



Imperial Valley Urban Forest Expansion



The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in partnership with the City of Brawley, Brawley High School District, the City of Imperial, the City of Calexico, and the City of Holtville, organized the planting of 1,400 trees in predominantly disadvantaged communities in the Imperial Valley. Funded by the United States Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program and California Climate Investments from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, the project offers job training, community involvement, and young tree care as a means of expanding the urban canopy, particularly in disadvantaged communities. Improving the urban forest inventory is an effective low-cost means of adapting to the changing climate. The increased urban shade will help to save energy by reducing the urban heat island effect and offer protection to the public during extreme heat events. The expanded canopy will benefit public health as it filters polluted air and stormwater in the Imperial Valley. During this 40-year project, not only will an estimated 5,622 tons of greenhouse gases be reduced, but the expanded urban forest will help the area develop a stronger resiliency to the impacts of climate change.



For more information about Safeguarding California and Climate Change Adaptation efforts in California, visit <http://resources.ca.gov/climate/safeguarding/>