

For Immediate Release



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Healthy Trees, Healthy Kids!

Canopy brings 233 volunteers together to plant 200 trees at local schools

EAST PALO ALTO – On May 7, 2011, [Canopy](#), a local nonprofit group dedicated to planting trees for healthier communities, brought together corporate and community volunteer groups to plant 200 trees at Green Oaks Academy and Cesar Chavez Academy in East Palo Alto.

[Click here for link to photos from planting](#)

Eight corporations and community groups supported [Canopy](#) with the planting: [Microsoft](#), [National Semiconductor](#), [NVIDIA](#), [SanDisk](#), [Yahoo!](#), [Robert Half International](#), [Palo Alto Rotary](#), and [REI](#). An astounding 233 volunteers participated in the event to help launch of Canopy's [Healthy Trees, Healthy Kids!](#) campaign. The goal of the campaign is to plant 1,000 young trees by 2015 to improve school campuses and parks in underserved communities for Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Belle Haven. The partnership between Canopy and the companies has been facilitated by the [Silicon Valley Community Foundation](#).

Because of [Canopy's](#) efforts, an annual average of 800 elementary and middle school students at Green Oaks Academy and Cesar Chavez Academy will benefit from the shade and air pollution reduction provided by the trees. The 11 species planted, Forest Green Oak, Cork Oak, Valley Oak, Coast Live Oak, Southern Live Oak, Strawberry Tree, Bosque Elm, London Plane, Silver Leaf Linden, Marina Madrone, and Catalina Cherry, are all drought-tolerant and well suited for this region's climate.

Canopy Executive Director Catherine Martineau reports that the "trees will furnish both direct and indirect benefits to the community's health. Direct benefits include cleaner air and water, protection from harmful UV rays and the positive psychological effects associated with the proximity of natural environments. Indirect benefits include a more active lifestyle linked to increased outdoor activity which helps prevent childhood obesity and childhood diabetes."

About Canopy

Canopy plants, protects, and grows local urban forests. Because trees are a critical element of a livable, sustainable urban environment, Canopy's mission is to educate, inspire, and engage residents, businesses, and government agencies to protect and enhance our local urban forests. For more information on Canopy, visit: www.canopy.org.

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