

## COMPUTER PROGRAMS THAT AID IN URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT

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Horticulture Dayz! March 7, 2016 Front Royal, VA

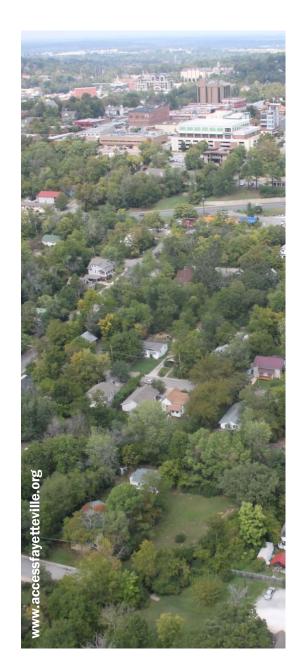






## **PRESENTATION OVERVIEW**

- Why we need technology in urban forestry and how we use it
- Technology for urban forest assessment
- Technology for urban forest planning and design
- Technology out in the field
  - Feedback on how you use technology

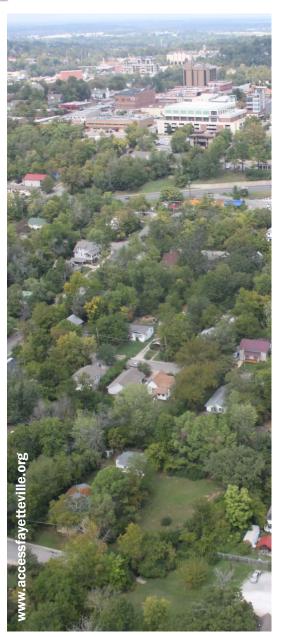




## WHY WE NEED TECHNOLOGY

- Urban forests are complex
- Urban forestry is complex
- Technology facilitates analysis and evaluation

- Technology facilitates decision-making and planning
- Technology facilitates communication and record-keeping





## **HOW WE USE TECHNOLOGY**

**Urban Forest Assessment** 

- Tree inventory
- Tree canopy analysis
- Tree benefits calculation

Urban Forest Planning

- Tree species selection
- Tree landscape placement
- Tree cover prioritization

**Urban Forest Management** 

- Tree and pest identification
- Tree disorder diagnosis
- Tree risk evaluation

## **URBAN FOREST ASSESSMENT**



Tools for Assessing and Managing **Community Forests** 



Resources

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Learn more about Landscape

Learn about i-Tree Lessons



Valuing London's Urban Forest

### What is i-Tree?

Applications

i-Tree is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools. The i-Tree Tools help communities of all sizes to strengthen their urban forest management and advocacy efforts by quantifying the structure of community trees and the environmental services that trees provide.

Since the initial release of the i-Tree Tools in August 2006, numerous communities, non-profit organizations, consultants, volunteers and students have used i-Tree to report on individual trees, parcels, neighborhoods, cities, and even entire states. By understanding the local, tangible ecosystem services that trees provide, i-Tree users can link urban forest management activities with environmental quality and community livability. Whether your interest is a single tree or an entire forest, i-Tree provides baseline data that you can use to demonstrate value and set priorities for more effective decision-making.

i-Tree Tools are in the public domain and are freely accessible. We invite

### What's New?

### i-Tree Landscape (beta) now

Explore the newest online assessment tool now>>

#### Grand Rapids, MI uses i-Tree Hvdro to assess value of urban forestry initiative

Plan-it Geo Report>>

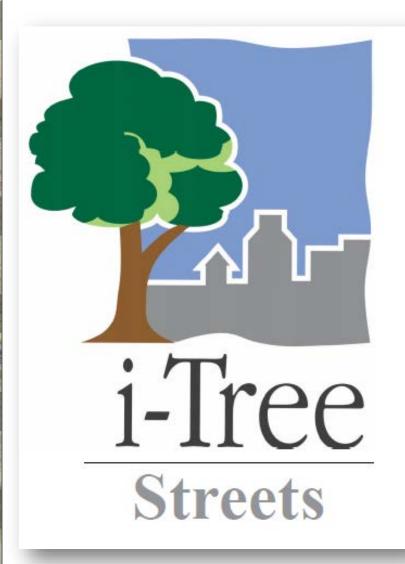
#### London i-Tree Results Highlight Value of Urban Trees

