Sustainable Benicia

Trees play a vital role in our planet's ecosystem, and the Benicia Tree Foundation is working to provide our community with resources to help improve and manage our trees. We are in alignment with a national movement to identify best practices for planting and maintaining urban trees, and promote the idea of "Right Tree, Right Place."

We are well on our way to reaching our goal of planting 1,000 trees in Benicia by 2016. Working in partnership with businesses, property owners, community groups and city government, we will continue to forge ahead and enhance our community by providing resources, education and opportunities to volunteer.

707-745-4546
info@beniciatrees.org
www.beniciatrees.org

Community Resources

Our community partner, Rising Sun Energy, is providing no-cost energy and water conservation services to Benicia residents during Summer 2014. Their no-cost services include:

Home energy and water efficiency assessment
Energy-efficient lighting
Water-efficient showerheads and faucet aerators
Hot water heater pipe insulation
LED Night light, power strip, or retractable clothes line
Toilet leak detection test
Check of water meter, water pressure and irrigation system
Inspection of attic insulation
E-waste pickup and disposal
Energy and water conservation tips to help you save money on utility bills
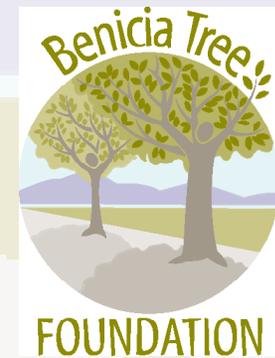Eco-friendly recycling tips

Contact Rising Sun Energy today!

www.risingsunenergy.org
510-665-1501 ext. 5

IMPROVE YOUR PROPERTY WITH

TREES

Relax under the canopy of benefits that trees provide!

Providing Tree Planting Support and Resources for Our Benicia Neighbors

www.beniciatrees.org

Plant Trees to Reduce Energy Consumption!

The simple act of planting a tree can result in significant energy savings. Planting the right tree in the right place is the key to saving energy with trees. The right tree in the right place provides wind protection, shade and cool air, while adding beauty, privacy, and wildlife habitat to the landscape. When placed strategically around buildings, trees can reduce cooling costs by 30 percent, and heating costs by 20-50 percent. Deciduous trees *(trees that lose all of their leaves each fall)* save energy in summer by shading houses, paved areas, and air conditioners. Small deciduous trees and shrubs, and especially those with low, dense branches, also can serve as effective wind barriers.

Trees should also be planted to shade paved areas. Light energy striking dark pavement like asphalt is absorbed, causing the air above to be heated. Light colored pavement absorbs less energy, but can reflect it toward a building. Tree leaves reduce heat and reflection as they absorb light energy and use it to evaporate water.

Benicia homeowners Mike and Mia Sendlakowski and family, pictured with one of ten trees planted on their property with support from Benicia Tree Foundation.

Let Us Help!

Benicia Tree Foundation can help you plant trees on our property. We can help you determine the right tree for your location, arrange discounted pricing on trees and provide instruction on planting and maintenance. Learn more on our website, email info@beniciatrees.org or call 707-745-4546.

www.beniciatrees.org

Even More Benefits!

Trees increase property values– the USDA Forest Service has found that mature trees add an average of 10 percent to a property's value. Trees can produce **fruit** and other edibles. Trees **improve the air quality** by mitigating air pollution & sequestering greenhouse gases. **Crime rates tend to be lower** in areas with trees –research has shown that the presence of trees can cut crime by as much as seven percent. Trees help to reduce stormwater runoff and **improve water quality**. Trees help to reduce the urban heat island effect. Trees shelter wildlife and promote biodiversity. Adding a shade tree to your yard's lawn area will **reduce landscape water** use significantly.

Benicia homeowner Barbara Wood, pictured with young Chinese Pistache tree planted with support from Benicia Tree Foundation.