

323/890-4330 phone

323/890-4335 fax

**Established:** 1911

**Hours:** 7:00am - 5:30pm

**Areas Served:** County of Los Angeles

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Provides comprehensive fire protection for the County of Los Angeles. Promotes urban and community forestry programs as they relate to fire protection and prevention. Administers and enforces the *L.A. County Oak Tree Protection Ordinance*.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Educational programs on request for scout, youth, civic and school groups, including tours of forestry nurseries. Provides free seedlings for plantings as windbreaks and for erosion control.

### **Los Angeles Eco-Village**

#### **Demonstration/CRSP (Cooperative Resources and Services Project)**

Lois Arkin

3551 White House Place

Los Angeles, CA 90004

213/738-1254 phone

213/386-8873 fax

**Established:** 1980

**Hours:** Variable

**Areas Served:** National

### *Background and Greening Projects*

A sustainable “community-in-process” also serving as a resource center for small, ecological, cooperative communities. Membership available. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education programs and regular work projects.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Occasional training, workshops and conferences offered.

## National Arbor Day Foundation

Mary Yager  
100 Arbor Avenue  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
402/474-5655 phone  
402/474-0820 fax

**Established:** 1972  
**Hours:** 8am - 5pm  
(Central Standard Time)  
**Areas Served:** National

### *Background and Greening Projects*

An education organization dedicated to tree planting and environmental stewardship. Membership available. Sponsors annual awards for individuals (three levels) and seven other awards for individuals, organizations, institutions, and corporations. Also offers a *Tree City USA* award.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Presents annual conferences and trainings across the country (free calendar of such events is available). Various educational materials offered, including a classroom and teacher kits, tree identification booklet, video program about community forestry and more. Bimonthly newsletter, *Arbor Day*, a benefit of membership. Makes referrals to other sources.

### **\*Green Tip:**

By choosing to use permeable surface materials in your greening projects, you can help to cool the environment and allow water to naturally re-enter the hydrologic cycle. This natural process is much better than forcing runoff into a stormdrain because it allows bacteria to break down pollutants (this usually occurs in the top few inches of soil) rather than conveying them to our lakes, bays and oceans. The use of materials such as bark, gravel, plants, or permeable pavers *instead of* cement, asphalt, concrete, plastic or other impermeable material is a good greening practice!

## **Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains**

Margo Murman  
122 North Topanga Canyon Boulevard  
Topanga, CA 90290  
310/455-1030 phone  
310/455-1172 fax

**Established:** 1980  
**Hours:** Tuesday - Saturday  
8:30am - 4:30pm  
**Areas Served:** Southern California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Formed to identify natural resource management issues and provide public education about natural resource conservation. Works cooperatively with other agencies on various areas of natural resource management including protection of wildlife habitat and native vegetation (especially oaks). Special membership offered to homeowners in the Santa Monica Mountains. Internships and volunteer opportunities available. Skilled part-time work available as field tour interns (stipend) or revegetation work in park lands. Training offered in these areas. Resumes accepted and kept year-round.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Annual *Teacher of the Year Award* for teacher who promotes environmental science in unique ways. Maintains register of notable native oaks and other specimen trees. Environmental science classes for grades K through 12. Technical assistance and on-site inspections offered regarding impacts on natural resources, particularly regarding development within the Santa Monica Mountains. Referrals made to other resources.

## **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy**

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road  
Malibu, CA 90265  
310/589-3200 phone  
310/589-3207 fax

**Established:** 1980  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday  
9am - 5pm  
**Areas Served:** LA. and Ventura Counties  
**Website:** <http://www.smmmc.ca.gov>

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to purchase park land and trails for preservation and public recreational use in the local mountain areas. Full- and part-time work offered; resumes accepted only as positions open up. Hires for maintenance and upkeep of natural areas. (*Continued on page 107*)

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Occasional training (for naturalists) and workshops. Offers year-round Mountains Education Program for youth. Technical assistance available. Funding available for environmental programs located within the L.A./Ventura County mountain zone. Funding covers greening projects, tools, supplies, trees, and other vegetation, capital improvements, salaries and general office support. Also can provide in-kind donations of technical support and vehicle use as available.

### **The Theodore Payne Foundation**

10459 Tuxford Street  
Sun Valley, CA 91352  
818/768-1802 phone  
818/768-1802 fax

**Established:** 1980  
**Hours:** Tuesday - Saturday  
8:30am - 4:30pm  
**Areas Served:** Southern California  
**Website:** <http://www.theodorepayne.org>

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to acquire and disseminate knowledge of California native plants, to preserve their natural habitat, and to encourage their propagation and use. Maintains a native plant nursery and demonstration gardens open to the public (See *Arboretums and Botanical Gardens*, page 109). Membership, internship and volunteer opportunities. Resumes accepted and held year-round.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Awards for outstanding contributions to TPF goals – presented as merited. Classes in horticulture offered. Native trees, plants, seeds for sale and available for donation (when deemed appropriate). Technical assistance and referrals are offered.

