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Date: Tue, June 7, 2011 2:47:01 PM
Cc:
Subject: Urban Releaf: Spotighting Our Research



Urban Releaf

June 2011



Spotighting Our Research

31st Street Research & Demonstration Project

The 31st Street Project is a highly innovative, nationally-significant project with research, community outreach, and neighborhood revitalization objectives. By planting particular species of trees and the use of specialized soil, the project aims to increase water conservation efforts, reduce the levels of GHG emissions, as well as improve air quality to an area currently devoid of any shade trees. This cutting-edge research is headed by water scientist Qingfu Xiao of UC Davis. Our partners include Hyphae Design Lab, Department of Water Resouces, the City of Oakland, and numerous other community organizations.



On May 11, the 31st Street Project and Urban Releaf were featured in East Bay Express article [Using Trees to Curb Pollution](#).

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Urban Forest Social Evaluation Research Project

The goal of this project was to examine the benefits of forest greening and water quality research. Social benefits include community involvement, environmental education, youth green jobs, environmental justice issues, and larger watershed benefits of tree planting. Of the many things we gleaned from this research, we found that the youth involved in our program feel more engaged in long-term environmental stewardship and are more likely to pursue careers in this field. Therefore, it is crucial that we engage urban youth in every greening project to support and

encourage their personal, academic, and professional growth.



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Air Quality Research Project

Our Air Quality research project—funded by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District—involves planting trees in West Oakland. According to the US Forest Service, urban trees reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) through sequestration and reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions by conserving energy. Our air quality research focused on quantifying carbon dioxide sequestration through this tree planting project. Funders for this project include the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Cal Fire and the City of Oakland.



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Help us help more youth plant trees!

[Make a donation](#) to Urban Releaf through TreeBank.

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