2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

2023

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Jessica Sanders
International Society of Arboriculture

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Beattra Wilson
Assistant Director for Urban
and Community Forestry
U.S. Forest Service

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Washington DC, 2023

How We Can Turn Urban Forestry into Tree Equity & Climate Justice

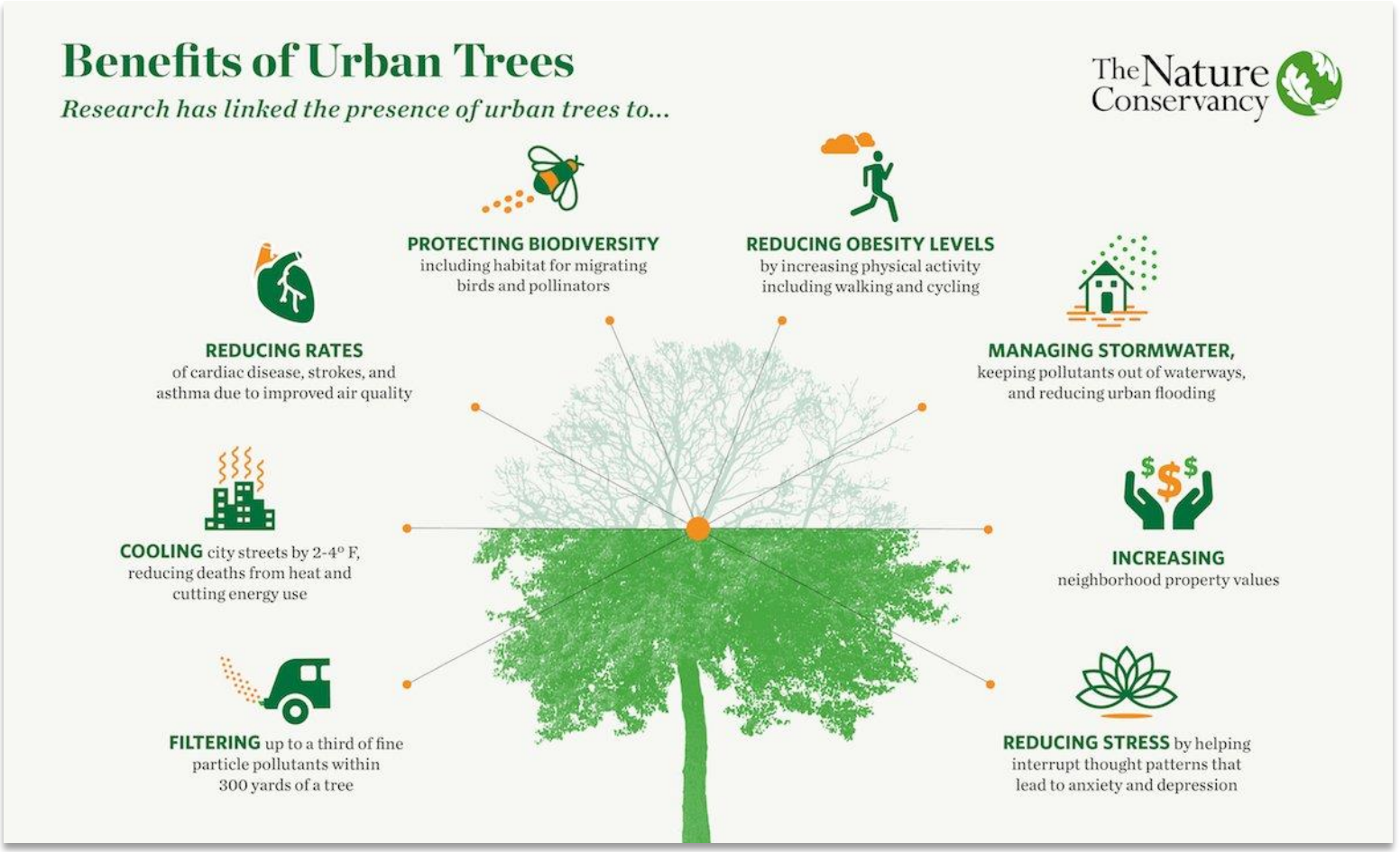
Presented by

Jad Daley

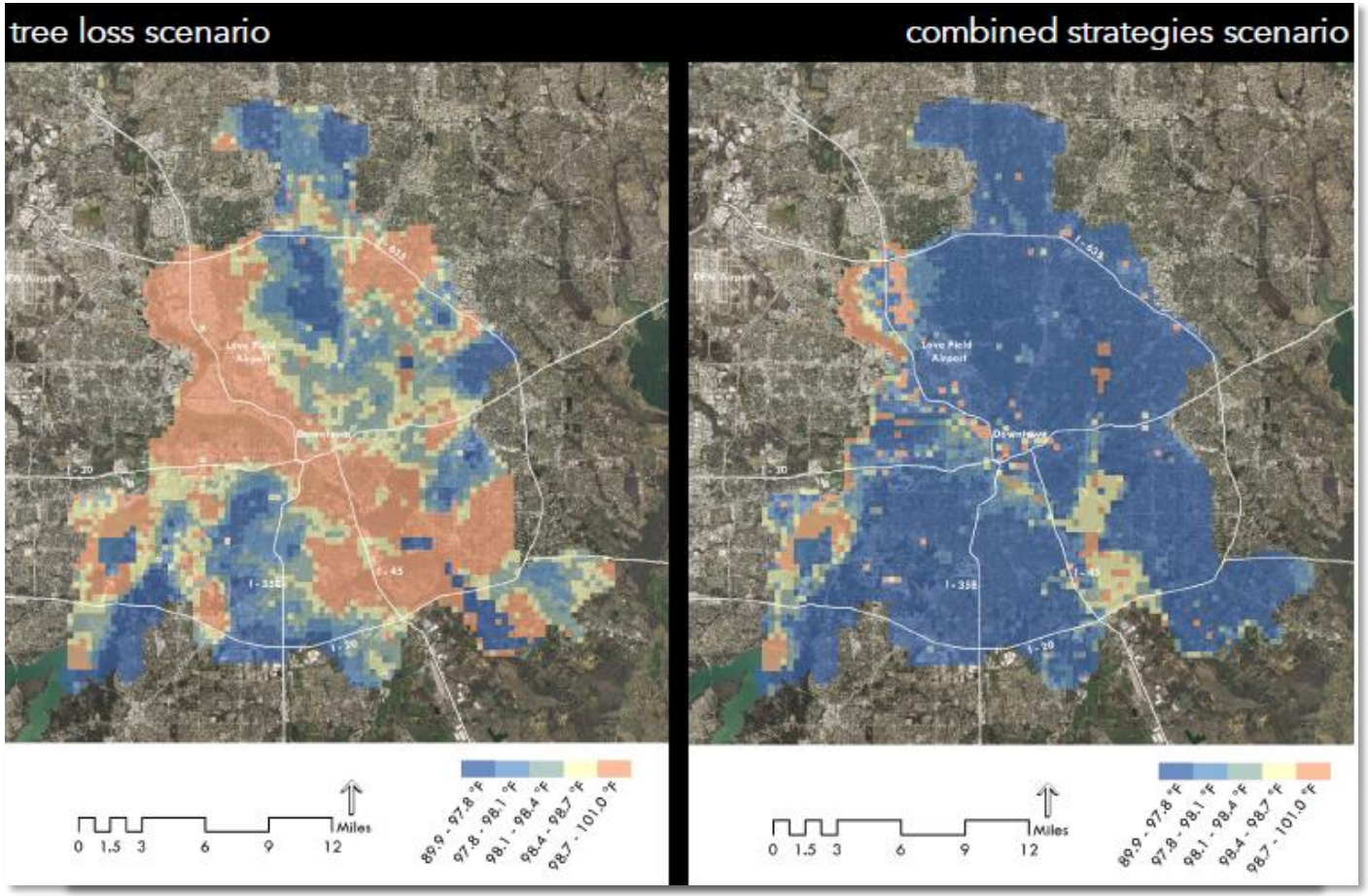
President and CEO

American Forests

Many Reasons Urban Forests Are Important



In Our Changing Climate, Natural Cooling Is a Life Saver



Heat Related Deaths: U.S. heat related deaths are >12,000 annually today and projected to be nearly 100,000 by 2030.

