

# i-Tree Open Academy Spring 2023

**Session 6: Putting i-Tree To Work** 

Using i-Tree data to help your canopy grow

April 25, 2023 1:00pm Eastern Time Davey Institute/USDA Forest Service













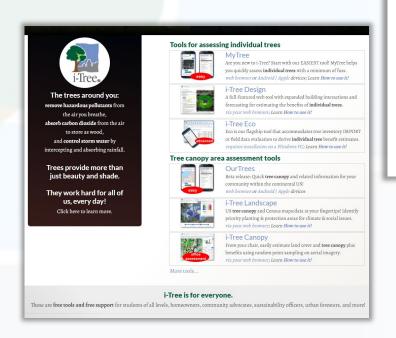




#### **Accessing the Science of Tree Benefits**

i-Tree

- www.itreetools.org
- Session 1-5 now online!
- Exercises available
- Use Chat for questions
- Certificates of completion available after Academy close



## i-Tree Open Academy - Spring 2023

#### What:

Join us for our newest learning series! The i-Tree Open Academy will provide a broad introduction to the i-Tree suite of tools. This is a virtual opportunity for anyone interested in better understanding the benefits of trees and exploring the latest i-Tree has to offer. There is no fee for the Academy, and we can accept the first 250 participants to each live session. Register by filling out the participant form.

#### Who

The intended audience is new i-Tree users or folks who haven't checked-in for a few years. The Academy will serve as a refresher and an introduction to the newest tools and features.

#### How:

All sessions will be streamed live via this Microsoft Teams link. Ensure you have the up-to-date session information by filling out the participant form. All sessions will be recorded and posted to this page as well as the i-Tree YouTube channel, so that you can catch up on anything you missed. There are no requirements for this course, and there will be self-directed exercises that you can use to gain experience using the tools. You are encouraged to submit any questions related to the course via info@itreetools.org, and there will be opportunities to ask questions during certain live sessions and office hours.

#### When:

Each asson is one hour long an offered at 1:00 pm (Eastern US time).

March 14th – Introduction to i-Tree. Understand the basic science of i-Tree and the USFS research behind it. Explore the relationships between the i-Tree tools and the data they provide. Start to consider which i-Tree tools will be best for the application you have in mind.

- Video recording
- Presenter slides
- o Self-directed exercise Session 1
- Q&A

March 21st - Online with MyTrach-Tree Design, and i-Tree Planting. Explore the easiest to use online i-Tree tools for individual trees. Get a

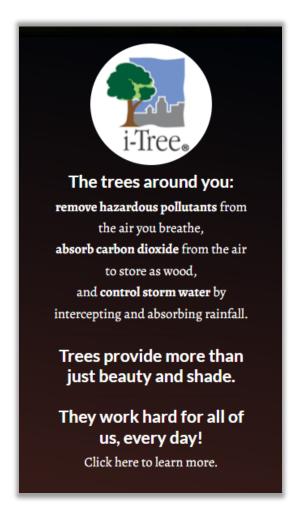
- Video recording (coming soon)
- Self-directed exercise Session 2
- March 28th The view from the top: i-Tree Canopy and OurTrees. You can't manage your forest resource unless you know what you have. Get
  an estimate of tree canopy cover for any area or monitor change with a few hours of image analysis. Or save your mouse clicks and see if a quick
  visit to OurTrees will get you what you need.

#### **Using i-Tree to Help Your Canopy Grow**



- **Education:** demonstrating value of trees and fostering stewardship
- Engagement: tree data for advocacy and connections
- Management and Opportunity: understanding what you have and how you want it to grow





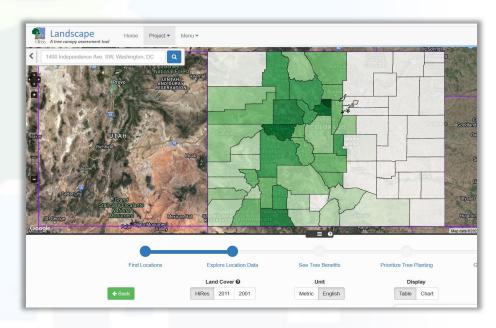




#### i-Tree for Community Engagement



- Free tools for anyone with a small budget
  - A little knowledge can go a long way
- Sharing tree science with folks who aren't tree scientists
  - Meeting your stakeholders where they are
- Using i-Tree for messaging beyond trees: equity, health and climate risk

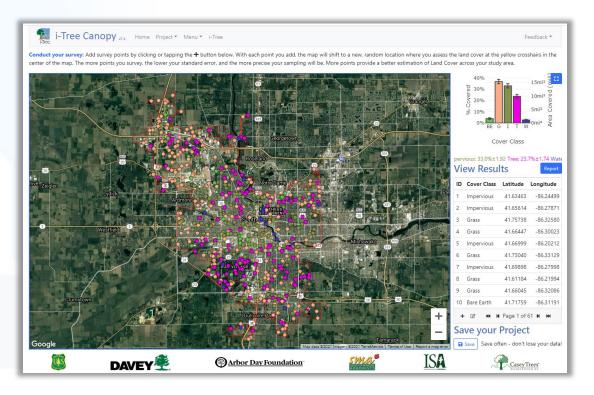




#### What does it mean to "Speak for the Trees"?



- Putting canopy in context
  - Trees co-exist with people, habitats, infrastructure
- Knowing more about the landscapes around us helps us understand the relationships between people and nature
- Visualizing the canopy in your community makes an instant connection:
  You Are Here!
- Assessing canopy alongside other meaningful data relating to risk, needs, and objectives can help us better manage tree benefits for the future



