



The Japanese maples show their leaves as the freesia and woodland hyacinth fill the landscape surrounding the green grass.

Photo Cynthia Brian

We do know for certain that trees provide beauty while cleaning the air, combating climate change, and absorbing CO₂. They provide oxygen, keep us cool, prevent erosion, supply us with food, offer playtime for kids, and help us heal faster. Trees furnish us with wood for homes, furniture, and warmth while allowing wildlife to flourish and reside in their branches. An

area without trees feels arid, vulnerable and ugly.

Trees are our allies and they are definitely talking to us. Clear cutting and climate change will kill our trees and our forests. We need to plant trees to capture carbon and encourage kids of all ages to climb big trees. We need to acknowledge that global warming is real and that our trees are desperately warning us of

the disasters to come if we don't create a movement for change. We need to listen to our vegetation as their memories are living, long, and lasting.

We are all one interdependent, interconnected community. Stop. Look. Listen. Learn the language of trees and celebrate Earth Day with me.

... continued on next page

