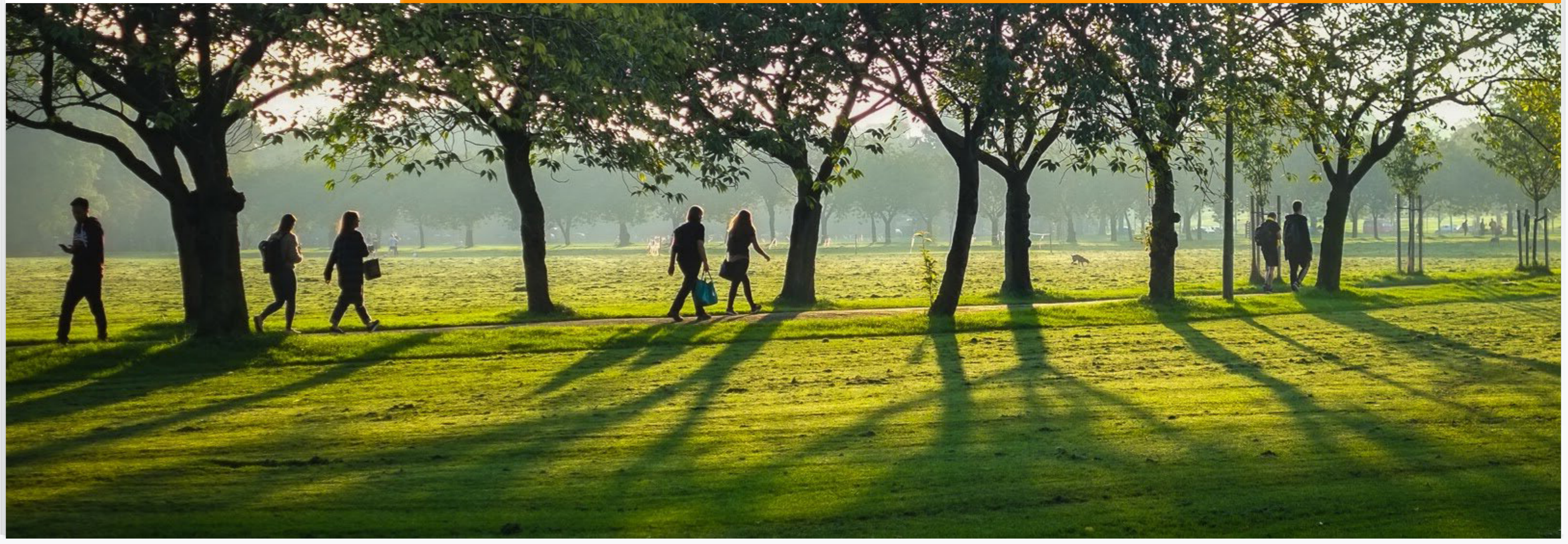


- Ten Thousand Trees**
A call to action to increase Petaluma's shade canopy by 10%
- The Climate Emergency demands solutions now.**
• Trees are proven to help absorb greenhouse gas emissions and heat.
• Native Trees are more drought and fire resistant and create biodiversity.
• Canopy Trees have many other benefits like slowing traffic, reducing toxins in air and water, aiding mental health, and even reducing crime.
We must preserve our trees, and plant many more!
- Fire threat is increasing, but:**
• CalFire is testing oak savannah fire buffers around cities.
• Controlled burn under oaks appears to protect, even in fire advance.
• Our native oaks perform well in forest fires.
• We can plan ahead and factor in town perimeter planting with native oak savannah, with multiple benefits.
• Throughout our city, we need the right species in the right places for a healthy, spaced, safe urban forest.
- Petaluma's heat islands and unprotected Highway 101 exposure are bad for our health and disproportionately affect our less fortunate. Yet we are losing large numbers of our big shade trees—our canopy. We must preserve our trees!**
- Why Do We Need More Trees?**
Petaluma's canopy coverage is more like Richmond's and Vallejo's than Sonoma, Napa's or San Rafael's.
Trees can reduce temperatures by up to 35 degrees!
Source: Urban Forest Atlas, July 2021
- Our city's trees—our urban forest—is a multi-million dollar asset.**
National Geographic, July 2021: Wealthy neighborhoods are shady and cool, with average 40% tree canopy coverage.
USDA 2018 Urban Tree Canopy Survey: Petaluma has sparse tree canopy, mostly 15-24%.
Petaluma's Southeast quadrant is 0-15%! Yet Petaluma just lost 900 big redwoods", equal to 20,000 new 1" trees. (Estimated 20' diameter)
- How can we expand the canopy 10%, or 10,000 trees?**
• Commit with staff, funds, and laws.
• Preserve existing canopy.
• Partner across agencies and with other organizations.
• Set targets and monitoring.
• Act. Hurry carefully.
- Parks and Other Public Lands**
• "Reforest" large sections of parks with smaller trees, adding no-mow zones
• Add tree bump-outs to streets
• Rethink and enable more reclaimed water delivery
• Plant resilient natives
• Interplant carefully among existing trees
• Outreach to county for planting roadside row's
- Schools**
Possible ways to facilitate:
• Start now 1-2 dozen new trees each. 18 schools
• Aim for 30 new trees per school average in 3 yrs.
• Engage students in placing trees in their own yards to the credit of their school



Ten Thousand Trees

A call to action to increase Petaluma's shade canopy by 10%



ReLeaf Pet is a non-prof 90% volunteer group formed to plant and steward shade-producing native trees and large shrubs in Petaluma for environmental health. This slide show was first show to a number of our city commissions and sent to City Council last fall: "Ten Thousand Trees: A Call to Action" Today I will update it with our progress since that time.