#### **Inform Community Decisions and City Priorities**





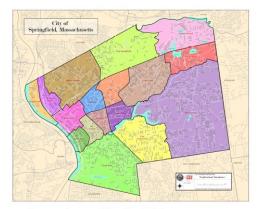


#### The Values of Urban Tree Canopy

Urban and community forests can be considered part of the "green infrastructure" that complements our grey infrastructure and should be managed with equal importance. Urban tree canopy assessments can help a community determine how much of their land

tershed, zoning or land use category, political oundary, neighborhood, business district, census tract or individual parcel. Results of analyses focus on specific community needs and provide a blueprint of available and unavailable

## i-Tree Canopy



#### Springfield Report March 2021

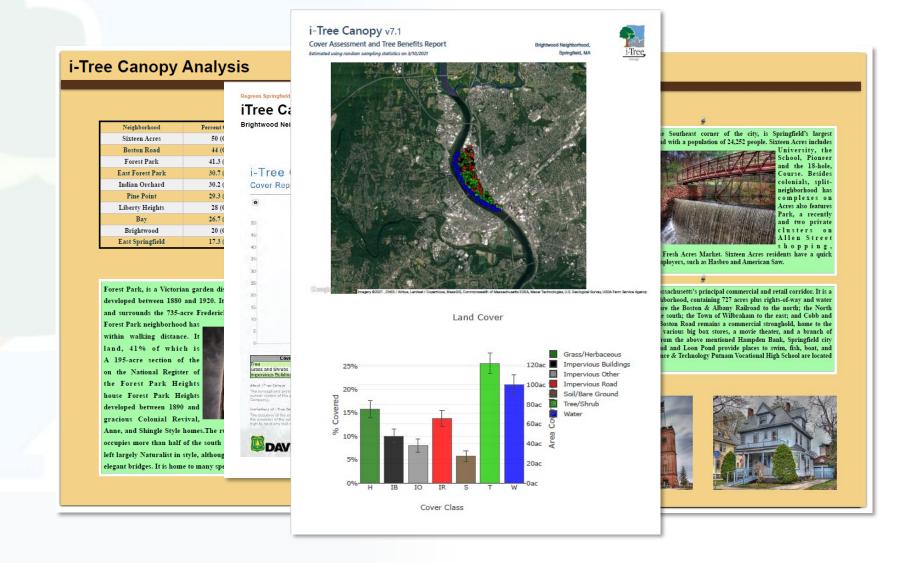
**ReGreen Springfield** 





#### **Highlight Benefits and Neighborhood Assets**

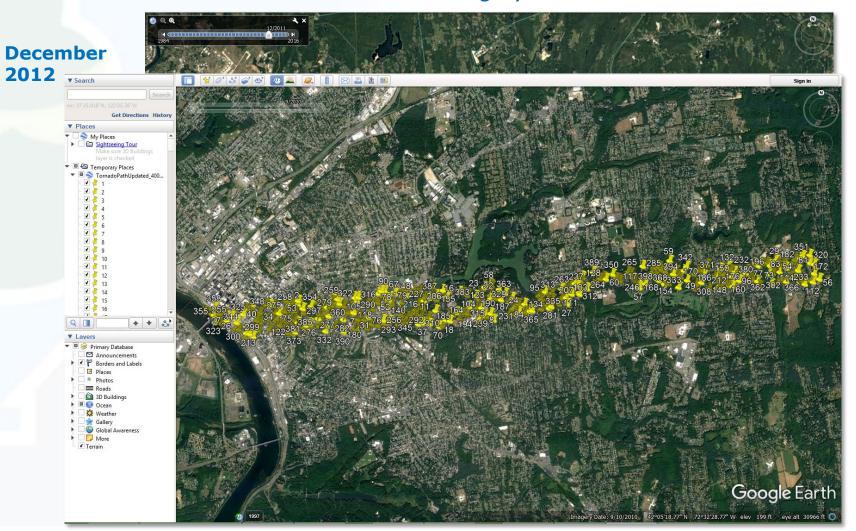




### **Monitoring Change, Progress, and Resilience**

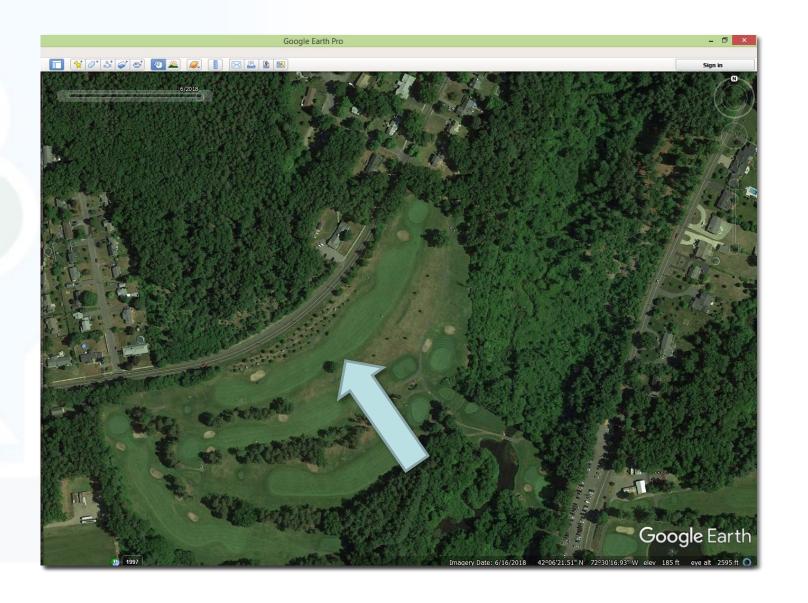


Western Massachusetts 2011 tornado visible in satellite imagery



#### **Veterans Memorial Golf Course**

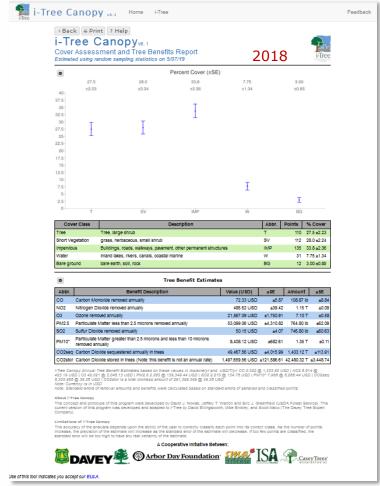




#### Follow-up Can Inform Project Success, Impact, and Future Needs







#### **Focus on Features That Matter to Your Neighborhood**



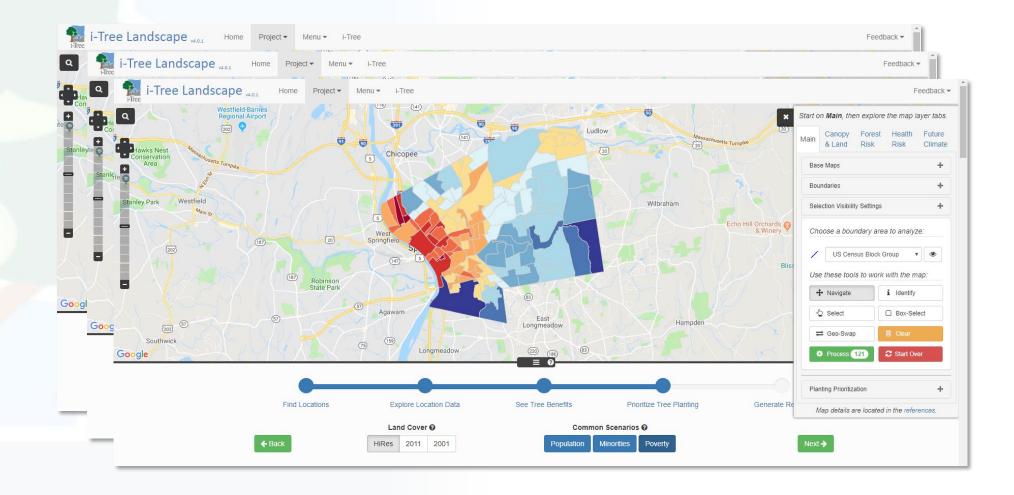
Distribution of resources and challenges



#### **Share What Priorities Might Look Like**



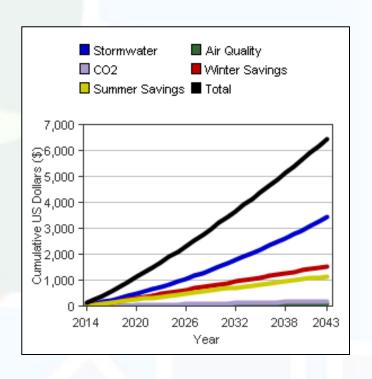
Targeting equity for canopy benefits and populations



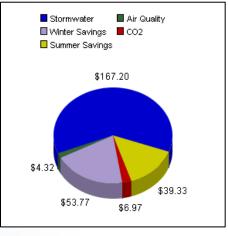
#### **Show Trees Are an Investment**

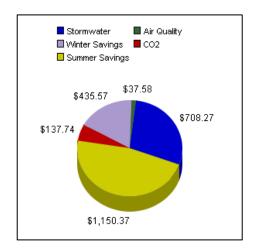


Sometimes money talks



**\$6,476** worth of benefits over the next 30 years ...and growing





Benefits in 2044 = **\$272** 

To date = \$2,470

#### **Advocate for Tree Care**



Highlight gems, suggestions for overall health and diversity