### **The Trust for Public Land**

3250 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 320  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
213/387-4287 phone  
213/387-5383 fax

**Established:** 1972  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday  
9:00am - 5:00pm  
**Areas Served:** National  
**Website:** <http://www.tpl.org>

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to conserve land for use as parks, community gardens, and as recreation and wilderness areas. Helps communities, public agencies and nonprofit organizations acquire and protect open space. Internships available. (*Continued on page 108*)

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Provides technical assistance for land acquisition projects. Makes referrals to other resources.

#### **USDA Forest Service**

Rudy Retamoza  
701 North Santa Anita Avenue  
Arcadia, CA 91006  
626/574-5200 phone  
626/574-5233 fax

**Established:** 1992  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 5:30pm  
**Areas Served:** Southern California

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Acts as a link between the Southern California greening community and the USDA Forest Service agency's technical, financial and public education programs.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Through the Urban Forestry and Recreation Demonstration Project, resources such as bilingual and multi-cultural environmental education, technical job skill development, and funding for recycling and urban greening projects are offered to the Southern California community. Many programs are currently in development. Availability of funding and programs dependent on Congressional approval.

#### **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**

44811 North Date Avenue, Suite G  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
661/945-2604 phone  
661/942-5503 fax

**Established:** 1980  
**Hours:** Tuesday - Saturday  
8:30am - 4:30pm  
**Areas Served:** Los Angeles County

### *Background and Greening Projects*

Created to provide statewide leadership in the conservation and wise use of water, soil and related resources. Volunteers assist with general office work, education programs and field work through the Earth Team Program. Awards for volunteer service.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

Educational programs available upon request of sponsor and as staffing time allows. Educational materials available covering a wide range of natural resource issues. Technical assistance offered.

## **West Hollywood Tree Preservation Society**

Angee Becket, Executive Director  
1044 N. Harper Avenue  
West Hollywood, CA 90046  
323-650-8187 phone  
**Email:** info@whtrees.org

**Established:** 1998  
**Hours:** Monday - Sunday  
8:00am - 11:00pm  
**Areas Served:** Southern California  
**Website:** www.whtrees.org

### *Background and Greening Projects*

The West Hollywood Tree Preservation Society (WHTPS) was established in 1998 and officially became a 501 C3 non-profit organization in 2001. The WHTPS is an urban forestry and environmental organization primarily involved with the preservation of trees. Their role in enhancing the environment has been acknowledged by urban foresters and environmentalist and was recently awarded the Durrell Maughn Founders Award for Education in Urban Forestry. Currently, WHTPS is working with various cities as part of the Los Angeles Orange County Urban Forestry Council to promote and protect natural environmental improvement. For more information regarding the Council, please call Angee Becket at 323-650-8187.

### *Education, Training and Personal Involvement*

The WHTPS offers an assortment of services. Their website is a great educational resource tool. The site contains information pertaining to proper methods of pruning trees and how to maintain a healthy tree, a glossary to explain technical tree related terms, an urban forestry organizations contact list, newsletters and much more. The WHTPS's would appreciate assistance if individuals are seen damaging tree by calling code enforcement at 323-484-6516. Additional information can be accessed on their website regarding tree violaters.

## Arboretums and Botanical Gardens

Arboretums and botanical gardens are perfect places for viewing a wide range of tree and plant species, getting inspiration for your garden, or just spending a pleasant day outdoors. Many of them also have libraries and/or experts on hand to answer questions. You should be able to find everything you're looking for at the following places:

<p>Arboretum of Los Angeles County  301 North Baldwin Avenue  Arcadia, CA 91007-2697  626/821-3222  <a href="http://www.arboretum.org">http://www.arboretum.org</a></p>	<p>College of the Desert Foundation  43-500 Monterey Avenue  Palm Desert, CA 92260  760/773-2589  <a href="http://www.dccd.cc.ca.us">http://www.dccd.cc.ca.us</a></p>
<p>Descanso Gardens  1418 Descanso Drive  La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011  818/979-4200  <a href="http://www.descanso.com">http://www.descanso.com</a>  <a href="http://arboretum.fullerton.edu/home.htm">http://arboretum.fullerton.edu/home.htm</a></p>	<p>Fullerton Arboretum  c/o California State University  P.O. Box 6850  Fullerton, CA 92834-6850  714/278-3579  <a href="http://arboretum.fullerton.edu.htm">http://arboretum.fullerton.edu.htm</a></p>
<p>Hortense Miller Garden  c/o City of Laguna Beach  505 Forest Avenue  Laguna Beach, CA 92651  949/497-3311, extension 426</p>	<p>Huntington Botanical Gardens  1151 Oxford Road  San Marino, CA 91108  626/405-2160  <a href="http://www.huntington.org">http://www.huntington.org</a></p>

