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Grant For Tree Planting And Stewardship

updated: May 27, 2009, 1:35 PM

Source: *Goleta Valley Beautiful*

Goleta Valley Beautiful today announced that it will receive a \$10,000 grant from the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) and The Home Depot® Foundation. This challenge grant is part of the National NeighborWoods Program™, a nationwide initiative that engages the public in meaningful hands-on action to produce tangible improvements to community health through tree planting and stewardship. Goleta Valley Beautiful is one of eleven organizations nationwide who will receive a NeighborWoods™ award in support of partnerships between urban forestry non-profits and affordable housing providers.

Goleta Valley Beautiful organizes beautification efforts, environmental education, and public policy advocacy to support a healthy urban forest and encourage community environmental involvement in Goleta Valley, CA. In a project that will affect over 700 residents living in 221 low-income housing units, Goleta Valley Beautiful will use this grant to plant 70 native shade trees on four affordable housing properties in the Goleta Valley area of Santa Barbara County.

Through partnerships with The Home Depot, Habitat for Humanity of Southern Santa Barbara County, People's Self Help Housing and the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara, Goleta Valley Beautiful will implement four or more volunteer support projects and develop matching contributions to complete this tree planting program. The 70 shade trees will beautify the impacted communities and will provide passive energy conservation by reducing summer temperatures on South- and West-facing building walls, thereby cutting energy costs for residents. Goleta Valley Beautiful anticipates over 180 volunteers—two thirds of them residents of the affordable housing communities—will participate in the planting and ongoing maintenance of the trees.

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