#### **Putting It All Together**

- What you know powers the way forward
  - What You Have, Where You Have It
- Unique needs and observations can be meaningful
  - Sharing with AND learning from communities
- Changes can drive conversations with communities and policy makers
  - Opportunities for engagement, stewardship, and resource management
- Strategies that can build resilience for both trees and neighborhoods

#### OAKS OF NORTH LAWNDALE

#### Community Roots That Grow On Trees

The ways that trees benefit a them and caring for them foster

health and environmental advantage: rees can have a positive impact on neighborhoods for generations.

installation, the Oaks of North Lawr

Improve air quality



neighbors, artists and educators at SAIC, a local tree nursery and gardeners, the North Lawndale Employment Netwo



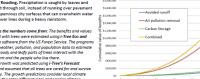


providing shade. Higher temperatures magnify health impacts. Increasing and protecting community tree

han the regional average.

rees in Douglas Park help

as wood. Carbon dioxide (CO2) is a greenhouse gas that through burning fossil fuels (coal, natural gas, and oil), solid waste, and fire wood, and also as a result of



along with the rates different sizes and species of trees

Trees improve public health by removing harmful air

respiratory health problems such as childhood asthma





### i-Tree and Funding

#### Why talk about funding?

- Trees aren't free
- Better data and science lead to better outcomes
- i-Tree can help

#### **Examples**

- Apply for funding
- Decide what to fund
- Make sure we fund the right things
- Ensure accountability



# USDA Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

#### SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Federal Awarding Agency Name:** U.S. Department of Agriculture – Forest Service (FS) Urban and Community Forestry Program.

