



OUR CITY FOREST JUNE 2005



PEOPLE & TREES COMMUNITY NEWS

WWW.OURCITYFOREST.ORG
(408) 99-6633 TREES

SAN JOSÉ SENTINEL TREE LIVES ON

A highlight among this season's many tree events was the planting of a sapling cloned from San José's original sentinel tree – a 200 year-old, giant sycamore that once grew on the 500 block of North 21st. This grand old tree, removed in March 2000 because it had hollowed out and was towering over a nearby home, was once the oldest living thing in San José.



San José City Arborist Ralph Mize, OCF Arborist Christian Bonner and OCF Tree Amigo Chuck Hagenmaier plant the California Sycamore sapling. Read the full story on the Sentinal tree on our website: www.ourcityforest.org



The original sentinel tree was over 100 feet tall and 90 ft in diameter.

A giant among trees, it was nearly one hundred feet high with a branch diameter of 80 to 90 feet.

In the 1840's the tree was a landmark for the valley's first settlers because they could see it from miles away, and it meant they were almost to the settlement of San José. Prior to its removal, Our City Forest was able to get a few cuttings from it, so the tree (at least the genetic material) continues to live. Watson Park is close to its original location and has a semi-riparian habitat, well-suited for this native species. It was a memorable planting and ceremonial honoring of this historic tree. May this new life grow and thrive.

Upcoming Plantings & Events

- ✿ June 4 Blossom Neighborhood
- ✿ June 4 Santa Teresa Foothills
- ✿ June 11 Vista Park
- ✿ June 18 Santee Neighborhood
- ✿ June 23rd Volunteer Potluck & movie with Global Warming theme

CALL 998-7337 FOR MORE PLANTING DATES OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE!

www.ourcityforest.org



OCF Tree Amigo Linda Littrell and San José City college student Refik Suta unload the truck and then help OCF Teresa Gibson and a Pamlar Ave. resident plant the first tree.



Murdock Neighborhood planting



Independence High student

Our City Forest is a nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing the people of Silicon Valley in the development, planting, care and appreciation of our natural urban environment, including our urban forest. Your support is encouraged! Donations are tax-deductible. Contact Our City Forest at postmaster@ourcityforest.org or write to us at 595 Park Ave, Suite 100 • San José, CA 95110

BREAKING A RECORD!

Our City Forest joined tree groups across the nation including Trees Atlanta to break a Guinness Book World Record for the most trees planted in one hour on Earth Day, Friday April 22nd. We are waiting for certification from Guinness. Stay tuned!

FIREBLIGHT HARMS PEAR TREES

The climate conditions have been ideal this season for the spread of Fireblight (*Erwinia amylovora*), which is a bacterial disease to which many flowering pear trees are extremely susceptible. Unlike some fungal diseases such as Anthracnose, which thrive with late spring rain accompanied with warm air currents, fireblight is often more than just aesthetic and can have a severe effect on the health of the tree even causing mortality in severe cases. Check out this UC Integrated Pest Management website for more information on the disease and how to prevent its spread:

<http://xipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/r603100211.html>

Look for the *Eco-Silicon Valley* e-bulletin delivered bi-monthly to your email address or go online anytime for interesting events in the area.



SOLAR ELECTRICITY A GOOD INVESTMENT

If you didn't get a chance to attend last week's OCF

volunteer meeting and hear Tree Amigo and Solar Advocate Kurt Newick speak on solar electricity, you can attend his Solar Electric Information talk on Sunday, June 5th in Saratoga or Saturday, June 11th in Los Altos.



Check the Eco-Silicon Valley events e-newsletter for details at www.ourcityforest.org or go to www.gosolarnow.com.



WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL DAY FOCUS ON GREEN CITIES

World Environmental Day 2005 is emphasizing environmental awareness through Sports and Physical Education. Several sporting events with an environmental theme are planned including a Green Golf Tournament, and a 'Walk/Run for the Earth' event. And each day of the 5-day events will focus on a specific theme: Urban Power (energy, renewables and energy conservation), Cities on the Move (transportation), Redesigning Metropolis (waste diversion), Pure Elements (food, water and air) and Flower Power (biodiversity and greening our cities. More information in the eco-SV e-newsletter.

CELEBRATING OUR
FLOWERING EARTH



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