



BENICIA TREE FOUNDATION 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

About Us

The Benicia Tree Foundation is an all-volunteer non-profit with the mission to strengthen community by promoting and supporting tree planting, maintenance, and education. We were established in 2009, the same year the City of Benicia unanimously adopted its first comprehensive tree program (September 15, 2009). Since that time **the Foundation has planted 737 trees.**

Accomplishments for 2018

Our accomplishments in 2018 included sponsoring four events that planted 64 trees, and sponsoring 21 tree care days that provided maintenance to 711 trees. The Benicia Tree Foundation relies 100% on volunteers for these accomplishments. Cumulatively, we attracted 235 volunteers, half of these being under 18 years of age. These volunteers generated 560 hours of labor for tree planting, tree maintenance and educating residents about our urban forest.

Cooperative projects between the City and the Benicia Tree Foundation included a Spring Arbor Day tree planting in April at Francesca Terrace Park, and initiation of a rodent control project in the Lake Herman Open Space using owl boxes.



Figure 1: Volunteers participating in a Tree Care Day at the Lake Herman Open Space project site.

Benicia Tree Foundation sponsored other events during the year at the following locations:

- Benicia High School
- Benicia State Park
- Benicia Housing Authority
- Joe Henderson School
- Liberty High School
- Mary Farmer School
- Matthew Turner School
- National Guard Armory
- Robert Semple School

Benicia Tree Foundation is funded entirely by donations and grants. In 2018, we received a \$1,500 donation from Valero and a \$2,000 grant from California Releaf. Individual donations totaled approximately \$500.



Figure 2: Students at Mary Farmer School planted 33 trees in December 2018.

Goals for 2019

- Plant 100 trees in Benicia through two initiatives: 1) Planting trees on the freeway through the Caltrans Adopt a Highway Program; and 2) expanded tree planting in the Lake Herman Open Space area.
- Attract more volunteers to our tree care days on **second Saturdays** and **third Thursdays** of the month. On these days we meet at one of our project sites to perform routine tree maintenance tasks.
- Support implementation of the City's Comprehensive Tree Program by co-sponsoring an annual Arbor Day celebration and participating on the Tree Subcommittee of the Parks Recreation and Cemetery Commission.

Any questions on this report can be directed to the Board of Directors which can be reached by phone at 745-4546 or by email at info@beniciatrees.org.

Alison Fleck, Steven Goetz and Barbara Wood
Board of Directors
Benicia Tree Foundation