Notice of Funding Opportunity Title: Inflation Reduction Act – Urban and Community Forestry

Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-FS-2023-UCF-IRA-01 Grants.gov <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/home.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/home.html</a>

Assistance Listing: This program is listed in the Assistance Listings on Sam.gov under 10.727 Inflation Reduction Act – Urban & Community Forestry

**SAM.gov Registration:** All applicants must have an active registration at sam.gov and maintain active registration throughout the life of the award. This is the government-wide web-based system that supports all contracts, grants, and the electronic payment system. This requirement for registration may be found at 2 CFR 25.200.

### i-Tree Canopy



The majority of Lancaster residents obtain their drinking water from the Conestoga and Susquehanna Rivers. The Conestoga River Watershed has the highest nutrient concentration of any watershed flowing into the Susquehanna River.

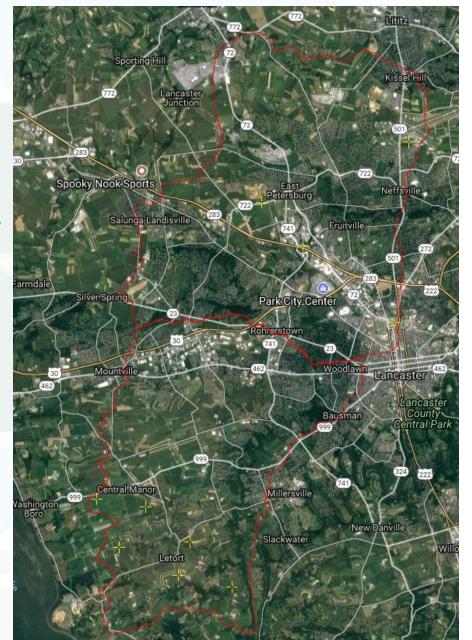




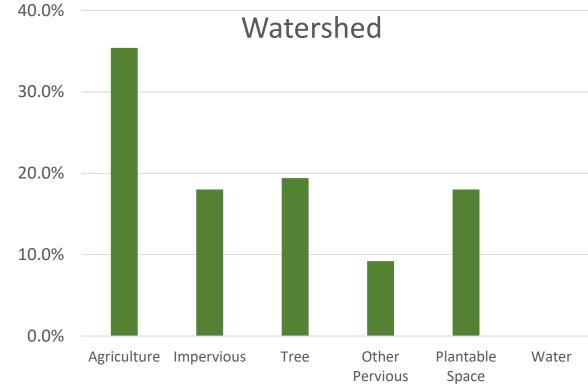


## i-Tree Canopy

Watershed 65.53 sq. mi.



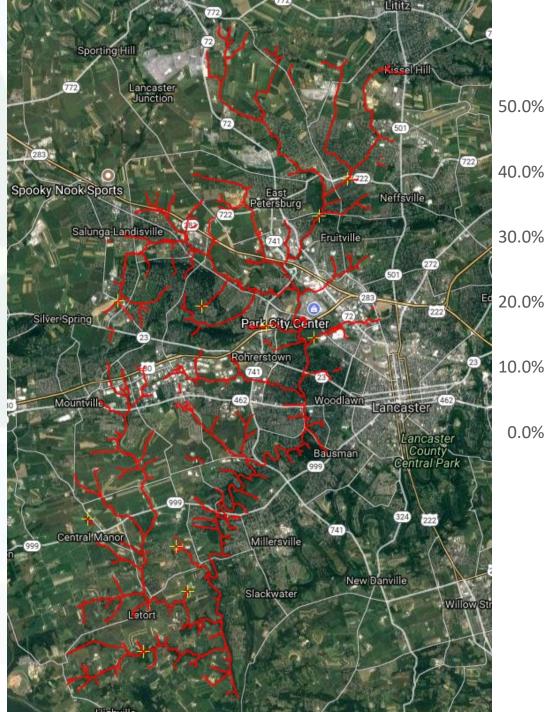




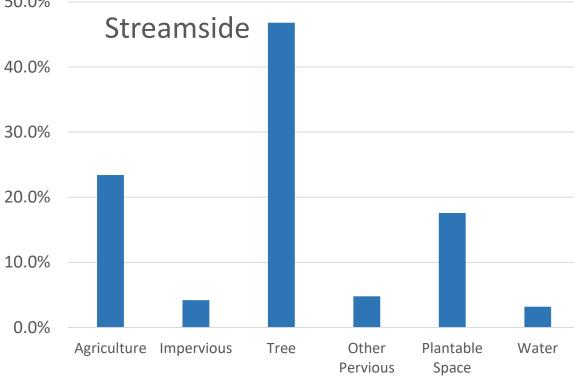
**419 acres** of new canopy needed to raise tree cover by **1%** 

## i-Tree Canopy

Streamside50ft buffer2.55 sq. mi.







