

## Urban Forestry in Benicia: Why? Because trees...

- improve air quality & public health
- cool our homes and conserve energy
- help prevent soil erosion & excessive storm water runoff
- increase private real estate values adding to local tax base



Benicia Tree Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is:  
*"Strengthen community by promoting and supporting tree planting, maintenance, and education."*

Want to become a Benicia Tree-Keeper?  
Please make a donation —  
Help plant & maintain a tree today!  
Visit [www.beniciatrees.org/treekeeper.org](http://www.beniciatrees.org/treekeeper.org)

P.O. Box 1877  
Benicia, CA 94510

Phone: 707-745-4546  
E-mail: [info@beniciatrees.org](mailto:info@beniciatrees.org)  
[www.beniciatrees.org](http://www.beniciatrees.org)

An initiative is currently under way to plant 1,000 trees in Benicia by 2012. Never has such an attempt been made to so substantially increase the forest canopy in Benicia.

The effort is led by local residents who formed the Benicia Tree Foundation to accomplish this mission which includes tree maintenance and education.

This initiative aligns with other powerful forces that are emerging in Benicia such as the City's newly created Community Sustainability Commission, responsible for implementing the Climate Action Plan. Other relevant local initiatives include the Benicia Unified School District Wellness Plan, which promotes the idea that *"Caring about, looking after, and protecting our environment contributes to our overall health and well-being."*

These are among the many examples of how fellow Benicians are working to improve our living environment to create a positive legacy for future generations.

If every family in the United States planted one tree, we would reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> of the atmosphere by one billion pounds annually. This is almost 5% of the amount that human activity annually contributes to the atmosphere.

The Benicia Tree Foundation cordially invites you to become an example to others in your community by committing to planting at least one tree in the City of Benicia as a part of our community-wide tree-planting initiative.

*Funds for this initiative are provided in part by  
Valero / Good Neighbor Steering Committee  
2008 VIP Settlement Agreement.*

Become a  
**Benicia Tree-Keeper**  
[www.beniciatrees.org/treekeeper](http://www.beniciatrees.org/treekeeper)

## Benicia's Tree Planting Initiative



*Help plant 1000 trees by 2012  
and leave a legacy  
for future generations!*

**WWW.BENICIATREES.ORG**

Benicia's rich history reveals that trees have played a major role in transforming the city of Benicia into a community that is cooler, cleaner, and more comfortable. The place now known as Benicia was once mostly barren and dry hills that were relentlessly buffeted by the winds coming off the Carquinez Strait.

## Join the Benicia Tree-Planting Initiative

Human occupants have dramatically altered the climate in Benicia by planting thousands of trees on residential, commercial, and public property.

Through Benicia's historic development, we now recognize those decisions by city founders and subsequent leaders that have contributed to making Benicia a place where people want to live and enjoy a beautiful climate and quality of life.

The hillsides, which were once dry and sparsely dotted with shrubs, have been transformed into inviting neighborhoods with tree-lined streets. Diverse species of trees have been planted in and around the buildings where we live and work, making our community more livable.

We invite you to help expand our community's tree canopy for local benefit and to improve our global climate for future generations.

**To reach our goal of planting 1,000 trees by 2012, please become a Benicia Tree-Keeper. Please become a Tree-Keeper today and help plant and maintain a tree. You will receive:**

- An invitation to be recognized at our annual Arbor Day celebration as an honored "Tree-Keeper" of Benicia.
- Invitations and discounts to events, workshops and presentations hosted by the Benicia Tree Foundation.
- Recognition in the Benicia Tree Foundation e-news and permanent recognition on our website.
- Opportunity to serve as a "Benicia Tree-Keeper," a group of stewards who provide mentorship for others, particularly Benicia's youth.
- Satisfaction in knowing that you have helped make history by enhancing the Benicia Urban Forest, and ensuring the long term sustainability of our community for future generations.
- Additionally, should you choose to sponsor a tree planting, we will provide assistance in selecting the right tree for the right location. (Reviewed by Certified Arborist.) We will also provide a customized dedication of your tree, posted on an online public tree map.

**BECOME A BENICIA  
TREE-KEEPER  
Make a donation -- help  
plant & maintain a tree today!**

*Today, there is an urgent need to plant more trees in Benicia. Asphalt, urban development and lack of tree care are among the factors diminishing our community forest, and the consequences are visibly evident in many parts of the city.*

### Did you know?

- A mature tree can absorb carbon dioxide at a rate of 48 pounds per year, releasing enough oxygen back into the atmosphere to support two human beings.
- One mature tree shading your urban house (thus saving energy) can equal an offset of as much as 15 trees in a forest. Each tree offsets about 48 pounds of carbon a year. One urban tree, equivalent to 15 forest trees, absorbs 48 pounds of carbon a year. One urban forest tree can therefore help offset 720 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> annually.
- The Benicia Tree-Planting Initiative has the potential to offset 720,000 pounds of carbon (1,000 trees by 2012).

