



Leading Urban Forestry Since 1968

{ newsletter }



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CaUFC membership is the best way to protect our environment. Click the button above to join or renew today!

Thank you to our new/renewed members:

- Robert Sartain
- [The University of California San Diego](#)



April 3, 2013

Hello Urban Forests Friends,

Here's what's happening in urban and community forestry:

- [Homage to the Blossoms](#)
- [Can Trees Talk and Hear?](#)
- [USDA "StrikeForce" Initiative to Boost Rural Economic Growth](#)

Thanks for all you do for urban forestry!



Sonali Shah - Communications Manager,
California Urban Forests Council

Homage to the Blossoms

It's that time of year when in California and around the country, our trees are springing to life—beautiful blossoms bless our cities. There are many fruit trees responsible for the flowers, but in this week's newsletter we pay special attention to cherry blossoms.



[Learn about the Yoshino and Kwanzan cherry trees varieties](#)

Ever wondered about the [history](#) of the cherry tree? In 1912, Japan gave 3,020 cherry blossom trees as a gift to the United States to celebrate the nations' then-growing friendship and to replacing an earlier gift of 2000 trees which had to be destroyed due to disease in 1910.

So enjoy the cherry blossoms and don't forget to practice "Hanami" - the centuries-old practice of picnicking under a blooming cherry tree!

Can Trees Talk and Hear?

Scientists first recognized in the 1960s that listening to leaves revealed the health of plants.



Recently, Monica Gagliano, a plant physiologist at the University of Western Australia in Crawley showed corn seedling's roots lean toward a 220-Hertz purr, and the roots emit clicks of a similar tune. [Read more.](#)

Gagliano said: "We have identified that plants respond to sound and they make their own sounds."

[See what's happening at our 7 Regional Councils](#)



Learn more about the [Invest From the Ground Up](#) campaign - Growing Trees Makes Great Neighborhoods!



About US

California Urban Forests Council is the nation's oldest urban forest council...sustaining and expanding California's urban forests to make our communities healthier and stronger.

So what do we think the trees are saying? Well, we at CaUFC, think they are probably saying, "please take better care of us". We should listen to the trees!

Secretary Vilsack Launches USDA "StrikeForce" Initiative to Boost Rural Economic Growth and Opportunity

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced on March 26th that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will launch its "StrikeForce" initiative to increase partnership with rural communities and leverage community resources in targeted, persistent poverty areas.

- [See the Video](#)
- Fact Sheet: [StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity](#) (PDF, 455KB)

Press Release: [Secretary Vilsack Launches USDA "StrikeForce" Initiative to Boost Rural Economic Growth and Opportunity](#) (March 26, 2013)

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