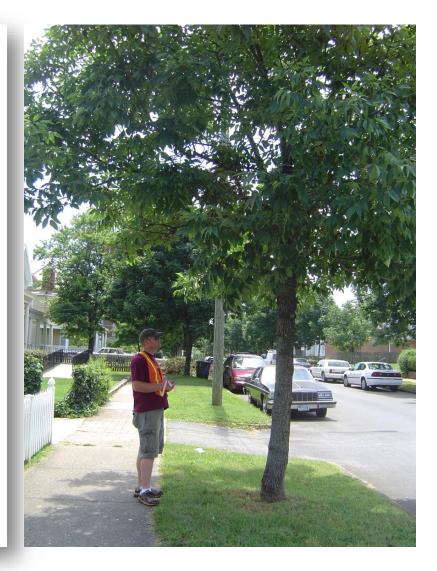
An Institute of Chartered Foresters article

### London is a forest - who knew?

Article appearing in The Guardian>>

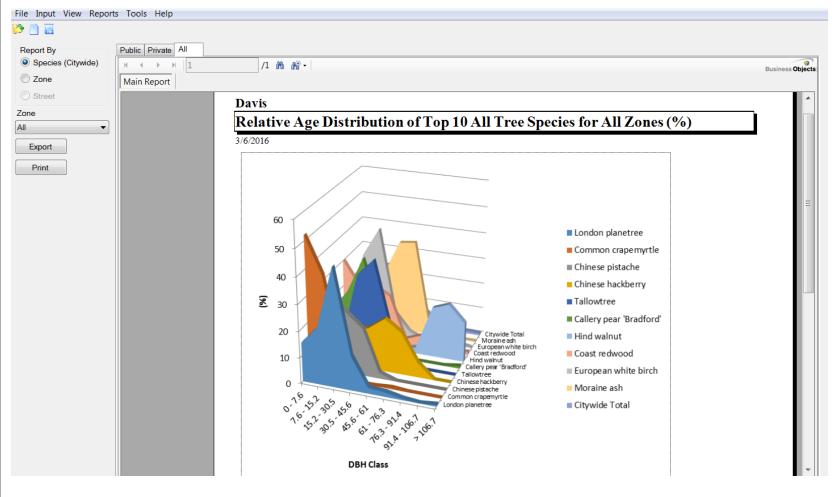
The National Ten-Year Urban

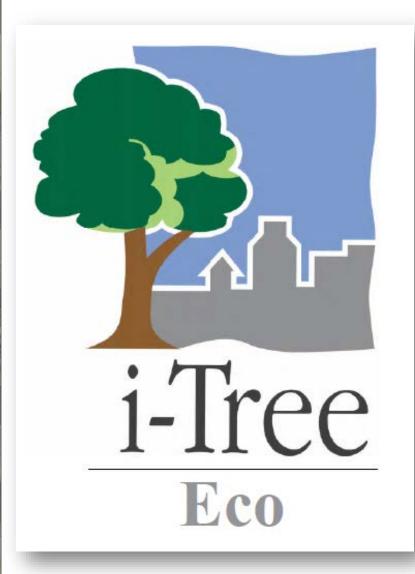




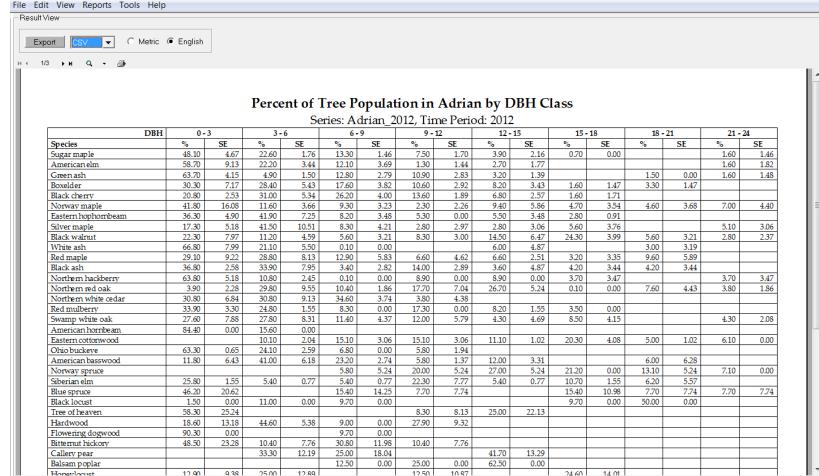
## **OVERVIEW** BACKGROUND PLAN MANAGE

TAKE HOME











## **URBAN FOREST ASSESSMENT**



A geospatial technology firm specializing in urban forestry, planning, and natural resources.

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### **Tree Plotter LITE©**

Tree Plotter LITE© is Plan-It Geo's free web-based tree inventory software that allows users to map and track trees online and then export the data into a local desktop application. In the free version, anyone can map and inventory new, existing, or proposed trees without a GPS! A tree's X/Y location is created when you map it using one of the tree template features.

Launch Plotter LITE

Plotter vs. Plotter LITE

Tree Plotter



## **URBAN FOREST ASSESSMENT**



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- You draw your project area boundaries right onto Google Maps or you load an ESRI polygon shapefile in <u>latitude / longitude coordinates</u>.
- i-Tree Canopy randomly generates sample points and zooms to each one so you can choose from your pre-defined list of cover types for that spot.
- 500-1000 survey points are suggested; the more points you complete, the better your cover estimate for your study area.
- If estimating tree cover, tree benefits can also be estimated.
- · Recommended web browsers: Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome
- Learn how i-Tree Canopy works.

## i-Tree Canopy<sub>v6.1</sub>

Estimate tree cover and tree benefits for a given area with a random sampling process that lets you easily classify ground cover types.



### Start using i-Tree Canopy:

Step 1 Load ESRI Shapefile ? or Define Project Area

Step 2 Configure and Begin Your Survey > ?

#### Been here before?

Already started an i-Tree Canopy survey? Load it here and resume your work.

Load Previous i-Tree Canopy Survey ?

Want to compare a completed i-Tree Canopy project to Google Earth historical imagery?

