

City Grazing

The Bay Area's goat grazing non-profit, based in San Francisco.

www.citygrazing.org

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Why Goat Grazing?

Goat grazing brings the power of nature to our cities; fighting fires, warming our hearts, creating healthy soil, supporting native plant life, taking CO² out of the air, and replenishing oxygen, all through fun-loving goats.

City Grazing's mission is one of sustainable land management and fire hazard reduction via goat grazing, to create healthier soil, fewer invasive species, increased populations of native California plants, pollution reduction, and significant environmental benefits at our grazing sites. How does goat grazing accomplish all that?

- **Healthier soil:** grazing creates compost directly onsite through the animals' digestive processes. This builds topsoil as they convert undesirable weeds and brush into immediately bio-available fertilizer, something no other landscaping effort can offer.
- **Saving the planet:** Annual grazing promotes healthy root growth for native perennial California plants, giving them the advantage over invasives. This also leads to carbon sequestration. Carbon sequestration is a formal term for healthy plants pulling unhealthy but abundant CO² out of the air and converting it into tiny, stable, carbon crystals in the soil through sugar emissions from those roots. Combine that with goats' lower methane production than other domesticated grazing animals, and it creates a clever way to fight climate change.
- **Fewer invasive species:** Many invasive species in California, such as pampas grass and thistle, spread vigorously via seeds. Goats have a resting body temperature of 103° F, which, combined with their rapid metabolism, leads to an eighty to ninety per cent seed sterilization rate for most species. Consequently, not only do goats eat the invasive plants there today, they reliably reduce the invasives that may grow in the future. String trimmers and brush blades just spread the seeds around. Other noxious and undesirable plants are also considerably reduced by targeted goat grazing, such as English Ivy, Cape Ivy, Himalayan blackberry, poison oak, fennel, scotch broom, and French broom, just to name a few.
- **Increased workplace safety:** Goats are native to mountain regions and are happy to climb rocky hillsides that require safety harnesses and extreme measures for humans to access. We can set perimeter fencing in places that are easy for us to get to and let the goats tackle the tough stuff.

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- Pollution reduction and waste diversion: This also creates one of the significant hidden environmental benefits of grazing, the removal from the waste stream of 40 to 60 cubic yards per acre of green waste, which would otherwise need to be composted offsite or end up in a landfill. This means fewer trucks on streets and fewer machines on hillsides, which equals fewer carbon emissions into our air and less noise pollution for all of us.

Grazing proceeds help City Grazing provide caring animal husbandry to our many goats and introduce new goats in need of a home to our herd in San Francisco. Our clients include UC San Francisco, UC Berkeley, the San Francisco Sheriff's Department, the Presidio Trust, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the University of San Francisco, and many HOAs, homeowners, and businesses throughout the Bay Area.

But we can't do it on grazing proceeds alone.

We need your help!

Donations and fundraising help us adopt, rehabilitate, and introduce goats to their new life as grazers. Some are dairy goats who reach the end of their milking career, some would otherwise be meat goats, and some are pets whose owners can no longer keep them. They all bringing joy to the hearts of many as they enter our grazing workforce. Donations also make it possible for us to upgrade our facility with rubber stable flooring to improve sanitation and goats' comfort, new systems of efficient hay feeders to minimize waste and help all goats have equal access to feed when they're at home. We are humbly grateful for your help making our corner of the planet a happier, healthier place full of goats! Please donate to help cover veterinary expenses and day-to-day maintenance and health care costs. Give big to help us expand our at-risk youth worker training program, to fund our long term goals for soil testing to further prove goats efficacy in carbon sequestration and seed sterilization, and to help us adopt more goats in need!

Please donate! www.citygrazing.org

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Paypal: goats@citygrazing.com