



City of
OAKLAND
California

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VIDEO & PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Students Honor National Arbor Day with Tree Planting

Oakland, CA – For the 28th consecutive year, the City of Oakland will celebrate **Arbor Day** by planting trees and providing an environmental education program with school children. The event coincides with the National **Arbor Day** program that publicizes the importance of tree planting and long-term care. This year, 11 crape myrtle trees will be planted to enhance the beauty along the street in front of Parker Elementary School. Celebrating **Arbor Day** continues Oakland’s designation as a “Tree City” and is one of many ways the City upholds its status as a sustainable and green city.

What: Tree Planting in Honor of Arbor Day at Parker School

When: Friday, April 24, 2015 from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Parker School, 7922 Ney Avenue, Oakland, CA

Who: Oakland Public Works Tree Services, Certified Arborists & Students

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

“Trees enrich our environment and our life style to make our neighborhoods flourish. We believe that sharing this experience and our knowledge with young students will help them understand, respect and enjoy their surroundings even more,” stated Oakland Public Works Senior Urban Forester Robert Zahn.

Oakland has earned the designation as a **Tree City U.S.A.** because it continues to meet 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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