Load Previous i-Tree Canopy Project for Change Survey

### Would you like to learn more?

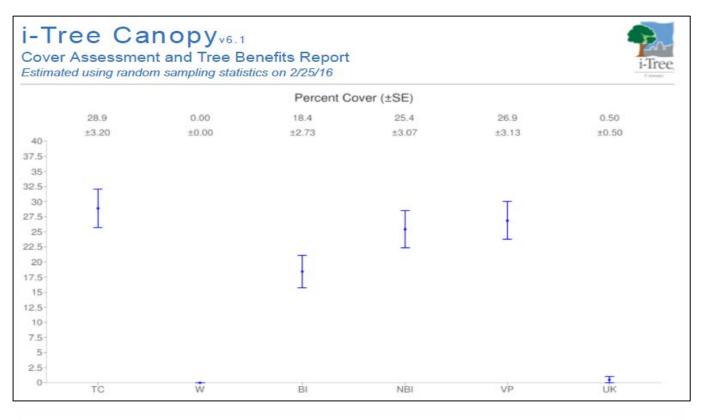
Video Learning Resources

Try Our Sample Project >





## **URBAN FOREST ASSESSMENT**



#### **Tree Benefit Estimates**

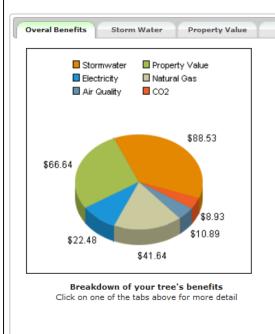
Abbr.	Benefit Description	Value	±SE	Amount	±SE
CO	Carbon Monoxide removed annually	\$63.12	±6.99	95.01 lb	±10.52
NO2	Nitrogen Dioxide removed annually	\$82.38	±9.12	736.24 lb	±81.54
O3	Ozone removed annually	\$3,040.87	±336.79	2.03 T	±0.23
PM2.5	Particulate Matter less than 2.5 microns removed annually	\$8,555.16	±947.51	270.23 lb	±29.93
SO2	Sulfur Dioxide removed annually	\$3.99	±0.44	91.62 lb	±10.15
PM10*	Particulate Matter greater than 2.5 microns and less than 10 microns removed annually	\$3,150.76	±348.96	1,008.84 lb	±111.73
CO2seq	Carbon Dioxide sequestered annually in trees	\$20,856.51	±2,309.92	576.43 T	±63.84
CO2stor	Carbon Dioxide stored in trees (Note: this benefit is not an annual rate)	\$474,573.35	±52,560.48	13,114.66 T	±1,452.49

## **URBAN FOREST ASSESSMENT**

### National Tree Benefit Calculator

Bet

Air Quality



This **24 inch White oak** provides overall benefits of: \$239 every year.

About the Model

While some functional benefits of trees are well documented, others are difficult to quantify (e.g., human social and communal health). Trees' specific geography, climate, and interactions with humans and infrastructure is highly variable and makes precise calculations that much more difficult. Given these complexities, the results presented here should be considered initial approximations—a general accounting of the benefits produced by urban street-side plantings.

Benefits of trees do not account for the costs associated with trees' long-term care and maintenance.

If this tree is cared for and grows to 29 inches, it will provide \$291 in annual benefits.



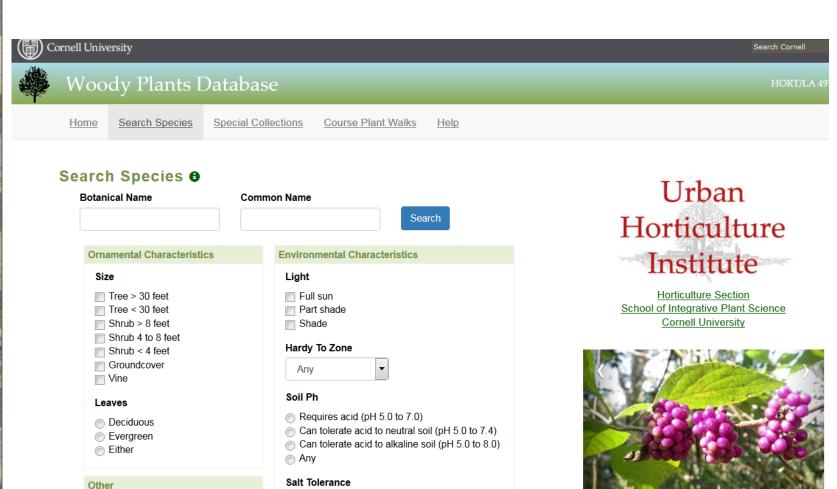
White oak Quercus alba



The National Tree Benefit Calculator was conceived and developed by Casey Trees and Davey Tree Expert Co.







Tolerates salt spray

Tolerates salty soil

**Bare Root Transplanting** 

Easy

000000000

Callicarpa americana - Fr





Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute -

Armament

**Branch Strength** 

Skip to content

Search by Name	SelecTree: Se	earch Trees by	
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Right Tree Right	Planting near power lines? See	Utility Precautions.	
Utility Precautions	Tree Characteristics		
Browse securely	Max Height (ft)	•	
	Growth Rate		~
	Tree Shape		_
	Habit		
	Bark Color		<b>.</b> ▼
	Bark Texture		-



Juniperus virginiana
'Elegantissima'

Utility friendly tree. Branches
don't droop and resist breakage...

Photo by W. Mark and J. Reimer

~

•













## Select the right trees...



### **Right Tree, Right Place**

Our Reference Guide is a great place to start looking for the right tree for the right place. Because of regional and local variables, choosing the best trees for your site can be challenging. Dozens of online resources present tree selection, planting and care guidelines. Some of our favorite regional and national sites are listed below.