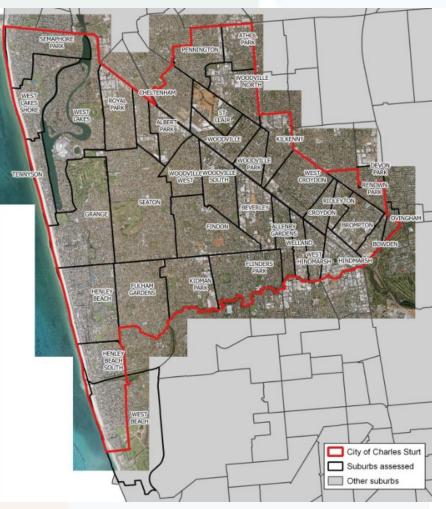
**16.3 acres** of new canopy needed to raise tree cover by **1%** 

## Tree Canopy Cover in the City of Charles Sturt





#### **Benchmark Assessment**



	Tree (canopy) o	over In	npervious c	over	Plantab	le space	cover
(a) Total city trends	15.51% 14.81%	55.25%	57.23%	60.16%	23.63%	21.14%	19.38%
(b) Private land trends	15.17%	57.62% 13.54%	60.71%	64.22%	24.91%	21.82%	20.05%
(c) Public land trends	16.24%	50.03%	49.58%	51.23%	20.80%	19.66%	17.92%
	1998 2008	2014 1998	2008	2014	1998	2008	2014

## i-Tree Canopy: Benchmarking and impact accounting

#### Benchmarking

- Identify the scope of the challenge
- Determine current direction
- Multipliers estimate the impact of change

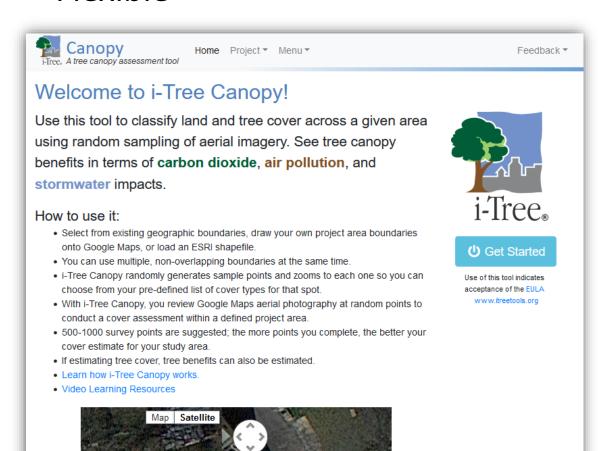
#### Accounting

- What has been the impact of your past work?
- Capture your success
- Adapt to new information

#### Why i-Tree Canopy?



- Fast
- Precise
- Up-to-date
- Flexible

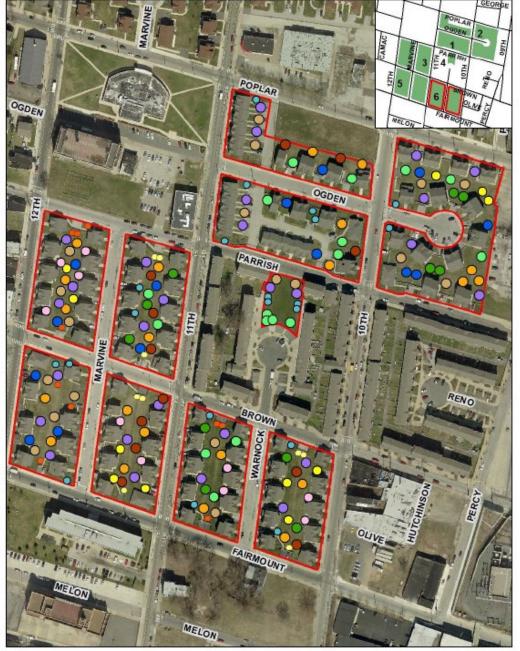




## i-Tree Planting



















## i-Tree Planting

i-Tree

Pennsylvania
Horticultural Society
planting for the
Philadelphia Housing

Energy Savings over the next 30 yrs

- **\$108,000** in winter
- **\$87,000** in summer



#### i-Tree Planting: The power of projections

#### **Projecting benefits**

i-Tree

Feedback •

- Small trees = small benefits
- Show project impact
- Include reasons of maintenance
- Evaluate species pallets

#### Why i-Tree Planting?

- Fast
- Ties directly into funding for planting
- Justification for your design
- Already accepted (CalFire, LEED certification)



Menu ▼

Project ▼

This tool helps you estimate the long-term environmental benefits from a tree planting project in terms of **carbon dioxide**, **air pollution**, **stormwater** impacts, and **energy savings**.

#### How to use it:

Planting

#### It is easy to get these estimates!

Enter groups of trees with the following:

Home

- Tree species
- · Size of trees at planting
- · Condition of the trees
- . The number of trees in the group
- · Project lifetime years

Optionally, you can enter more values to fine tune your estimates:

- · Distance and direction to the nearest building
- · Estimated mortality of the trees over the project lifetime
- Specific greenhouse gas values for your region

#### The following estimates are calculated in amounts and dollar values:

- · Carbon dioxide sequestered
- Carbon dioxide avoided due to reduction in building energy use
- · Energy conserved
- Air pollutants captured and avoided
- · Stormwater filtered
- Tree total biomass

