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Contact: Katie Neis, (o) 360-487-8327 (m) 509-991-3665  
KatieN@FriendsofTrees.org

## Community Volunteers & Homeowners to Plant 122 Trees in 12 Vancouver Neighborhoods on Saturday, Feb. 25

VANCOUVER, WA - Feb. 23, 2012 – Vancouver City Councilman Larry Smith will join homeowners and other [Friends of Trees](#) volunteers to plant 122 trees in a dozen Vancouver neighborhoods on Saturday, Feb. 25. The planting begins at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 426 East Plain Blvd, with hot drinks and breakfast treats at 8:45 am followed by a rally at 9:00 am. Planting teams will disperse to plant throughout the neighborhoods from 9:15 am to 12:00 noon.

Saturday's planting volunteers will add trees to the following neighborhoods: Arnada, Carter Park, Edgewood Park, Fourth Plain Village, Fruit Valley, Harney Heights, Hough, Lincoln, Northwest, Rose Village, Shumway and Hudson's Bay.

Members of the local Lions Club will join Saturday's planting as part of a challenge from [Lions Club International](#) to plant one million trees across the globe in 2011-12. In addition, local Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops and Evergreen High School Key Club members will help plant trees. All of the volunteers are invited to a potluck lunch at St. Luke's Episcopal Church after the planting.

Friends of Trees will host a tree planting in the following nine neighborhoods on March 17, 2012: Airport Green, Burnt Bridge Creek, Countryside Woods, First Place, Image, Landover-Sharmel, North Image, Parkside and Parkway East.

A Feb. 15, 2012 story in *The Columbian* described the benefits of city trees identified by former Vancouver urban forestry commissioner and longtime Friends of Trees volunteer Erika Johnson: "In the summer, they provide ample shade. In the fall, they bring warm colors. ... The trees along the roadways are known to slow traffic because they narrow a driver's field of vision. Also, mature trees on private property increase the value of the home because of their aesthetics."

Other benefits that "grow" on trees include cleaner water as trees reduce stormwater runoff into the Columbia River, better health for city residents, and energy conservation for businesses and homeowners.

Friends of Trees is grateful to Saturday's planting sponsor, [NW Natural](#), and to [Vancouver Urban Forestry](#), whose partnership makes it possible for Friends of Trees to offer trees to Vancouver homeowners for only \$50, including delivery, hole digging, stakes, planting assistance, and follow-up health checks.

Since 1989, Friends of Trees has brought volunteers together to plant trees in neighborhoods and restore green spaces. The nonprofit has planted more than 430,000 trees and native plants in the Portland-Vancouver and Eugene-Springfield areas. Learn more at [www.FriendsofTrees.org](http://www.FriendsofTrees.org).