



Support the Urban and Community Forestry Program

Forests aren't just found on mountain sides or in wild, untouched places. All of the trees within a community make up a forest. For decades, state forestry agencies have helped communities manage their forests by providing technical and financial assistance for the planting and care of street, park, and other public trees.

The USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Program supports state forestry agencies in this work and is crucial to ensuring the 190 million Americans living in urbanized areas have equitable access to the many benefits of trees.

Federal U&CF investments—which are, on average, matched 2:1 by state or 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 extreme weather events. With help from the U&CF 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 FY 2024, state foresters recommend the Urban and Community Forestry Program be appropriated \$42 million to enhance the wealth of benefits provided by America's most versatile natural capital: trees.