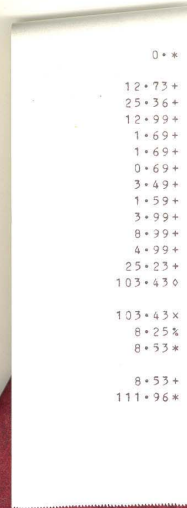
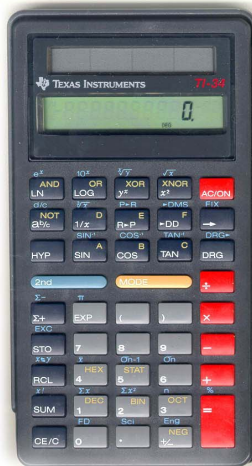
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## Arboretums and Botanical Gardens, continued

James Irvine Garden Japanese American Cultural & Community Center 244 South San Pedro St. Los Angeles, CA 90012 213/628-2725 <a href="http://www.jacc.org">http://www.jacc.org</a>	Living Desert Wildlife & Botanical Park 47-900 Portola Avenue Palm Desert, CA 92260 Phone: 760/346-5694 FAX: 760/568-9685 <a href="http://www.desertusa.com/magdec97/psmuseums/dec-_livedesert.html">http://www.desertusa.com/magdec97/psmuseums/dec-_livedesert.html</a>
The Lumnis Home 200 East Avenue 43 Los Angeles, CA 90031 Phone: 323/222-0546 Fax: 323/222-0771 <a href="http://www.socalhistory.org">http://www.socalhistory.org</a>	Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden P.O. Box 951606 University of California, Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606 310/825-1260
Niguel Botanical Preserve 29751 Crown Valley Pkwy. Laguna Niguel, CA 92677 949/425-5126	Orcutt Ranch Horticultural Center 23600 Roscoe Blvd. West Hills, CA 91304 818/346-7449
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 1500 North College Avenue Claremont, CA 91711-3157 909/625-8767 <a href="http://www.rsabg.org">http://www.rsabg.org</a>	Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens 1212 Mission Canyon Road Santa Barbara, CA 93105 805/682-4726 <a href="http://www.sbbg.org">http://www.sbbg.org</a>
Sherman Library and Gardens 2647 East Coast Highway Corona del Mar, CA 92625 949/673-2261 <a href="http://www.slgardens.org">http://www.slgardens.org</a>	Soka University Botanical Research Center and Nursery 26800 West Mulholland Hwy. Calabasas, CA 91302-1950 818/878-3702 <a href="http://www.soka.edu">http://www.soka.edu</a>
South Coast Botanic Garden 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274 310/544-6815 <a href="http://www.palosverdes.com/botanicgardens">http://www.palosverdes.com/botanicgardens</a>	University of California-Irvine Arboretum School of Biological Sciences Irvine, CA 92697-1450 949/824-5833
University of California Los Angeles Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden Los Angeles, CA 90095-1361 310/825-1260 <a href="http://www.botgard.ucla.edu/index.html">http://www.botgard.ucla.edu/index.html</a>	University of California-Riverside Botanical Garden Riverside, CA 92521-0124 909/787-4650 <a href="http://cnas.ucr.edu/~cnas/facilities/botanic.html">http://cnas.ucr.edu/~cnas/facilities/botanic.html</a>
Virginia Robinson Garden 1008 Elden Way Beverly Hills, CA 90210 310/276-3302	Wrigley Memorial and Botanical Garden P.O. Box 2739 Avalon, CA 90704 310/510-2288 <a href="http://www.catalina.com/memorial.html">http://www.catalina.com/memorial.html</a>



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# Funding Sources

for Greening Projects

*Lack of money is no obstacle. Lack of an idea is a  
obstacle.*

*- Ken Hakuta*

## Chapter 8

### *Funding Sources for Greening Projects*

Wouldn't it be nice if money were available to harvest right off the tree like a crop of delicious juicy apples? Instead, the search for funding often can become an exercise in frustration. It doesn't have to be that way *if* you're well prepared and have a solid foundation beneath you. The information in this chapter will help guide you in the right direction and give you some valuable suggestions about how to get the money and resources you need.

**Here are a few things to consider:**

\* *Do you know what you want your group to do in six months?* in a year? in five years? in ten? Funders hesitate to support groups that don't appear stable. Setting clear, obtainable short- and long-term goals not only gives you clarity about where you're going and how to get there, but also illustrates your commitment.

\* *Do you want, or need, to incorporate your group as a nonprofit organization?* If yours is a one-time event, there really is no need. If, however, you have a commitment to greening work and your long-term goals are in place, then yes – apply for nonprofit status. Contact the *California Association of Nonprofits* at 213/347-2070.

\* *Do you have a budget?* If not, then look at the goals you have laid out for yourself and use them as a starting point. Decide what you're going to need and research the costs. Funders always look for fiscal responsibility in an organization.

\* *Do you have documentation of your work?* If not, then send out press releases to attract the media to your events. At the very least, have a camera-wise friend photograph your projects. “Before and after” shots are truly the pictures worth a thousand words. If properly used, they can also be worth thousands of dollars to your group.

\* ***Finally, remember this:*** The dollar signs may look inviting, but don't be a chameleon. Do not change your project to fit a funder's guidelines. Stay true to yourself and your vision. This doesn't mean that you can't apply for funding that's not a 100% match with your project - you can (and it's done all the time). How it's done effectively, though, is by emphasizing those aspects of your plan that are most compatible with the funder's guidelines. For help with grant research and writing, call *The California Community Foundation* at 213/413-4130.