Heat Risk Is Not Equal: 12 percent of U.S. homes do not have air conditioning, and many more cannot afford to run it full-time or face barriers to energy access.

Efficacy: As one example, our study with Georgia Tech projects potential to reduce heat-related deaths in Dallas by 22% with tree cover gains.

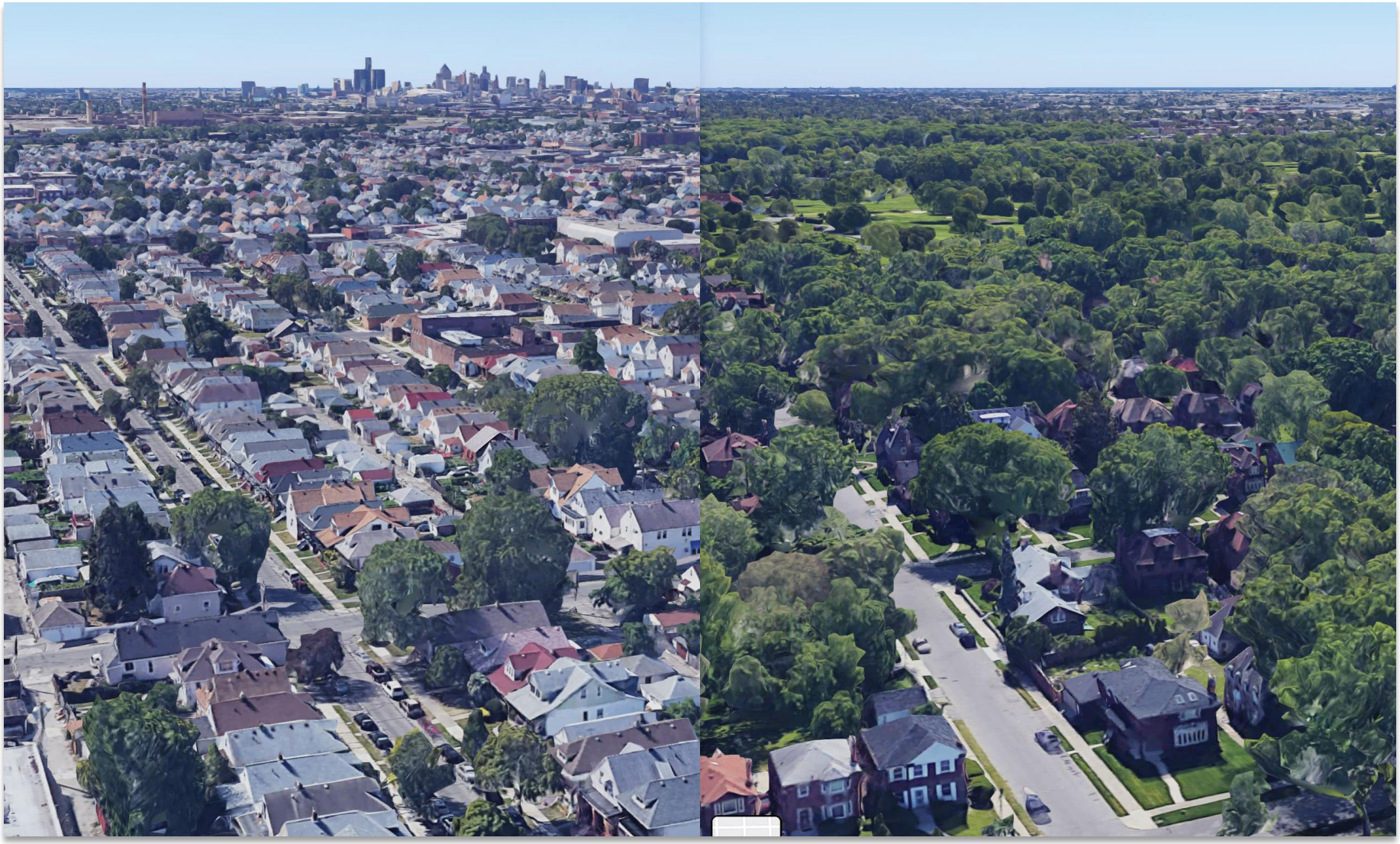
Carbon Negative and Cost-Effective Cooling