#### i-Tree Landscape

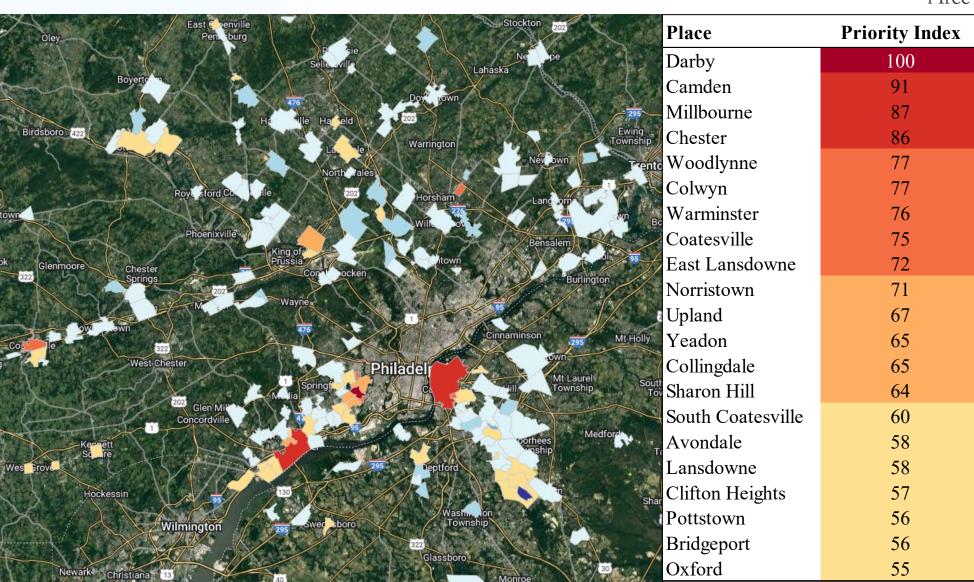






## Using i-Tree Landscape

To prioritize where tree planting is equitable

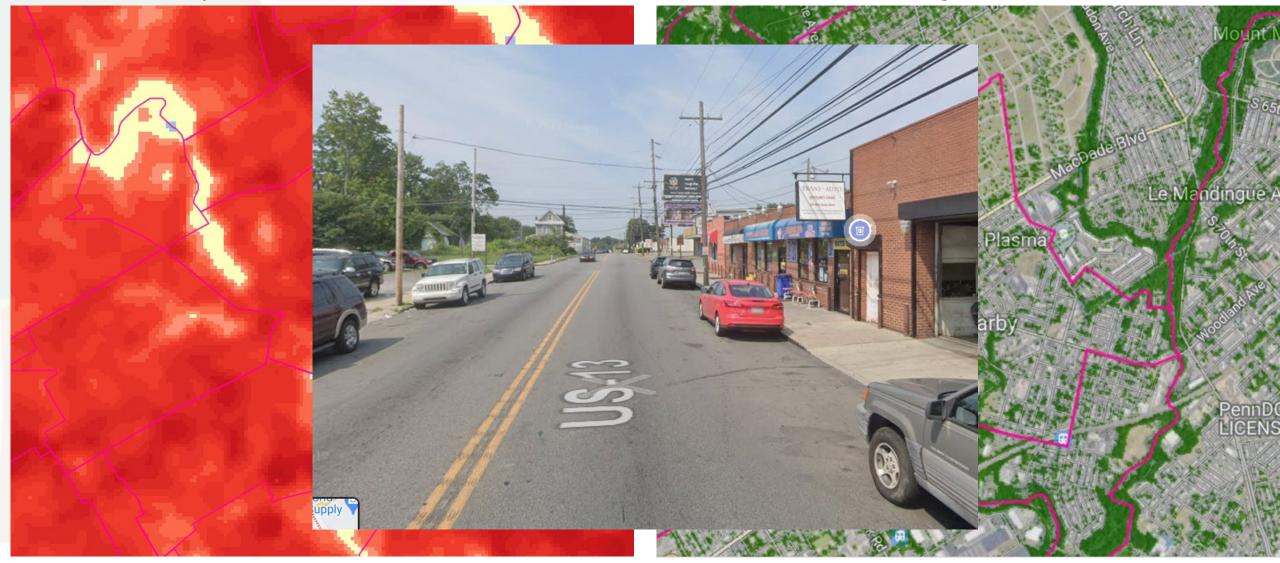


## i-Tree Landscape



Temperature differentials

Existing tree cover

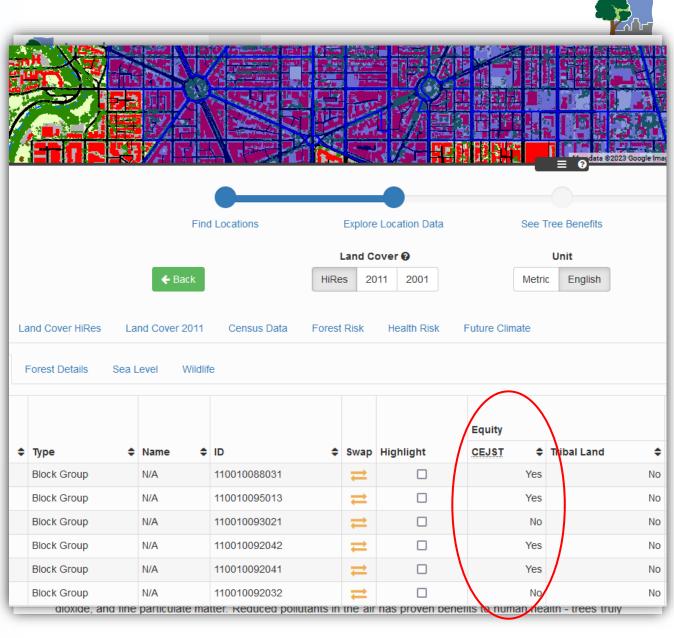


## i-Tree Landscape: Where to plant Prioritization

- Find locations that address funder's goals
- Show trees are meeting a need
- Tie to key metrics human health, carbon, heat island, resilience, etc.

