

# Greening of the Grove

"The creation of a  
thousand forests is in  
one acorn."



Ralph Waldo Emerson

The faculty, staff, students, and parents of Oak Grove Lower Elementary invite you to participate in our efforts in "Greening the Grove". We are beginning a large scale effort to beautify our campus and we have identified several priorities.

## Priority 1: Trees

Our first priority is shade. It can be unmercifully hot on our playgrounds, so we want to plant as many shade trees around campus as possible. We have created several categories for giving (\$50, \$100, and \$250). Donors may select a specific type of tree from within each category, if they wish.\* Please note that the prices in each category are almost exactly what we will pay for the trees at wholesale (these are big trees!). Tree donors have the option of having a small sign placed by their tree with their child's name on it.

## Priority 2: Turf

We recognize that adopting a tree is an expensive venture, so we have created a smaller donation category so that all families can participate. Any donations under \$50 will be placed into our "Turf Fund". This fund will be used to establish grass and install irrigation at various places on campus. The first location for turf will be the P.E. Fields. The playground will be the next location, and then we will begin working around the building. Stormwater runoff and erosion is an issue on campus and this is the first step in alleviating that problem

## Priority 3: Teaching Gardens

We want to create several outdoor learning environments where our students can interact with nature. We have several themed gardens that we would like to see planted, including pollinator gardens, living fossils, a scent and texture garden, a rainbow garden, etc. These gardens are wonderful opportunities for tax-deductible corporate sponsorships. If you or your company would like to help sponsor a specific garden, please contact the main office or email Mike Davis at [Mike.Davis@usm.edu](mailto:Mike.Davis@usm.edu).

Please join us in Greening the Grove by adopting a tree or by donating to the "Turf Fund".