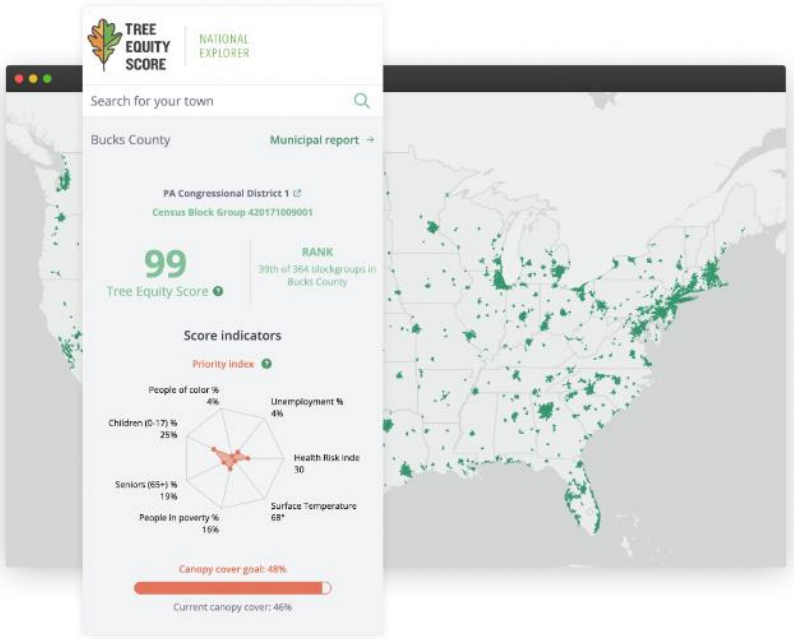
Sequestration: Trees in U.S. cities & towns capture nearly 130 Million Mt/CO2e/Year.

Energy Savings: Trees in U.S. cities & towns save 38.8 Million MWh & 246 MMBtus of energy use for heating and cooling.

While Also Lowering Air Pollution

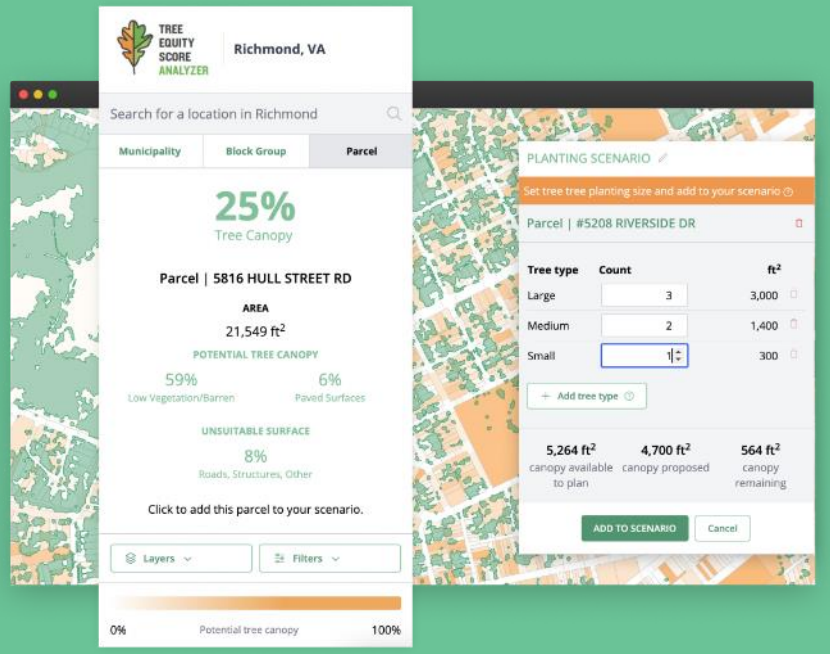
But Only If You Have Trees in Your Neighborhood…





Our flagship National Explorer makes Tree Equity Score available to all.

- Scores for 190,000+ urban block groups in the
- A national standard to support equity-first tree planting and investment.
- Neighborhood-level data; municipal and regional goal-setting.
- Communicate the positive impacts of trees.