## Why i-Tree Landscape?

- Maps with out GIS
- Wide variety of day
- Key to connecting trees to people

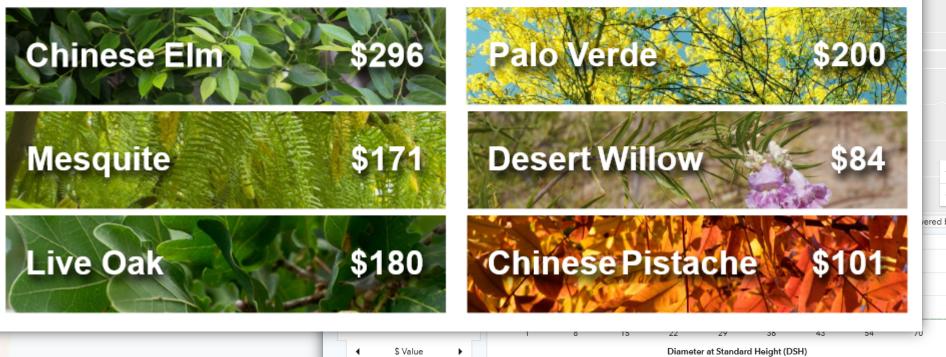


#### i-Tree Eco



#### Tree Species Value

In collaboration with Tempe city staff, six drought tolerant species that represent a high prevalence in the existing stock were chosen for a more detailed i-Tree economic value analysis. This analysis illustrates the yearly economic benefits pertaining to energy, carbon reduction, stormwater management and aesthetic appeal at maturity. The six tree species detailed in the following graphic were chosen to give City of Tempe guidance when choosing species for expanding the urban forest. This list is not meant to be a recommendation, as the siting of individual trees is very location specific and should be based on a Right Tree, Right Place planting strategy.



Number of Trees Hohoka Village 26,263 Mesa Total Annual Benefits **\$83,018.82** The economic value of the environmental benefits provided by Total Structural Value **★**\$58,021,945.67 The compensatory value based on replacing trees with

#### i-Tree Eco





Research Paper

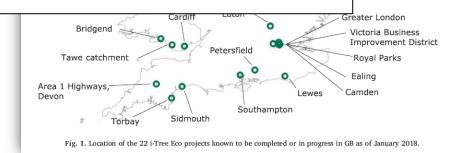
Achieving in greenspace: '

S. Raum<sup>a,\*</sup>, K.L.

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### Landscape and Urban Planning

Examples described by the interviewees for the use of the i-Tree Eco project results were linked to the use of data by a specific group or for a particular purpose, including helping Swansea (Tawe Catchment) to inform tree species selection and priority areas for new planting; by Devon Ash Resilience Forum to support monitoring and management of diseased trees; the Task and Finishing Forum within a council to **support tree maintenance**; by local authority tree officers and advisors to build a case for a broader approach to tree management for wider public benefits; and by one council to set climate change adaptation targets.



Landscape and Urban Planning

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Centre for Environmental

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Forest Research, Farnham,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> School of Environment, Ea <sup>d</sup> Forest Research, Roslin, Ul







## Headline Figures

#### Structure and Composition Compared

	2010	2022		
Number of Trees (estimated)	692,000	458,800		
Tree Canopy Cover	11.8%	18.2%		
Tree Density (trees/hectare)	109	71		
Most Common Tree Species	Cuprocyapris leylandii, Fraxinus excelcior, Acer pseudoplatanus	Fraxinus excelcior, Acer pseudoplatanus, Corylus Avellana		
Replacement Cost (CTLA)	£371 million	£310 million		



## i-Tree Eco – Toward strategic management

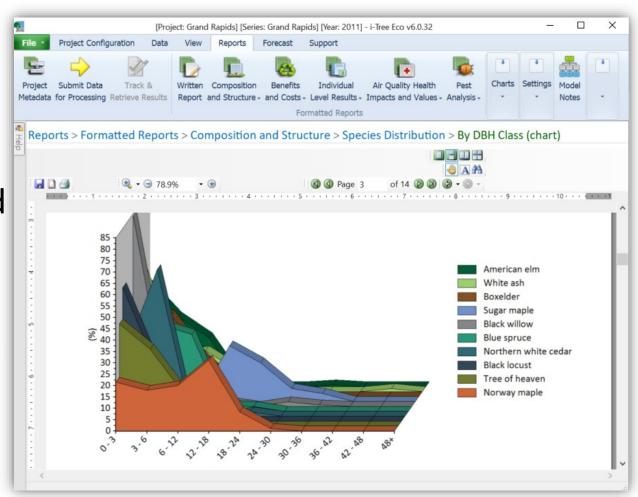


#### Fundable projects

- Tree Inventories are often fundable activities
- Support strategic management
- Make the case for future funding and its targeted use

#### Why i-Tree Eco?

- Science backed
- Wealth of applications
- All lands (rural to urban, public parks to private back yards)



## Next steps...make your own action plan

## Putting what you learned in the i-Tree Academy to work

- Plan is simple and flexible
- Meant to reinforce learning
- Should help you and your organization







## What are the parts of an action plan?



Objective: What issue or need will you address? Where will you work?