## **The Funding Network**

In order to be in the money you have to be in the loop. There is money available for greening projects if you know where to look and whom to ask. You can start your search with the Environmental Affairs Department's monthly newsletter and web site. Both contain information on available grant funding and awards for greening projects. Also on the web site, and in this Guide, are lists of agencies that support greening projects. Additionally, a valuable resource for funding and support networking is the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

The Trust for Public Land administers the *National Urban Forestry Grant Program* together with the US Forest Service and CDF. This grant is offered for advisory boards and tree care programs. It also requires that its monies be matched by non-federal sources.

CDF administers an urban forestry grant program as well – the *California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Tree-planting Grant Program*. This grant is available on a reimbursement basis only, and makes payment strictly for allowable trees, planting supplies (excepting irrigation supplies, expenses and related costs), and public awareness/education. CDF also administers other grant programs and publishes a quarterly newsletter, *California Urban & Community Forestry*, that highlights available funding for urban greening projects. This newsletter is available at most public libraries.

Neither the *National Urban Forestry Grant Program* nor the *California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Tree-planting Grant Program* require their applicants to be incorporated as a nonprofit. What they *do* require is that you represent a viable community group or city-affiliated organization and that you denote a nonprofit agency (or your city) to act as a fiscal agent for receiving and distributing funds.

To receive information on future funding opportunities, to request copies of their newsletters, and/or to get your name added to their mailing lists, contact CDF at:

***California Department of  
Forestry and Fire Protection***

2524 Mulberry Street



## Cooperative Funding

Piggybacking is another great way to network yourself right into someone else's grant proposal. Find another organization whose work complements your own and incorporate. Together, you can apply for funding and conserve energy and resources. Two such possibilities for this kind of application are the *Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program* (EEMP), sponsored by The Resources Agency of California, and the *Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century* (TEA – 21), sponsored by the United States Department of Transportation.

The EEMP funds projects which help to reduce the effects of added pollutants resulting from new or modified state roadways (for example, planting smog-tolerant trees along state free-ways to reduce the impact of auto emissions on air quality). TEA-21 supports projects that include at least one of the following: pedestrian and bicycle facilities; scenic easements and scenic or historic sites; scenic or historic highways; landscaping and beautification; historic preservation; historic transportation facilities (including railroads and canals); abandoned railway corridors (including use as pedestrian and bicycle trails); control of outdoor advertising; archeology; or mitigation of water-polluting highway runoff.

Consider piggybacking with one or several partners, or even the City. TEA-21 guidelines, for example, declare that only state and local public entities may apply for funding, but that local nonprofits are encouraged to join forces with public entities. Use your Los Angeles Greening Resources Guide to help you find possible partners for these kinds of creative endeavors.

For guidelines and applications of the above mentioned programs, contact the following:

***The Transportation Equity Act  
for the 21st Century***

Attn: Marsha Mason  
CA Department of Transportation  
Division of Transportation  
Facilities Enhancement  
1120 N Street #5306  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916/654-5275

***The Environmental Enhancement  
and Mitigation Program***

Attn: Bill Bordon  
The Resource Agency  
The Resources Building  
1416 9th Street, Room 311  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916/653-5656

## Quick Tips for Getting Started

***Make use of mailing lists!*** Get on every list offered by funding sources and related organizations. You'll get up-to-the-minute news and advance notice of funding opportunities. Annual reports and catalogs also are great sources of information.

***Network, network, network!*** Go to public forums, special seminars, and open houses. Talk to people. We're all here to help and be of service to each other. Share what you know and others will most likely do the same.

***Say thank-you — publicly!*** Unless they specifically request anonymity, publicly thank anyone who supports your work. Funders love recognition. Produce a newsletter and mention their names, or have a special wall naming all of your funders.

***Develop an award-winning profile!*** Many organizations, such as L.A. Beautiful (locally) and Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (nationally) recognize the work of dedicated volunteers and groups. Call for their guidelines (213/482-1665 for L.A. Beautiful; 203/323-8987 for Keep America Beautiful, Inc.) If you qualify, get yourself nominated. Awards provide the validation funders like to see. They feel more secure about supporting you when others have recognized your work.

***Get as much training as you can!*** *The California Community Foundation* offers free training every Thursday morning to teach the basics of grant research and writing, which includes assistance in using their resource library to track down appropriate philanthropic organizations. You can call them at 213/413-4130. They also sponsor workshops, seminars, and have notices in their library about grant opportunities.