Local Analyzers serve a single city or region to help users *shift* Tree Equity Scores.

- Data for all public and private properties.
- For each block group (neighborhood), set Tree Equity Score goals and estimate planting needs.
- Build property-level plans to shift scores. Track progress. Communicate the benefits of new and existing trees.
- Co-created with stakeholders; locally-tailored.

TREE EQUITY SCORE | National Explorer

detroit, mi

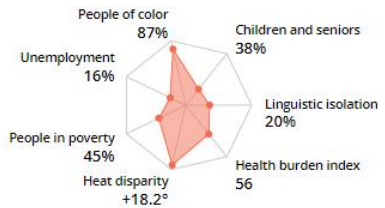
Census Block Group 261635240012
Population: 961
Detroit, MI
MI Congressional District 13

66
Tree Equity Score

Ranked 576th of 619 block groups in Detroit
Priority: HIGHEST

Current canopy cover: 11%
Canopy cover goal: 40%

Score indicators
Priority index



Layers | Filters

<70 — 100
Tree Equity Score

Get all block groups to a Tree Equity Score of 75

144 of 619 have a Tree Equity Score below 75

Drag to adjust target score

133,287 trees will be needed to get all block groups to a score of **75**. See the significant benefits to the community this will create.

Total canopy added
2.1%

Annual ecosystem service value
$1.1 million

Jobs supported
969

CARBON

Carbon sequestered
1,801,767.0
tons

Carbon sequestred equal to:
352,271
gas-powered cars offset

Carbon sequestered equal to:
205,861
homes' energy use offset

WATER

Stormwater runoff prevented
33.4
million gallons

Stormwater runoff equal to:
1,670
standard swimming pools

Rainfall intercepted
98.8
million gallons

AIR

Pm2.5 pollution removed
3,474.2
lbs

Pm2.5 pollution equal to:
1,601
gas-powered cars offset

Pm10* pollution removed
8.9
tons

Nitrogen dioxide removed
5.5
tons

Sulfur dioxide removed
9,156.4
lbs

Ozone removed
36.2
tons

American Forests

Our Tree Equity Program Model

Urban Wood

Tree Care

Tree Planting

Tree Nurseries

Tree Protection

Action Plan

Tree Equity Commitment

