Los Angeles trees under attack

Anti-tree group out to “Save Our Concrete”

LOS ANGELES, Calif.– As if the drought weren’t taking enough of a toll, the trees of Los Angeles have a new enemy: Save Our Concrete, an anti-tree group, is protesting the planting of new trees across the city. Believing trees hinder growth and city infrastructure in Los Angeles, Save Our Concrete is organizing protests against trees in various urban locations across the county.

“Trees are dangerous, bringing unpredictable growth and wildlife to our cities. They simply aren’t doing Los Angeles any good. I moved here to have fun in the sun! But these people keep trying to create more shade with their darned trees. And all the birds in them, with all that chirping and tweeting?! How do you expect anyone to get a decent nap with all that going on? It’s destroying the laid-back Southern California lifestyle we all want,” said SOC member Todd Stevens during a protest yesterday in
a downtown parking lot slated for concrete and asphalt removal to make way for landscaping and trees. “Concrete is hard and tough - and it pretty much lasts forever. Now that’s sustainability!”

TreePeople, an environmental, nonprofit organization with a mission to make LA even greener has issued a statement, “We urge people to seek out concrete wherever they find it in our city and counteract it with the best solution there is: planting and caring for trees,” says TreePeople Founder and President Andy Lipkis. “This is why Save Our Concrete has stated that trees are the enemy. Because they know that once people understand that bringing nature back to cities means we can have more water, cleaner air, and cooler temperatures, the more we’ll want concrete to go.”

Lipkis adds, “Trees are a big solution for our water crisis.” Asking Angelenos to use precious water to keep trees alive pays off amply, Lipkis says, “They capture, clean and store water in their root zones. In this fourth year of drought, you decide. I hope you’ll agree that un-paving paradise makes sense, even if it means losing some parking lots.”

Save Our Concrete is recruiting additional protestors, with reports that they’re busing in “Cement Heads” and “Concrete Huggers” from other parts of the country. TreePeople urges Angelenos to speak out and pledge their support to a tree-friendly, sustainable community.

Protest footage can be seen at www.treepeople.org. Rumor has it that famed director, writer and producer David Zucker (Airplane! among others), was seen handing out placards and wielding a camera on the scene.

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TreePeople is a nonprofit organization that is growing a green and climate-resilient Los Angeles, one with enough tree canopy, healthy soil, and clean local water in even our most urban neighborhoods. We work with communities to transform LA’s landscapes into living, healthy watersheds: in homes, neighborhoods and schools, in our local mountains and at our 45-acre park. We also have deep roots working with policymakers to demonstrate new green and viable infrastructure solutions for a sustainable city.