

Who We Are

Urban Releaf is an urban forestry non-profit 501(c)3 organization established in Oakland, California to address the needs of communities that have little to no greenery or tree canopy. We focus our efforts in underserved neighborhoods that suffer from a disproportionate environmental quality of life and economic depravity. Urban Releaf is committed to the revitalization of our communities through tree planting and maintenance; environmental education and stewardship; and empowering residents to beautify their neighborhoods. Urban Releaf actively employs and trains at-risk youth as well as hard-to-hire adults.



How to Irrigate Your Tree

According to the *Guideline Specification for Selecting, Planting, and Early Tree Care of Young Trees* provided by CAL FIRE,

1. Apply about 3 gallons of water per inch of trunk diameter to the root ball 2 or 3 times per week for the first growing season.
2. Increase volume of water and decrease frequency of application as the tree becomes established.
3. Irrigate your tree weekly during the second year and bimonthly during the third.
4. Once established, irrigation requirements are dependent on species, planting site, climate, and soil conditions.
5. Irrigation devices should be regularly checked for breaks and leaks.



31st Green Street Research & Demonstration Project



835 57th Street, Oakland, CA 94608
(510) 601-9061
info@urbanreleaf.org

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City of Oakland Redevelopment Agency

Urban Releaf

*"Building Healthy Communities
One Tree at a Time"*



What is the 31st Green Street Research & Demonstration Project?

This highly innovative, nationally significant project demonstrates an integrated approach to scientific research, tree planting, and community outreach to meet neighborhood revitalization objectives. Through our partnership with UC Davis LAWR and Hyphae Design Laboratory, the project aims to utilize Low-Impact Design (LID) to reduce urban landscape irrigation needs, improve water quality, and reduce urban runoff while educating the community about drought conditions and water conservation.

Did You Know Trees Clean and Save Water?

According to the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service:

- ❖ Tree leaves and roots naturally filter water and remove pollutants.
- ❖ Trees help water soak into the ground and recharge water tables.
- ❖ Trees absorb sediment, nutrients and chemicals before they enter streams and other bodies of water.
- ❖ Trees reduce soil erosion and flooding by slowing the movement of storm water.
- ❖ Trees reduce home energy costs by providing shade and cooler temperatures.



Project Area:

31st Street between San Pablo Ave. & MLK Way, West Oakland

The project aims to bring much-needed greenery and attention to this residential street previously devoid of any shade trees. The project area experiences various criminal and social problems, and is representative of many such neighborhoods across the nation.

Trees can perform a multitude of environmental, social and economic services. By matching specific tree species to sites, trees can fulfill particular functions in the landscape.

Water quality and flow can be dramatically improved by planting trees. In urban settings, trees can reduce the amount of runoff and pollutant loading. 100 mature trees catch about 250,000 gallons of rainwater per year decreasing flood risk as well as soil and hill erosion.