Data-Driven Priorities

Community Engagement

Inclusive Partnership

Critical Success Factor: When & How We Collaborate

Critical Success Factor: Climate & Health-Smart Forestry

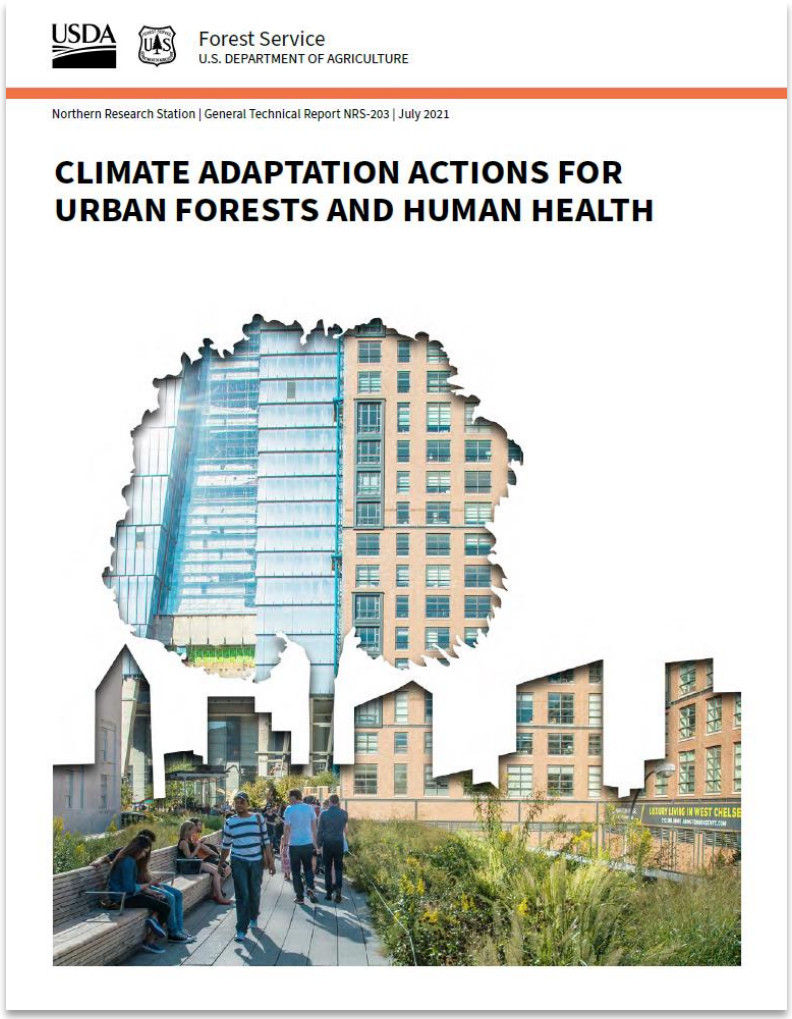


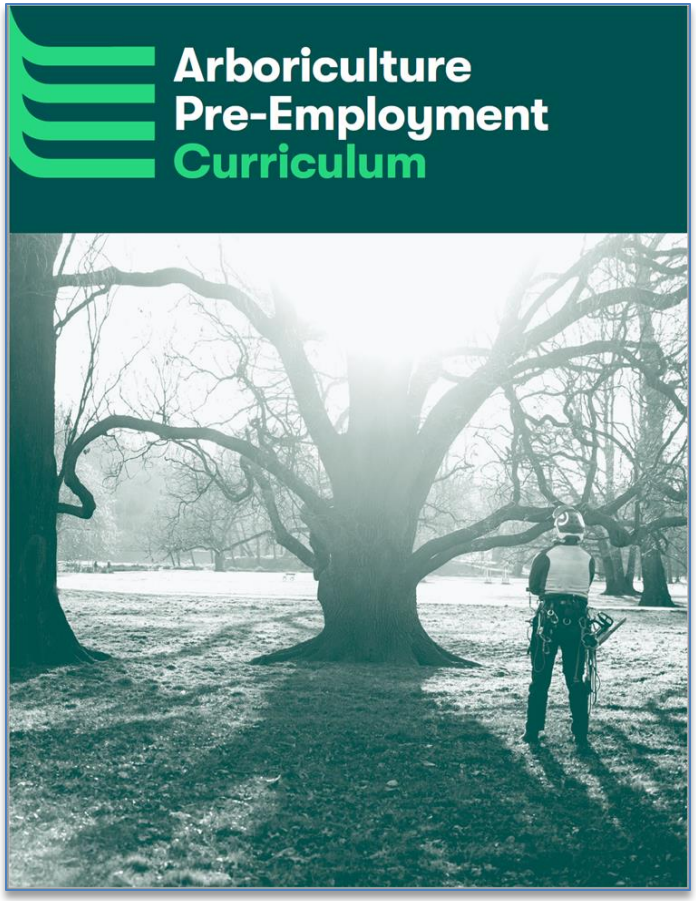
Table 5.—Tree species list developed to aid Rhode Island community forestry practitioners in selecting trees to reduce climate change vulnerability, reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and provide benefits to human health. It is meant to be a complement to other tree selection resources. Other factors may also need to be considered, such as aesthetics, local site conditions, wildlife value, or nursery availability. Some species may have climate and health benefits but may not be suitable for planting for other reasons, such as having invasive potential or susceptibility to pests or pathogens.

Scientific name	Common name	Climate vulnerability	Carbon benefit	Health benefit	Health disservices	Notes
Abies balsamea	Balsam fir	moderate-high	moderate	moderate-high	moderate	
Acer campestre	Hedge maple	low	low	low	moderate	can be invasive
Acer ginnala	Amur maple	moderate-high	low-moderate	moderate-high	moderate	can be invasive
Acer griseum	Paperbark maple	moderate	low	low-moderate	moderate-high	
Acer negundo	Boxelder	moderate-high	moderate	moderate	moderate	can be invasive
Acer rubrum	Red maple	moderate	high	high	moderate-high	
Acer saccharinum	Silver maple	moderate	moderate	moderate-high	moderate-high	
Acer saccharum	Sugar maple	low-moderate	moderate-high	high	moderate-high	
Acer tartaricum	Tatarian maple	moderate-high	n/a	n/a	moderate	
Acer truncatum	Shantung maple	low-moderate	low	low	moderate-high	
Acer x freemanii	Freeman maple	low-moderate	n/a	n/a	moderate	
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse chestnut	low-moderate	moderate-high	high	low	can be invasive