<u>i-Tree tools</u>: Which i-Tree tool or tools will use and why?

Resources: Do you have the resources to complete your plan? Will you need help from collaborators/funders?

Challenges: Do you expect any challenges in completing your plan? How will you overcome them?





#### Resources

- Start at the Academy page
- Video learning page
- Support page

## Support

*i-Tree helps people understand the benefits that trees provide* and our support team is here to help you understand i-Tree. The i-Tree team offers free support in using the tools, understanding the science (and pointing the way to more in-depth articles), plus we provide periodic online training.

Overview of the support we provide.

For new users, here is a handy Resource Guide.

#### Learn to use the i-Tree tools

- Video learning
- Manuals, Guides, and Workbooks
  - Project Planning and Management
- Teaching

#### i-Tree Academy

- *i-Tree Open Academy 2023 -* **Sessions Starting March 14th**
- About the Domestic i-Tree Academy (2020-2021)
  - Capstone Project Reports and Files

#### Understand the science of i-Tree

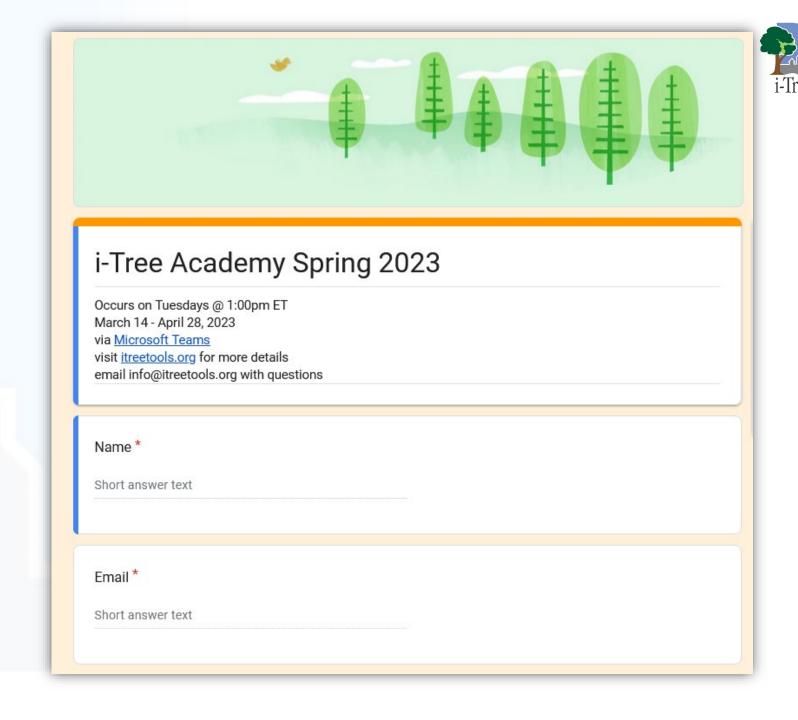
- Understanding i-Tree: Summary of Programs and Methods. (2021) A comprehensive report describing i-Tree methods, potential limitations, future goals, and opportunities to facilitate new science and international collaboration from Dr. Dave Nowak senior scientist and i-Tree team leader with the USDA Forest Service.
  - US Forest Service webpage with links to appendices including biomass equations, wood density values, allometric equations and more (2021).

how to collect data with the mobile data collector for i-Tree Eco inventory and plot based projects.



#### Post course details

- Certificates of participation
- Course feedback survey



## More learning opportunities coming soon



- i-Tree for grants
   next week
- UNRI webinar series
- Future i-Tree
   Academies
- Forest Service
   Urban and
   Community
   Forestry IRA
   grants.

## i-Tree for Funding Opportunities - May 2023

#### What:

Urban and Community Forestry is making headlines this spring. In April, USDA's Forest Service announced the availability of \$1 billion to increase equitable access to trees and green spaces in urban and community forests where more than 84% of Americans live, work, and play. This is an enormous opportunity for communities large and small, and i-Tree is here to help. We will hold two free, one-hour workshops during the first week of May for an in-depth look at what i-Tree tools can offer. We will also host online office hours to answer i-Tree technical questions. Find a shareable/printable flyer with this information here.

#### How:

Please register here to participate. All are welcome. Sessions will be live streamed on Microsoft Teams. Both sessions will be recorded and posted below as well as on i-Tree's YouTube channel. There are no requirements for this course. Participants are encouraged to submit session-related questions to info@itreetools.org.

#### When:

- Benchmarking and Prioritizing Impacts Wednesday, May 3, 1:00-2:00 pm ET This session will cover how to use i-Tree Canopy to identify what you have, i-Tree Planting to examine impact metrics, and i-Tree Landscape to prioritize your needs. Learn how to get estimates of tree canopy cover, discover priority areas within your community, and analyze the equity and distribution of canopy benefits.
- Monitoring, Forecasting, and Strategic Management Friday, May 5, 1:00-2:00 pm ET This session will cover how to use i-Tree Eco to examine what you'll need to move your goals forward. Learn how an i-Tree Eco inventory can help you better manage your urban forest to maximize trees' benefits and ensure those benefits are delivered where they are most needed.

#### Thanks from the team



Supported by:
USDA Forest Service
Urban and Community Forestry Program

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Krista Heinlin

Jay Heppler

Scott Maco



Dave Bloniarz

Eric Greenfield



Success stories?

Questions?

Suggestions?

info@itreetools.org