URBAN TREE FACTS

"URBAN " is defined by the U.S. Department of Commerce as an area with a population of 2500 persons.

- The average 50-year-old tree has provided $57,000 worth of services. In urban downtown areas today, four trees are lost for every one planted (American Forestry Association, 1985) .

- Mature trees increase property value by 20% (Scroeder, et al, 1983: American Forestry Association; Anderson, Cordell, 1989).

- Three well-placed trees can reduce home utility cooling bills by 50% and wind-break trees reduce heating bills by 30% (American Forestry Association).

- Adding trees in San Fernando Valley could reduce the need for 2 standard power plants (Moll, 1988).

- It costs 1 cent/kWh to save energy by planting trees, 2 cents/kWh to save energy by making appliances more efficient, and 5 to 11 cents/kWh to produce more energy (Akbari, et al, 1988).

- The #1 most important variable in site selection along a street is the presence of mature trees over 10" in diameter (Journal of Arboriculture, Sept., 1983).

- A 100-foot-wide x 45-foot-tall mass of trees can reduce noise levels by 50% (Moll, 1989; U.S. Dept. of Energy).

- Patients with a view of trees & plants had shorter hospital stays and used fewer painkillers (Ulrich, Texas A&M University).

- Trees buffer hurricane winds and help prevent greater loss to structures (Frey, 1992).

- Trees help to remove SO_2 and NO, major components of acid rain and ozone pollution (Jenson, 1963; Roberts, 1986; Krause, Koomey, 1989; Dept. of Energy).

- The average city tree removes 13 to 48 pounds of CO_2 per year (American Forestry Association).

- Urban trees are 15 times more efficient in removing carbon dioxide than are forest trees (American Forestry Association, Global ReLeaf).

- It costs 10 cents/pound to remove CO_2 by improving auto emissions, and 1 cent/pound to remove it by planting trees (American Forestry Association, Global ReLeaf).

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