

ABOUT

When CANOPY was founded ten years ago, the Palo Alto urban forest was in significant decline due to a succession of droughts, city budget constraints, the absence of tree protection regulations, and a lack of awareness. A Palo Alto-based nonprofit, CANOPY advocates for the urban forest and works to educate, inspire and engage the community as stewards of young and mature trees.

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THE EAST PALO ALTO TREE INITIATIVE

The City of East Palo Alto is eager to bring the many benefits of a healthy urban forest to their community and welcomes CANOPY's assistance with The East Palo Alto Tree Initiative. Jointly developed, the Initiative includes the following elements:

- Plant 1,000 public trees by 2010
- Provide three years of follow-up care
- Engage and educate residents to plant and care for their community trees
- Assist the City of East Palo Alto in creating a comprehensive municipal urban forestry program including tree protection regulation, planting plan, and inventory and management tools.

0 6 6 To celebrate CANOPY'S 10th anniversary and launch the East Palo Alto Tree Initiative

(ANOPY & THE (ITY OF EAST PALO ALTO

proudly host

A SUNDAY WITH WANGARI MAATHAI

(EREMONIAL TREE PLANTING APRIL 30, 2006 AT 2:00 PM

> PROGRAM Welcome Lakiba Pittman

Invocation Pastor Paul Bains, St. Samuel Church

Welcome & Presentation of Awards Mayor Ruben Abrica Ruben Grijalva, Director

California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

Introduction of Wangari Maathai Presentation of Proclamation

Ceremonial Tree Planting Professor Wangari Maathai

Benediction Fr. Sean O'Laoire, Ph.D. Spiritual Director, Companions on the Journey

> Closing Lakiba Pittman

Entertainment provided by Shibambo RB and the Drum Corps Project Artistic Cultural Education "When we plant trees, we plant the seeds of peace and the seeds of hope."

> ---- WANGARI MAATHAI 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate Founder of the Greenbelt Movement



ABOUT WANGARI MAATHAI 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate Founder, the Green Belt Movement Member of Parliament, Republic of Kenya

Professor Wangari Maathai is an inspiration to all who care for the future of the Earth. When she began planting trees in Kenya in the mid 1970s, it was to address problems that poor women faced because of uncontrolled deforestation. She realized that without trees these women lacked the environmental benefits trees provide: shade from the hot sun, firewood for cooking, fruit for their families, wood for building material, and most importantly, the vital income and self-reliance that comes through the sale of tree-related products.

She developed this concept into a broad-based, grassroots organization, the Green Belt Movement, that has planted over 30 million trees in Africa. In a Time magazine interview after she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize she was asked, "What next?"

"More trees," she answered, "I will grow more trees."



WANGARI MAATHAI GROVE

The tree species we are planting today to create the Wangari Maathai Grove were selected to symbolize the many cultures and parts of the world represented in the East Palo Alto population. They were also selected for their adaptability to our climate and soil.

Olea africana – African Olive: Native to a large area of Africa, this savanna tree was considered sacred by many African micro nations. Although it bears smaller fruit, it is very similar to the Mediterranean olive common in California and grows well here. An olive branch is a universal symbol of peace.

Persea 'Mexicola Grande' - Avocado: A strain of avocado native to Mexico noted for its thin, dark skin and relatively small fruit. This variety has been chosen for its ability to withstand cold temperatures — the large-fruited varieties we buy at the market are generally grown in warmer climates. It will also serve as a pollinizer for the other avocado in the grove.

Persea 'Fuerte' - Avocado: A commercial strain of avocado that is a hybrid of West Indian and Central American avocado varieties. Of the large-fruited avocado varieties, it is the one that is consistently found producing on the Peninsula and is resistant to cold temperatures.

Casimiroa edulis - White Sapote: This very productive fruit tree native to the highlands of central Mexico is grown commercially throughout Mexico and Central America. It also grows well in our area. Its large, sweet fruit has white or yellow custardy flesh.

Metrosidero excelsa - New Zealand Christmas Tree: As most trees acclimated to the tropical Pacific islands would not do well in our climate, this south Pacific tree was selected for its ability to thrive in conditions that kill most trees. A popular street and park tree in San Francisco, this evergreen tree produces a good show of red flowers in the summer with a few flowers through much of the year.

Arbutus 'Marina' - Marina Madrone: This close relative of our lovely native California madrone is native to San Francisco and serves as our local addition to the grove. The mother tree from which all other Marinas are derived still stands in San Francisco. This tree shares the beautiful bark and trunk of the California madrone, but is smaller. It is also noted for its abundant flowers and lovely (if taste-free) red and yellow fruit.

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WITH WANGARI MAATHAI

(EREMONIAL

TREE ANTING

SUNDAY

Sunday, April 30, 2006 2:00 PM at the intersection of

Bay & Newbridge Roads,

East Palo Alto