

Tree planting project needs volunteers

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Want to get your hands dirty?

A coalition of environmentalists is looking for thousands of volunteers to help plant at least 5,000 trees throughout Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside counties on Oct. 27 - including about 100 trees that will be planted along Pacific Avenue in San Pedro.

The Great Clean Air Tree Planting Project is so big it will make history, according to a group called United Voices for Healthier Communities.

Trees will be planted at parks, schools, along sidewalks, medians - and even in a few backyards.

The event is being coordinated by a large coalition of nurseries, arborists and environmentalists.

"Bringing so many organizations together for a single project is unique," said Andy Trotter, president of the California Urban Forest Council. "If individuals and families and schools work together with us, the air we breathe will be cleaner and healthier."

Boy Scouts, community groups, neighborhood councils and others will join in the effort, but more volunteers are needed since additional planting sites are still sought.

And if you're an individual home or business owner, you can also get in on the deal to plant trees on your own property.

For more information, go to www.unitedvoices.org.