
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT: Daniel Berlant
Information Officer
(916) 651-FIRE (3473)

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California Arbor Week Announced

Sacramento – For the first time since 1872, when the first Arbor Day was celebrated in the United States, California will dedicate an entire week to Arbor Day. This year CAL FIRE and California ReLeaf would like cities, counties, schools, teachers, and communities to get involved and celebrate March 7-14, 2011 as Arbor Week. The official California Arbor Day coincides with Luther Burbank’s birthday on March 7th.

The geographic diversity, climate and ever-growing concern for the environment have launched the spirit of Arbor Week. In recognition of the many benefits trees provide, the goals of Arbor Week are:

- To educate people about trees
- To encourage tree planting
- To teach elementary school children the environmental, social, and economic benefits of trees.
- To protect our valuable natural resources

“Tree’s offer so many more benefits then what we see,” said CAL FIRE Deputy Director Bill Snyder. “Their importance to the environment, climate, economy and the overall well-being of humanity is critical.”

As part of the Arbor Week activities, a poster contest is open to California students in 3rd-5th grades. Curriculum follows national standards and will help teach children about how trees help our communities. This year’s theme is “Trees Are Worth It!” Posters must be submitted to the California ReLeaf program by February 1, 2011.

The curriculum and rules for our statewide Arbor Week poster contest are available online at [2011 California Arbor Week Poster Contest Lesson Plans & Contest Rules](#).

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