***Get help with organizational development and urban forestry issues!*** Call American Forests' *Citizen Forestry Support System* at 1-800/323-1560, ext. 224, or visit <http://www.americanforest.org>

### ***Resources to Remember!***

The following organizations offer a wide variety of training, classes,



and support systems for nonprofits. Contact each for specifics:

*The Center for Non-Profit Management*  
6065 Olive St., Suite 2450  
Los Angeles, CA 90014  
213/623-7080

*CA Association of Nonprofits*  
520 S. Grand Ave., Suite 695  
Los Angeles, CA 90071  
213/347-2070 phone  
213/347-2080 fax  
[www.canonprofits.org](http://www.canonprofits.org)

*California Community Foundation*  
445 S. Figueroa, Suite 3400  
Los Angeles, CA 90071  
213/413-4042

*Community Partners*  
606 South Olive Street #2400  
Los Angeles, CA 90014  
213/439-9640 phone  
213/439-9650 fax

***Don't Forget Donations!***

Often people get so caught up in trying to raise money that they forget about another valuable source of support/donations. Local businesses, especially, may not have dollars to put in your pocket, but they can provide you with a great many wonderful products, services and other types of support. For example:

***Markets:*** bakeries, doughnut shops, supermarkets or neighborhood fast food places may be willing to support your efforts by providing soda, snacks or burgers for hungry volunteers.

***Radio stations:*** most stations will announce your event or need for volunteers through Public Service Announcements (PSA's), but you must use the proper format. *The Center for Non-Profit Management* has classes available in a wide range of management skills, including instruction in creating effective PSA's! Call them at 213/623-7080 for a free brochure.

***Fire Departments:*** what a great way to promote community support and get your planting site watered at the same time! Ask your local fire department if they would be willing to bring a truck to the site and give your trees a hearty drink.

***Printing:*** check with your neighborhood printers to see if they would be willing to tag on your event flyer/brochure/fact sheets, etc. to the end of a large run they're doing for someone else. This makes good use of surplus paper that otherwise would get tossed out, you get your printing needs handled, and the printer comes out looking great to the community (which encourages business)!

***Photographs and videos:*** many funders will request newspaper clippings and photographs/slides/videos as evidence of previous efforts and proof that you know what you're doing. See if any of your family, friends or neighbors would be willing to document your event this way for you. Ask photo labs if they give discounts to nonprofits or to community improvement efforts. Make sure the press knows about your project, too.

***Advertising:*** many businesses, such as real estate offices, do community mailings/small newsletters with information about their business and often containing listings of upcoming community events. Also check out such small papers as *The Pennysaver*, or even your local daily newspaper. They may be willing to support community improvement efforts with donated or discounted advertising space to help you get the word out. And don't underestimate the power of bulletin boards! Many community gathering places, such as markets, libraries, and laundromats, have bulletin boards for residents to post notices about events.

***In-kind gifts of time and service:*** if a business cannot write you a check, see what they have available. Your local copy shop may be able to donate computer services that usually rent by the hour; another business may be willing to donate office space. You'll never know unless you ask!

# *Notes*





# Getting Involved

on a State or National  
Level  
122

*There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew.*

*-Marshall McLuhan*

## Chapter 9

### *Getting Involved on a State or National Level*

Getting involved with greening efforts on a larger scale can raise awareness of the many important benefits of greening, encourage increased funding support for greening projects, and help protect and enhance open space and natural habitat. Many larger projects, such as creating a network of greenways, require a coordinated partnership between local, regional, and state or national levels.

The beginning of the current greenway movement officially began in the USA with the President's Commission on American Outdoors (1987). The Commission envisioned: *"A living network of greenways... to provide people with access to open spaces close to where they live, and to link together the rural and urban spaces in the American landscape... threading through cities and countryside like a giant circulation system."* (President's Commission, p.102; Walmsley, 1995).

Nature originally provided us with a framework for this system, but urban growth and private land ownership has removed most public access from the living network. Restoring this "giant circulation system" is a primary greenway goal, but the movement is not just about space. At the largest level it is a comprehensive conservation strategy with the added benefit of improving the quality of life and leaving a legacy of cooperation and respect for open space to our children. In Ohio, The Rails-To-Trails Conservancy reports that less than 5% of state land is in the public domain. They also note that, in many cases, rail trails and greenways are the only corridors available to link green spaces and animal habitat and to retain them for future generations. The legacy of converted space along rights-of-way and railroads to greenways has become the beginning of a network of community pride and intercommunity respect.

The national greenway vision is about seeing the "Big Picture", as a nation, as a state, and as a community. The groups listed on the following pages are dedicated to this and other greening efforts, and can help your group by offering funding, technical information, forums for communication, and up-to-date information on resources. They also help by forging partnerships between private and nonprofit agencies, and by promoting public environmental education. So let's get started – take notes, and help bring this source of national pride into your neighborhood and community!

**Alliance for Community Trees**

P.O. Box 464

College Park, MD 20741-0464

301/431-6728

[www.actrees.org](http://www.actrees.org)

ACT's mission is to create a national support network for grassroots, citizen-based nonprofit organizations dedicated to urban and community tree planting, care, conservation and education.

**American Farmland Trust**

1200 18th Street, NW, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20036

202/331-7300 phone

202/659-8339

[www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org)

*American Farmland Trust* works to stop the loss of productive farmland and to promote farming practices that lead to a healthy environment.