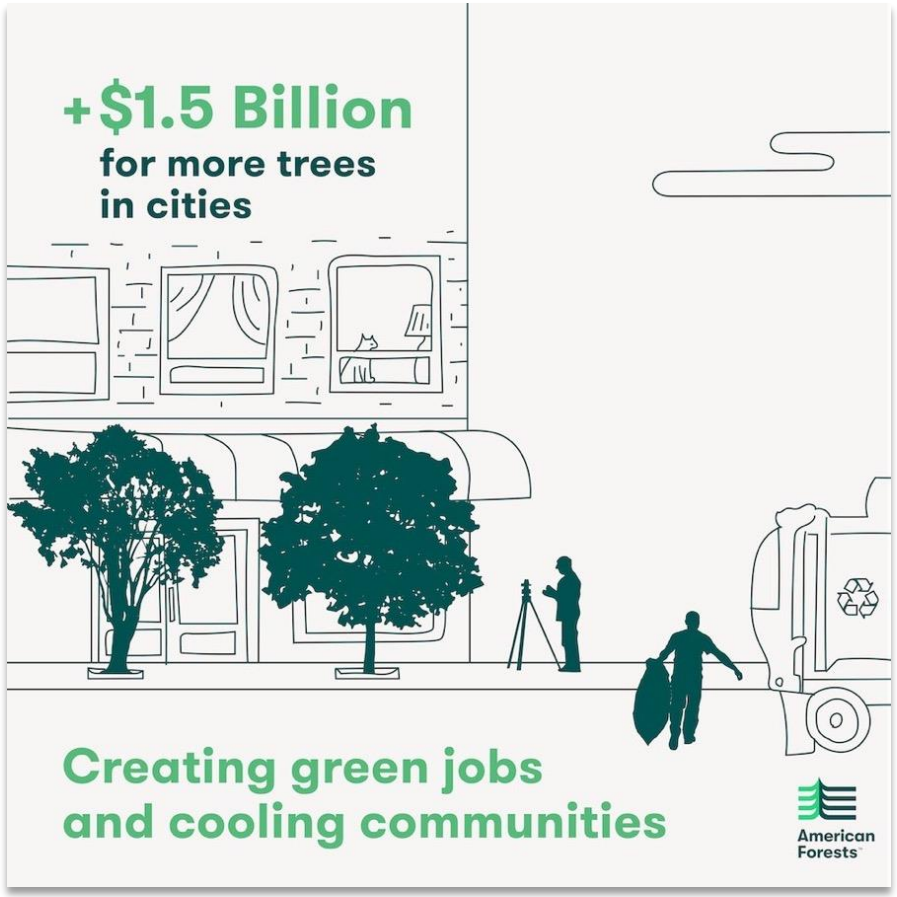
Critical Success Factor: Take an Intersectional Approach

