Support the Urban and Community Forestry Program

The USDA Forest Service’s Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program helps support state forestry agencies in their work to provide critical technical assistance for establishing and managing urban forestry resources. Communities who benefit from the UCF program on average match USDA funds 2:1.

State foresters use this program to deliver assistance to thousands of communities across the United States, benefiting over 190 million Americans that live in these communities.

These federal investments in urban and community forests—which are matched with state and private resources—have contributed to a rise in community-based forestry jobs, local property values, and overall quality of life. Researchers have also confirmed that actively managed urban and community trees improve human health—saving the nation millions in healthcare costs annually.

Unfortunately, tens of millions of trees are decimated by insects and disease every year; and hundreds of thousands more are lost to storms. With help from the UCF program, communities can curb these threats and maintain valuable green infrastructure with (1) science-based, active management and (2) proper disaster planning, response, and recovery.

In FY22, the nation’s state and territorial foresters recommend the Urban and Community Forestry Program be allocated $40 million (including $31.91 million for program work) to enhance the wealth of benefits provided by America’s most versatile natural capital: trees.

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