**American Forests**

910 17th Street NW

Washington, DC 20006

202/955-4500 or 800/368-5748 phone

202/955-4588 fax

[www.amfor.org](http://www.amfor.org)

Nation's oldest citizens' conservation group dedicated to ensuring a sustainable future for our nation's forests through conservation action and education.

**American Forest Foundation**

1111 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 780  
Washington, DC 20036  
888/889-4466  
[www.affoundation.org](http://www.affoundation.org)

The Foundation is a nonprofit organization that develops, funds, and administers programs that encourage the long-term stewardship of natural resources. Works with teachers to help children become responsible environmental decision-makers.

**American Institute of Urban and Regional Affairs**

19251 Dunbridge Way  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879  
301/948-4327

Chartered in 1967, the *American Institute of Urban and Regional Affairs* is the oldest non-governmental organization dedicated specifically to the advancement of sustainable development as an internationally recognized academic discipline, field of professional practice and strategy of community resource development.

**America the Beautiful Fund**

1730 K Street, NW, Suite 1002  
Washington, DC 20006  
202/638-1649  
[www.america-the-beautiful.org](http://www.america-the-beautiful.org)

Founded for the preservation and restoration of the natural wonders of America. Assists community-level programs to save their natural and historic environment and improve their quality of life. Assists tree-care professionals in developing and maintaining effective plant health care programs.



**California Center for Land Recycling**

455 Market Street, Suite 1100

San Francisco, CA 94105

415/820-2080

[www.cclr.org](http://www.cclr.org)

*California Center for Land Recycling (CCLR)* is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on creating sustainable communities by identifying and implementing responsible patterns of land use and development. Its mission is to encourage and facilitate land recycling in ways that revitalize urban areas, discourage urban sprawl and conserve greenspace.

**California Department of Water Resources – Urban Streams Program**

Stephanie Shakofsky, President

1020 Ninth Street, 3rd Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

916/654-6265 phone

916/327-1648 fax

*California Department of Water Resources – Urban Streams Program* provides advice plus technical assistance to citizens and local government agencies regarding urban stream flooding and soil erosion problems. Works to restore natural environmental values to urban streams. Volunteers used in many areas. Internships available.

**California Environmental Protection Agency**

P.O. Box 2815

1001 I Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

916/445-3846 phone

916/445-6401 fax

This is the State version of the federal Environmental Protection Agency. They offer annual awards based on environmental and economic cooperation in projects. Publishes *CAL/EPA Report*, a free monthly newsletter.

**The California League of Conservation Voters**

10780 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 210

Los Angeles, CA 90025

310/441-4162 phone

310/441-1685 fax

[www.ecovote.org](http://www.ecovote.org)

The nation's largest and oldest state political action organization for the environment. The League mobilizes California voters to support environmentally responsible candidates and issues, and serves as a watchdog to hold elected officials accountable for their environmental votes. The League is a nonpartisan organization supported by 30,000 members, working in coalition with a wide spectrum of environmental and community groups.

**California Oak Foundation**

1212 Broadway #810

Oakland, CA 94612

510/763-0282 phone

510/208-4435 fax

Established to protect and perpetuate native California oak woodlands. Provides technical assistance and referrals to other resources.

**California Public Interest Research Groups**

3435 Wilshire Blvd., #380

Los Angeles, CA 90010

213/251-3680

[www.pirg.org](http://www.pirg.org)

The state PIRGs are leading environmental and consumer watchdog organizations serving to preserve the environment, protect consumers, and promote democracy.

**California State Parks Foundation**

800 College Avenue  
P. O. Box 548  
Kentfield, CA 94914  
415/258-9975  
[www.calparks.org](http://www.calparks.org)

*The California State Parks Foundation* is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to helping protect and enhance the natural, cultural, and historic resources found within California's State Parks, improving visitor facilities, promoting volunteerism and stewardship, and developing educational programs by raising financial contributions from individuals, foundations, and businesses.

**Center for Environmental Citizenship**

200 G Street, NE #300  
Washington, DC 20002  
202/547-8435 phone  
202/547-8572 fax  
[www.envirocitizen.org](http://www.envirocitizen.org)

CEC is dedicated to educating, training, and organizing a diverse, national network of young leaders to protect the environment.

**Center for Health, Environment, and Justice**

P. O. Box 6806  
Falls Church, VA 22040  
703/237-2249  
[www.chej.org](http://www.chej.org)

Founded and led by grassroots leaders, CHEJ provides people with information, guides people through the process of putting information into action, and helps community organizations achieve their goals. CHEJ also helps groups band together for mutual aid and support.

**The Conservation Fund**

1800 N. Kent Street, Suite 1120  
Arlington, VA 22209-2156  
703/525-6300 phone  
703/525-4610 fax  
[www.conservationfund.org](http://www.conservationfund.org)

*The Conservation Fund* seeks sustainable conservation solutions for the 21st century, emphasizing the integration of economic and environmental goals. Through real estate transactions, demonstration projects, education, and community-based activities, the Fund seeks innovative long-term measures to conserve land and water.