Critical Success Factor: Career Pathways for Those in Need

By Removing Key Barriers to Career Opportunities



Critical Success Factor: Ask for Funding at Scale of Need



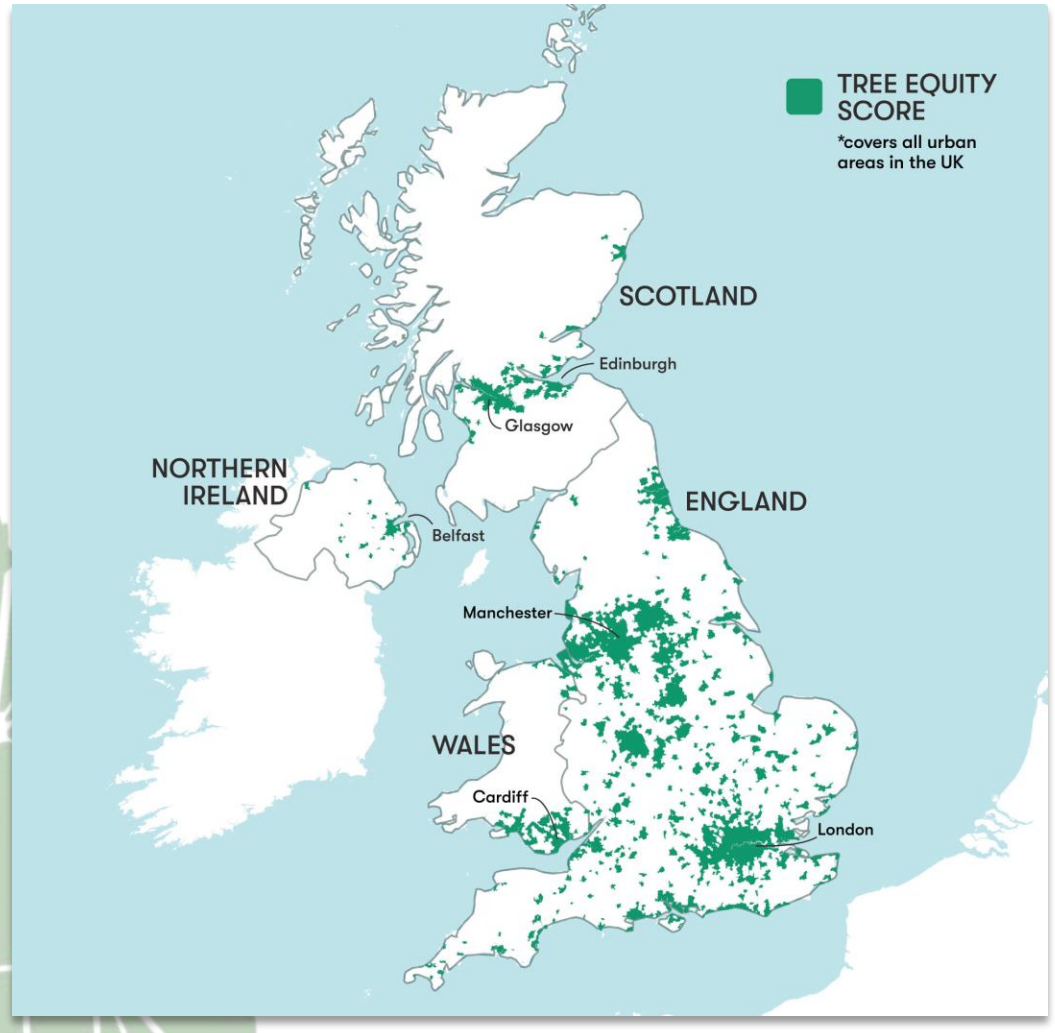
SZA
@sza

If u know me u know sustainability n climate justice MATTERS. Today I'm launching the #TAZOTreeCorps w @TAZO + @AmericanForests to plant trees in BIPOC communities hit hardest by climate change . Apply by 3/12 at bit.ly/TAZOTreeCorps - let's get more 🌲🌲🌲 in our cities !!🙏

9:15 AM · Feb 17, 2021


VIBRANT CITIES LAB
American Forests
RESEARCH, CASE STUDIES, GUIDES
URBAN FORESTRY TOOLKIT
RESOURCES
LOGIN
https://www.vibrantcitieslab.com/
Vibrant cities put people first to cultivate thriving trees and equitable urban forests that boost public health, safety, and sustainability.
MAKE THE CASE
Evidence keeps growing — see research data and real examples of the impact of trees.
MAKE IT HAPPEN
Get started in your own community with the Urban Forestry Toolkit.

We Need A Global Tree Equity Movement



Let's Learn & Innovate Together!

- Tree Equity Score is going global; You in?
- How we collaborate with our communities
- Next generation urban forestry
- Finding new intersectional solutions
- Opening new career pathways for those facing the highest barriers
- Public + private finance strategies
- **1t.org** offers a pathway to global collaboration

Thank you

Jad Daley | American Forests

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Arbor Day Foundation

POLITECNICO MILANO 1863

ISA

Smithsonian

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Memory Forests - Rooted in Racial Equity

Brenda Richardson

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Green Obsession: Trees Towards Cities, Humans Towards Forests

Stefano Boeri

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