

THE BENEFITS OF TREES

- Trees provide vital habitat for birds, mammals, & insects.
- A deciduous tree can intercept almost 800 gallons of stormwater per year; a mature evergreen can intercept more than 4,000 gallons per year. - *Penn State Extension*
- Trees remove pollution from the atmosphere, improving air quality. In Chicago, trees remove more than 18,000 tons of air pollution each year. - *U.S. Forest Service*
- One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people. - *U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- Trees lower surface and air temperatures by providing shade. Shaded surfaces may be 20–45°F cooler than the peak temperatures of unshaded materials. - *U.S. EPA*
- The proper placement of just three trees around a home can save an average household between \$100 and \$250 in energy costs annually. - *Energy.gov*
- The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. - *U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- Neighborhoods with more trees have been shown to have a lower crime rate. Chicago public housing residents with nearby trees and natural landscapes reported 25% fewer acts of domestic aggression and violence. - *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*
- Every dollar spent on planting and caring for a community tree yields benefits that are two to five times that investment. Benefits include cleaner air, lower energy costs, improved water quality and increased property values. - *U.S. Forest Service*
- Mature trees add an average of 10% to a property's value. - *U.S. Forest Service*
- The planting of trees means improved water quality, resulting in less runoff and erosion. This allows more recharging of the ground water supply. Wooded areas help prevent the transport of sediment and chemicals into streams. - *U.S. Forest Service*
- In laboratory research, visual exposure to settings with trees has produced significant recovery from stress within five minutes, as indicated by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension. - *Dr. Roger S. Ulrich Texas A&M University*
- Trees can stimulate economic development, attracting new business and tourism. Retail areas are more attractive to shoppers, apartments rent more quickly, tenants stay longer, and space is more valuable to sell or rent. - *The Arbor Day Foundation*
- There are about 60 to 200 million spaces along our city streets where trees could be planted. This translates to the potential to absorb 33 million more tons of CO2 every year and saving \$4 billion in energy costs. - *National Wildlife Federation*

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