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### **Goleta NeighborWoods Tree Planting**

*Sponsored by The Home Depot Foundation and Goleta Valley Beautiful*

Goleta, Calif. (September 22, 2009) – Goleta keeps getting greener thanks to Goleta Valley Beautiful's efforts to improve the area's health and livability through tree planting. The group's series of NeighborWoods projects are helping to revitalize Goleta's public housing complexes by beautifying the area and increasing energy efficiency.

### **The community improvement project will take place as follows:**

10/24/09 – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Positano Apartments, 11 Camino de Vida, Goleta.

On Saturday, October 24, more than 50 volunteers will plant 50 trees around the Positano Apartments complex. Joining Positano residents and volunteers from the wider Goleta community will be Team Depot associates from around the area. "We're thrilled that The Home Depot® shares our same local community values and is showing that through their involvement. The Home Depot's core values of "Giving Back and "Doing the Right Thing" are a perfect fit for the impact we're trying to make in this community," said Ken Knight, Executive Director of Goleta Valley Beautiful.

Martha Ozonoff, a board member of the Alliance for Community Trees in Washington, DC, will be in attendance to talk about the value of trees, connections between affordable housing and greening, and participate in the planting. Jonathan Saur, the District Representative for Congresswoman Lois Capps, and California State Assemblyman Pedro Nava will also attend and speak. Also invited are Goleta City Council members, Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara Executive Director Fred Lamont, city forestry professionals, and State Urban Forester John Melvin. This planting is the fourth event in Goleta Valley Beautiful's NeighborWoods initiative. Already this summer the group's volunteers have planted and maintained dozens of trees and vines at affordable housing sites throughout the region.

This campaign to make housing in Goleta healthier, greener, and more affordable through trees was made possible in part by a \$10,000 National NeighborWoods Grant from the Alliance for Community Trees and The Home Depot Foundation. Goleta Valley Beautiful is one of ten organizations nationwide that received this highly competitive challenge grant in support of urban forestry and affordable housing partnerships.

### **About Alliance for Community Trees**

Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is dedicated to improving the health and livability of cities by planting and caring for trees. With 160 grassroots affiliates in 40 states and Canada, ACT engages volunteers to take action to improve the environment where 80% of people live – in urban areas. ACT member organizations have planted and cared for 14.9 million trees in cities with help from 4.3 million volunteers. For more information, visit [www.actrees.org](http://www.actrees.org).

### **About The Home Depot Foundation**

The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 to further the community building goals of The Home Depot. The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to building affordable homes for working families that are healthy to live in and affordable to own. To make homes healthy and affordable, the Foundation encourages developers to incorporate responsible design and use durable and quality materials to ensure that homes are more energy and water efficient, have good indoor air quality, and provide a safe and healthy space to live. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted \$120 million to nonprofit organizations and supported the development of more than 65,000 affordable, healthy homes. For more information, visit [www.homedepotfoundation.org](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org).

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