

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
NEWS RELEASE



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Conference: Elementary School Children and Community Groups to Plant 100 Trees at Carl Johnston Park in Celebration of National Arbor Day

Sacramento, California, April 26, 2007—On Friday, April 27, Sacramento residents will have 100 additional reminders of why the City has earned the highly sought-after designation of *Tree City USA* for 30 consecutive years. The City of Sacramento, The National Arbor Day Foundation, The Home Depot Foundation, the Sacramento Tree Foundation, and local elementary school students will plant 100 trees at Carl Johnston Park in celebration of National Arbor Day.

The planting is being organized by The National Arbor Day Foundation and funded by The Home Depot Foundation as part of an initiative to increase awareness of how green infrastructures help create healthy and livable communities. As part of the initiative, 1000 total trees will be planted in ten cities across the nation. The City of Sacramento was selected as one of the ten cities because of its long history of preserving and growing its urban forest.

Carl Johnston Park is located in north Sacramento. The addition of 100 trees to the park will instantly beautify the park, provide additional shade, and enhance the park's appeal to local children and families.

"Sacramento is the *City of Trees*. All of us in North Sacramento are delighted to help our city continue to keep that designation for the benefit of future generations. The 100 trees that will be planted on Friday will be cherished by this community," said Councilmember Sandy Sheedy.

In order to foster long-term appreciation for the value of trees, neighborhood groups and students from Harmon Johnson Elementary School will assist with the planting. During the planting, the students will learn how to look after and care for the trees. They will also have an opportunity to name the trees they plant. This simple act will promote greater stewardship of the trees.

Event Details:

- Name:** Arbor Day Tree Planting at Carl Johnston Park
Description: In celebration of National Arbor Day, elementary school students and local volunteers will plant 100 trees at Carl Johnston Park in Sacramento
Date: Friday, April 27, 2007
Location: Carl Johnston Park, 231 Eleanor Ave, Sacramento
Time: 11:45am - 3:00pm
Schedule: 12pm - Press Conference and Ceremonial Tree Planting; 12:25pm - Tree Planting Begins; 1:25pm – Elementary School Students Begin Planting Trees
Participants: Mayor Heather Fargo, Councilmember Sandy Sheedy, Councilmember Ray Tretheway, Jennifer Boettcher, National Arbor Day Foundation; Russ Henly, Deputy Director, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and Elementary School Students

Media inquiries should be forwarded to Hindolo Brima, Public Information Officer, Department of Parks and Recreation, (916) 808-5972.

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