**Defenders of Wildlife**

1101 14th Street, NW, #1400  
Washington, DC 20005  
202/682-9400  
[www.defenders.org](http://www.defenders.org)

Defenders employs education, litigation, research, legislation and advocacy to defend wildlife and its habitat. In each program area, an interdisciplinary team of scientists, attorneys, wildlife specialists and educators works to promote multifaceted solutions to wildlife problems.

**EarthAction**

30 Cottage Street  
Amherst, MA 01002  
413/549-8118  
[www.earthaction.org](http://www.earthaction.org)

*EarthAction* is an ever-expanding global action network of over 1,500 organizations and community groups in more than 140 countries. Eight to ten times per year, EarthAction produces and distributes an "Information-Action Kit" focused on a critical environment, development, peace or social justice issue. Action Kits make it fast, simple and worthwhile for people and organizations worldwide to take action together to help create a more just, peaceful and sustainable world.

**Earth Island Institute**

300 Broadway, Suite 28  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415/788-3666 x123 phone  
415/788-7324 fax  
[www.earthisland.org](http://www.earthisland.org)

*Earth Island Institute* (EII), founded in 1982 by veteran environmentalist David Brower, fosters the efforts of creative individuals by providing organizational support in developing projects for the conservation, preservation, and restoration of the global environment. EII provides activists the freedom to develop program ideas, supported by services to help them pursue those ideas, with a minimum of bureaucracy.

**Educational Communications**

P.O. Box 351419  
Los Angeles, CA 90035  
310/559-9160

Dedicated to improving the quality of life on earth. Volunteers help with office work, mailings, education, and assist with producing environmental radio and television programming. Membership offered.

**Forests Forever**

973 Market Street, Suite 450  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
415/974-3636 phone  
415/973-6664 fax  
[www.forestsforever.org](http://www.forestsforever.org)

Strives to protect and enhance the forests and wildlife habitat of California through educational, legislative and electoral activities. Recruits, educates and trains articulate and effective organizers in the skills needed to convey their position on the state's forests and wildlife habitat to the citizens of California.

**National Arbor Day Foundation**

100 Arbor Avenue  
Nebraska City, NE 68410  
402/474-5655 phone  
402/474-0820 fax  
[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

An education organization dedicated to promoting tree care and conservation and to educate people on tree issues. Presents annual conferences and training sessions across the country. Various educational materials offered, including classroom and teacher kits, tree identification booklet, and video program about community forestry. Involved with Arbor Day celebrations around the world, offers *Tree City USA* award.

**National Arborist Association**

3 Perimeter Road, Unit 1  
Manchester, NH 03103  
800/733-2622 or 603/314-5380 phone  
603/314-5386 fax

Provides technical information to the tree care industry, including standards for tree pruning, tree management, and worker safety. Offers a *Home Study Program* in tree care recommended for those interested in pursuing a career in arboriculture.

**National Association of Conservation Districts**

509 Capitol Court, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
202/547-6223 phone  
202/547-6450 fax  
[www.nacdnet.org](http://www.nacdnet.org)

NACD is the non-governmental, nonprofit organization that represents nearly 3,000 conservation districts across the nation. Conservation districts — almost one in every county — are helping people to conserve land, water, forests, and related natural resources. NACD develops national conservation policies, influences lawmakers and builds partnerships. It sponsors Soil and Water Stewardship Week, promotes backyard conservation, and provides resources for educators.

**National Association of State Foresters**

444 N. Capitol Street, NW Suite 540

Washington, DC 20001

202/624-5415 phone

202/624-5407 fax

[www.stateforesters.org](http://www.stateforesters.org)

NASF is a nonprofit organization that represents the directors of the State Forestry agencies from all fifty states, eight territories, and the District of Columbia. These Foresters provide management and protection services for over two-thirds of the nation's forests.

**National Audubon Society**

700 Broadway

New York, NY 10003

212/979-3000 phone

212/979/3188 fax

[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)

The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

**National Tree Trust**

1120 G Street, NW, Suite 770

Washington, DC 20005

800/846-8733 phone

202/628-8735 fax

[www.nationaltreetrust.org](http://www.nationaltreetrust.org)

The National Tree Trust (NTT) is a private, nonprofit organization created to serve as a catalyst for local volunteer and community service groups in the growing, planting and maintenance of trees in rural and urban areas, and along our nation's highways. Four programs promote public awareness and a spirit of volunteerism through community tree planting, education and tree care projects across the United States.

**National Wildlife Federation**

11100 Wildlife Center Dr.

Reston, VA 20190-5362

703/438-6000 phone

800/822-9919 customer service line

703/438-6040 fax

[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)

NWF focuses its efforts on five core issue areas (*Endangered Habitat, Water Quality, Land Stewardship, Wetlands, and Sustainable Communities*), and pursues a range of educational projects, and activist, advocacy, and litigation initiatives within these important core areas.

**Rails to Trails Conservancy**

1100 17th Street, NW, 10th Floor

Washington, DC 20036

202/331-9696

[www.railtrails.org](http://www.railtrails.org)

*Rails-to-Trails Conservancy* is a 13-year-old nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching America's communities and countryside by creating a nationwide network of public trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors. They help communities convert unused railroad corridors to resources for transportation, recreation, and economic development.

**Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy**

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens

5750 Ramirez Canyon Road

Malibu, CA 90265

310/589-3200 phone

310/589-3207 fax

[www.smmc.ca.gov](http://www.smmc.ca.gov)

Created to purchase park land and trails for preservation and public recreational use in the local mountain areas. Full- and part-time work offered; resumes accepted only as positions open up. Hires for maintenance and upkeep of natural areas.



### **Society of American Foresters**

5400 Grosvenor Lane  
Bethesda, MD 20814-2198  
301/897-8720 phone  
301/897-3690 fax  
[www.safnet.org](http://www.safnet.org)

The Society of American Foresters is the national scientific and educational organization representing the forestry profession in the United States. Founded in 1900 by Gifford Pinchot, the first Chief of the Forest Service, it is the largest professional society for foresters in the world.

### **TreeLink**

[www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org)

This website provides information, research, and networking for people working in urban and community forestry.

### **Trees for Life**

3006 West St. Louis  
Wichita, KS 67203  
800/873-3736 or 316/945-6929 phone  
[www.treesforlife.org](http://www.treesforlife.org)

*Trees for Life* empowers people by demonstrating that in helping each other, we can unleash extraordinary power that impacts our lives. They do this by helping people plant fruit trees in developing countries. Each tree protects the environment and provides a low-cost, self-renewing source of food for a large number of people. Their activities include three elements: education, health and environment.

**The Trust for Public Land**

116 New Montgomery Street, Suite #300  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415/495-5660 phone  
415/495-0541 fax  
<http://www.tpl.org>

Created to conserve land for use as parks, community gardens, and as recreation and wilderness areas. Helps communities, public agencies, and nonprofit organizations acquire and protect open space. Provides technical assistance for land acquisition projects.

**USDA California Natural Resources Conservation Service**

44811 North Date Avenue "G"  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
661/945-2604 phone  
661/942-5503 fax  
<http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov>

Created to provide statewide leadership in the conservation and wise use of water, soil and related resources. Volunteers assist with general office work, education programs and field work through the *Earth Team Program*. Awards for volunteer service.

**Wilderness Society**

1615 M Steet, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
800/843-9453  
[www.wilderness.org](http://www.wilderness.org)

*The Wilderness Society* is a nonprofit membership organization devoted to preserving wilderness and wildlife, protecting America's prime forests, parks, rivers, deserts and shorelands, and fostering an American land ethic.

**Wildlife Conservation Society**

2300 Southern Boulevard

Bronx, NY 10460

718/220-5100 phone

718/367-1657 fax

[www.wcs.org](http://www.wcs.org)

*The Wildlife Conservation Society* (WCS) works to save wildlife and wild lands throughout the world. For more than a century, WCS has inspired care for nature, pioneered environmental education programs, and helped sustain biological diversity.



# Quick Reference

index to groups

*Many of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done.*

*- Louis Brandeis*

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# Environmental Affairs Department

Overview

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## *Overview of the Environmental Affairs Department*

Established in 1990, the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) is responsible for recommending environmental policies and programs to the Mayor and City Council, and for working toward the implementation of those policies and programs, such as the Los Angeles Clean Air Program. EAD also serves the City's residents, community groups, and businesses directly by offering environmental education through its outreach programs.

The department has taken an active leadership role in elevating awareness and raising funds through grants for urban greening projects such as greenway corridors and local tree plantings, Green Bank funding, and creation of the Gardens for Kids L.A. school gardening program. EAD was the lead coordinator for the El Segundo Dunes Restoration Project and the Community Urban Greening Awards. It also administers grants for greening projects which assist the efforts of many local greening groups.

A leader of the Clean Air Program, the department assesses federal, State, and regional air quality legislation and potential impacts on the City. EAD provides an opportunity for full participation by residents and businesses in the development of the City's clean air policies. Urban greening is but one of the strategies of improving air quality in the L.A. basin.

In addition to working closely with residents, environmental organizations and community groups, EAD's activities are overseen by a five-member advisory Environmental Affairs Commission (EAC) appointed by the Mayor. The EAC hold meetings to invite public input and debate, consider options on pending actions and programs of the department, and make recommendations on the specific direction these actions and programs should take.

To obtain more information on urban greening or other environmental issues, contact the Environmental Affairs Department at its toll-free environmental hotline: 800/439-4666 within the Los Angeles area, or 213/978-0888 from outside the City.

# **The Los Angeles Greening Resources Guide**

*was created by  
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***Note:*** *The Suggested Reading Lists are based on recommendations of various greening organizations and are intended as starting points only. There are many excellent books available and we recommend starting at your local library to find the ones that best meet your needs.*

*For additional information, contact the Environmental Affairs Department at:*

Environmental Information Center  
800/439-4666 (in City of Los Angeles)  
213/978-0888  
eadinfo@mailbox.lacity.org  
www.lacity.org/EAD

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City of Los Angeles, Environmental Affairs Department

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