



Perris News

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Arbor Day Means More Trees for Perris

Perris elected official and City staff will descend on Palms Elementary School April 29 to plant some trees and bring shade to the campus while extolling the virtues of “growing green.”

The planting of four oaks and two elms comes as part of annual Arbor Day festivities in Perris, which is committed to maintaining and increasing the number of trees on the City campus and elsewhere.

It's part of the “Perris Growing Green” program.

Last year, Perris officials planted trees on the City Hall campus and installed a water-wise garden to make more efficient use of irrigation.

“This year, we want to celebrate with kids,” said Associate Planner Diane Sbardellati. “It's fun!”

Sbardellati said the Palms Elementary campus needs shady areas and that the trees will be a welcome addition. West Coast Arborists will provide the trees and help plant them. Students from Palms also will take part in a poster contest entitled: “Trees in an Urban Environment.”

Mayor Daryl Busch said Perris remains committed to becoming as green a city as possible. That means supporting tree-planting efforts wherever possible.

“We want to make our City go green,” Busch said.

City Councilmen Al Landers and Mark Yarbrough say is a leader in adopting green technologies and educating its residents about the need to conserve resources.

Perris officials installed solar panels throughout the City Hall campus, earning state and national recognition for its innovation. The City planted trees and shrubs throughout its campus as part of Arbor Day 2009 and installed a state-of-the-art irrigation system to keep its grounds green. The City also boasts the world's largest green building, the 1.3 million-square-foot Hanebrands Inc. warehouse.

“I wish bigger cities would take a look at Perris and follow our lead,” Landers said. “I like to think of Perris as the little City that could.”

Yarbrough said planting trees helps provide shade and aesthetics while improving Perris' reputation as a city where “green, renewable energy is the standard.”

“You can never plant enough trees,” he said.