



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

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News from: Oakland Public Works Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2012

## Tree Planting Honors Arbor Day

**Oakland, CA** – For the 27<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the City of Oakland will celebrate Arbor Day with a community planting and environmental education program with school children. This tree planting coincides with the National Arbor Day program that publicizes the importance of tree planting and long-term care. Arbor Day is one of many ways the City works to maintain its status as a sustainable and green city. This year, ten western red bud, five Monterey Cypress, ten red oaks and six red leaf crab apple trees will enhance the beauty of Lakeside Park and provide enjoyment for all visitors. Lakeside Park at Oakland's Lake Merritt is a nationally recognized bird sanctuary and the trees provide vital habitat and food for many bird species.

**What:** Tree Planting in Honor of Arbor Day in Lakeside Park  
**When:** Thursday, April 26, 2011 from 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Lakeside Park, Oakland, CA 94601 – between Grand & Bellevue  
**Who:** Oakland Public Works Tree Services, Certified Arborists & Students

St. Paul's Elementary School science students will plant the trees under the direction of a Certified Arborist from the Oakland Public Works Agency and assistance from the U.S. Forest Service. Students will learn about importance of trees and tree planting tips, as well as the benefits of trees in our urban ecosystem and how trees improve the quality of life by providing shade, oxygen and help offset greenhouse gases.

Oakland has earned the designation as a **Tree City U.S.A.** because it meets the qualifications of the National Arbor Day Foundation, which includes funding for trees, a tree protection ordinance, a community forestry program and an annual Arbor Day celebration.

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