Reference: McAliney, Mike. Arguments for Land Conservation: Documentation and Information Sources for Land Resources Protection, Trust for Public Land, Sacramento, CA, December, 1993

Visit [www.beniciatrees.org/treekeeper](http://www.beniciatrees.org/treekeeper)

Email: [info@beniciatrees.org](mailto:info@beniciatrees.org)

Call (707) 745-4546

*Become a Benicia Tree-Keeper &  
Help Us Grow Benicia's Urban Forest*

*Become a Benicia Tree-Keeper &  
Help Us Grow Benicia's Urban Forest*

*Become a Benicia Tree-Keeper &  
Help Us Grow Benicia's Urban Forest*

Yes, I want to be a Benicia Tree-Keeper!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Where would you like to plant a tree?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dedication:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form and your tax-deductible  
donation of \$50.00 to:

Benicia Tree Foundation  
P.O. Box 1877, Benicia, CA 94510

*\$20 will be applied toward the purchase of your first  
tree! (Tree costs vary based on size, species, and  
availability.)*



Yes, I want to be a Benicia Tree-Keeper!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Where would you like to plant a tree?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dedication:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form and your tax-deductible  
donation of \$50 to:

Benicia Tree Foundation  
P.O. Box 1877, Benicia, CA 94510

*\$20 will be applied toward the purchase of your first  
tree! (Tree costs vary based on size, species, and  
availability.)*



Yes, I want to be a Benicia Tree-Keeper!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Where would you like to plant a tree?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dedication:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form and your tax-deductible  
donation of \$50 to:

Benicia Tree Foundation  
P.O. Box 1877, Benicia, CA 94510

*\$20 will be applied toward the purchase of your first  
tree! (Tree costs vary based on size, species, and  
availability.)*





**Elaine Estrada**

“I think trees are good for your soul. I was brought up with thousands and thousands of trees and I played in a tree that was over 200 years old when I was growing up.” Now Elaine is working as Board President to expand Benicia’s urban forest through the Benicia Tree Foundation.

(Photo courtesy of Benicia Magazine)

“You can become a Benicia Tree-Keeper by committing to planting and sustaining a tree in your yard or community. Your donation and role as a Tree-Keeper will be honored on the Benicia Tree Foundation website for perpetuity. Every tree planted in collaboration with the Benicia Tree Foundation will be mapped and tracked online.

The Benicia Tree Foundation was founded by ordinary citizens such as yourself who have taken simple steps to do something extraordinary that makes a lasting impact on our environment and demonstrates our commitment to enhancing the quality of life for future generations of Benicians.”



**Elaine Estrada**

“I think trees are good for your soul. I was brought up with thousands and thousands of trees and I played in a tree that was over 200 years old when I was growing up.” Now Elaine is working as Board President to expand Benicia’s urban forest through the Benicia Tree Foundation.

(Photo courtesy of Benicia Magazine)

“You can become a Benicia Tree-Keeper by committing to planting and sustaining a tree in your yard or community. Your donation and role as a Tree-Keeper will be honored on the Benicia Tree Foundation website for perpetuity. Every tree planted in collaboration with the Benicia Tree Foundation will be mapped and tracked online.

The Benicia Tree Foundation was founded by ordinary citizens such as yourself who have taken simple steps to do something extraordinary that makes a lasting impact on our environment and demonstrates our commitment to enhancing the quality of life for future generations of Benicians.”



**Elaine Estrada**

“I think trees are good for your soul. I was brought up with thousands and thousands of trees and I played in a tree that was over 200 years old when I was growing up.” Now Elaine is working as Board President to expand Benicia’s urban forest through the Benicia Tree Foundation.

(Photo courtesy of Benicia Magazine)

“You can become a Benicia Tree-Keeper by committing to planting and sustaining a tree in your yard or community. Your donation and role as a Tree-Keeper will be honored on the Benicia Tree Foundation website for perpetuity. Every tree planted in collaboration with the Benicia Tree Foundation will be mapped and tracked online.

The Benicia Tree Foundation was founded by ordinary citizens such as yourself who have taken simple steps to do something extraordinary that makes a lasting impact on our environment and demonstrates our commitment to enhancing the quality of life for future generations of Benicians.”