

What



What We Do:

TreePeople works through grassroots community organizing and government collaboration to create a climate-ready Los Angeles with equitable tree canopy and local water supply.

When



1970 Andy Lipkis (age 15) starts planting trees in San Bernardino Forest



1973 TreePeople incorporates!



1977 TreePeople moves into Coldwater Canyon Park



1984 TreePeople launches our Million Trees Campaign



1986 Citizen Forester program is born



1997 Generation Earth Program starts at TreePeople



2004 Sun Valley Watershed Plan is adopted



2008 Center for Community Forestry opens



2013 TreePeople celebrates our 40th anniversary



2014 TreePeople Drought Emergency Delegation goes to Australia



2015 TreePeople joins the CA Environmental Literacy Task Force



2016 #LAsstormcatcher Pilot Project is live and capturing rain on residential properties



TREEPEOPLE

Fact Sheet 2017

Where



Location:

45 acre Coldwater Canyon Park, a City of LA Park and site of TreePeople Center for Community Forestry.



Geographic Scope:

The County of Los Angeles, includes more than 4,000 square miles and 10 million residents, or nearly 30% of California's state population.

Who

Andy Lipkis

Founder and President

16,000

Elementary students participated in Eco-tours in 2016

Cindy Montañez

CEO

222,695

Students impacted by on campus service learning projects

21

Board Members

57

Employees

52

EcoClubs Active and Supported in 2016

180

Schools involved

444,000+

Park visitors per year

HOW

Forestry:

3,724 volunteers at 234 events

65 new volunteer supervisors trained

1,546 trees planted in the Santa Monica Mountains, Angeles National Forest and urban neighborhoods

500 fruit trees distributed in low-income neighborhoods

3,128 native vegetation planted and cared for

4,811 trees cared for across LA

Stormwater captured in our cistern 190,000 gallons

Over 2,000 lbs tons of debris removed from local mountains

Number of volunteer events 234

Policy & Research:

TreePeople and NRDC promote plans to capture rainwater in Los Angeles and beyond

The Rainwater Capture Revolution continues as TreePeople and the Greater LA Water Collaborative uncover full potential of Countywide residential rainwater harvesting

Lawsuit settlement invests \$1.2 million with TreePeople to create rain gardens and drought-tolerant landscapes in high climate-risk neighborhoods.

City Sidewalk Trees Saved by TreePeople and partners as LA City Council passes policies to protect trees and grow LA's urban forest as sidewalk repairs roll out.

TreePeople helped pass Measure M (Transportation) and Measure A (Parks) to ensure a greener and more eco-conscious future for all Angelenos!

Why

To breathe easy: According to the American Lung Association, LA ranks among the worst cities in the country for air pollution. Trees absorb pollutants and filter particulates out of the air.

To reduce water waste, pollution and flood risk: For every inch of rain, LA flushes 3.8 billion gallons of water into the ocean! Runoff carries trash, toxic chemicals and bacteria that pollute our oceans, putting wildlife and people at risk. Nature-based solutions like trees, rain gardens and rain tanks reduce pollution, replenish groundwater and protect us from flooding.

For climate change readiness:

Climate change will impact the sick, the elderly, communities of color, children and lower-income neighborhoods most. We have a responsibility to leverage the power of trees, water and people to protect our most vulnerable communities. It's our vision for LA to have at least 25% equitably-distributed tree canopy cover to keep people healthy and safe.

For sustainable local water:

Did you know the energy it takes to import water to LA is the single largest use of electricity in California? We import nearly 89% of our water and use 50% of it for outdoor irrigation. That's why TreePeople is working with government, businesses and schools to capture local rainwater and radically reshape LA's dependence on imported water.

To keep our communities healthy:

People who live in neighborhoods with fewer trees suffer from higher rates of diabetes, obesity, asthma, learning disabilities and depression and are at higher risk for heat-related health problems that can lead to death.