CALIFORNIA ReLEAF **Partners in Progress with** LA CONSERVATION CORPS

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) is one of 17 organizations statewide selected to receive funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which is being administered by California ReLeaf. LACC's mission is to provide at-risk young adults and school-aged youth with opportunities for success by providing them with job skills training, education and work experience with an emphasis on conservation and service projects that benefit the community.

The $500,000 grant for LACC's Nurturing Tomorrow's Urban Forest Through Job Training Today Program will assist this Los Angeles County non-profit in recruiting and training more than 20 young adults, ages 18 to 24, in how to plant and care for the urban forest. Corps members will plant 1,000 trees, primarily in some of Los Angeles' most disadvantaged and underserved neighborhoods, many of which Corps members call home. In addition, Corps members are building tree wells, providing corrective pruning and other maintenance, watering young trees and removing stakes from established trees.

Once Corps members have completed the program, they will receive job placement assistance from the LACC in the arboriculture and urban forestry industries.

Fast Facts for the LACC ARRA Grant

Jobs created: 21 **Jobs retained: 2**

Trees Planted: 1,000 **Trees Maintained: 8,941**

Job Hours Contributed to 2010 Work Force: 4,038

Lasting legacy: Once completed, this project will have provided critical training in the green jobs sector for young adults while also creating a healthier, cleaner, and more livable environment for both South Los Angeles residents and visitors.

"We're targeting areas that have the lowest canopy and also have the highest unemployment rates, poverty levels and high school dropouts -- not surprisingly, they coincide." – Dan Knapp, Deputy Director, Los Angeles Conservation Corps.