



## Plant A Tree: Did You Know?

### **Breathing Easy**

- One acre of trees removes up to 2.6 tons of carbon dioxide each year (Odwalla web site)
- The amount of oxygen produced by an acre of trees per year equals the amount consumed by 18 people annually. One tree produces nearly 260 pounds of oxygen each year. (Odwalla web site)
- A tree can absorb as much CO<sub>2</sub> in a year as a car produces (<http://www.listfied.com/12-amazing-facts-about-trees-did-you-know>)

### **Nourishing the Environment**

- Besides all the CO<sub>2</sub> that trees remove from the environment, they also reduce urban runoff and erosion by storing water and breaking the force of rain as it falls (<http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/macucf/toolkit/StatisticsSheet.pdf>)
- Trees also improve water quality by slowing and filtering rain water (Odwalla web site)
  - In fact 100 mature trees can reduce runoff caused by rainfall up to 100,000 gallons ([http://www.mortonarb.org/res/Press2008\\_BenefitsTrees.pdf](http://www.mortonarb.org/res/Press2008_BenefitsTrees.pdf))
- Each average-sized tree provides an estimated \$7 savings in annual environmental benefits, including energy conservation and reduced pollution
  - \$7 may not seem like a lot, but there are over an estimated 1.2 billion trees in the US (<http://www.savatree.com/tree-facts.html>)

### **Increasing Efficiency**

- Trees provide shade and shelter, reducing yearly heating and cooling costs by \$2.1 billion (Odwalla web site)
- In the winter, trees can act as windbreaks for homes and can reduce heating costs by as much as 25 percent (<http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/macucf/toolkit/StatisticsSheet.pdf>).
- Three trees planted in the right place around buildings can cut air-conditioning costs up to 50 percent. The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day (<http://www.arboday.org/trees/Benefits.cfm>).

### **Impacting Your Pocketbook**

- Trees increase the value of property (<http://www.listfied.com/12-amazing-facts-about-trees-did-you-know>). Houses surrounded by trees sell for 18-25 percent higher than houses with no trees and trees can contribute as much as 27 percent of the appraised land value in certain markets ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raleigh,\\_North\\_Carolina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raleigh,_North_Carolina)).
- Trees generate jobs and contribute raw materials for buildings, newspapers, books and more than 15,000 other forest products (<http://www.zapworld.com/10-facts-trees-help-save-environment>).

### **Not Just For The Birds**

- *Paper:* The average American uses about 750 pounds of paper every year, and 95 percent of homes are built using wood. That means each person uses the equivalent of one 100 foot tall, 16 inch diameter tree every year for their paper and wood product needs (<http://www.savatree.com/tree-facts.html>).
- *Relaxation:* Trees in the landscape relax people, lower heart rates, reduce stress and make people feel good. In fact, they also increase productivity at work, as workers are more productive when they see trees along their commute routes and from their office windows. (<http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/macucf/toolkit/StatisticsSheet.pdf>).
- *Peace and Quiet:* In some cases, a well planted group of trees can reduce noise pollution by up to 10 decibels (New Jersey Forest Service).

**Thanks to participants in the 2008 Plant a Tree program, Odwalla donated more than 60,000 trees to state parks around the country.**