### **National and International**

#### UtiliTrees™

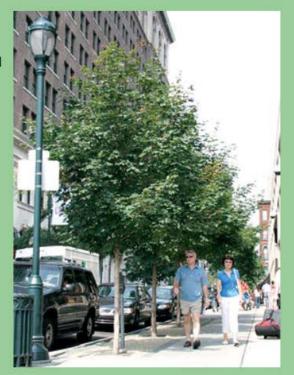
Our list recommends small stature, street tough and adaptable trees that are a perfect fit for under utility wires.

#### **U.S. National Arboretum Introductions**

Fact Sheets for trees developed at USNA and introduced to the nursery trade include Gold Medal and All America Selection winners.

#### **Recommended Urban Trees**

Site Assessment and Tree Selection for Stress Tolerance at Cornell University reveals that many trees developed at J. Frank Schmidt & Son



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## **URBAN FOREST PLANNING**



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### i-Tree Design v6.0\*

i-Tree Design allows anyone to make a simple estimation of the benefits provided by individual trees. With inputs of location, species, tree size, and condition, users will receive an understanding of tree benefits related to greenhouse gas mitigation, air quality improvements, and stormwater interception. With the additional step of drawing a building footprint – and virtually "planting" or placing a tree – tree effects on building energy use can be evaluated.

Tree benefits are estimated for (a) the current year, (b) a user-specified forecast year sometime in the future, (c) the projected total benefits across that future timespan, and (d) the total benefits provided to date (based on estimated tree age). Multiple trees and buildings can be added to compare benefits or to provide a full accounting of a property's trees.

This tool is intended as a simple and accessible starting point for understanding the value of individual trees or a small population of trees to a community. For more detailed information on urban and community forest assessments, please explore more of the i-Tree website. To learn more about the i-Tree Design model, click here.







#### Enter a street address below to get started:

Go!

-or-

Load Previously Saved Project





Breakdown of your tree's benefits



### i-Tree Design v6.0

the map to display its benefits.

over time:

Model Crown Growth

3. Estimate Benefits

35 Alexander Ct, Christiansburg, VA 24073, USA

Start Over Save Progress

Get started with these easy steps:				NO. STATE
1. Draw Structures ?	Map Satellite	To the second		
2. Place Trees  Pescribe your tree:			<b>新</b>	W.
• Tree species:				
Redbud, Eastern		The state of the s		
• Tree diameter: 5 Inches or circumference: 15.7			1 3	Stafford Dr
• Tree condition: Excellent 🔻	6	6.	3	
• Tree exposure to sunlight: Full sun				
Tree benefit zones:			VIII A	
<ul> <li>The colored zones surrounding the structure, which appear as you describe your tree, illustrate the relative monetary value of energy savings that the tree would provide in each zone.</li> </ul>				
<ul> <li>Hover over each zone to see that energy benefit information displayed below the map.</li> </ul>	The state of the s		1	
To place a tree:				
Drag this icon  to the location on the map where you would like to place your	6	35 1		
tree. • Repeat to place additional trees.	Google /	Map data ©2016 Google	magery ©2016 Terms of Use	Report a map error
Hover over any tree you have placed on	Lat: 37.16970 Lng: -80.43838			

Model the tree(s) future crown growth



5 Inches

15.7

### i-Tree Design v6.0

Get started with these easy steps:

1. Draw Structures

Describe your tree: · Tree species: Redbud, Eastern Tree diameter:

or circumference:

Tree benefit zones:

map.

tree.

over time:

Model Crown Growth

3. Estimate Benefits

To place a tree:

• Tree condition: Excellent

provide in each zone.

• Tree exposure to sunlight: Full sun

· The colored zones surrounding the

structure, which appear as you describe

benefit information displayed below the

 Drag this icon \( \bar{\mathbb{N}} \) to the location on the map where you would like to place your

· Hover over any tree you have placed on

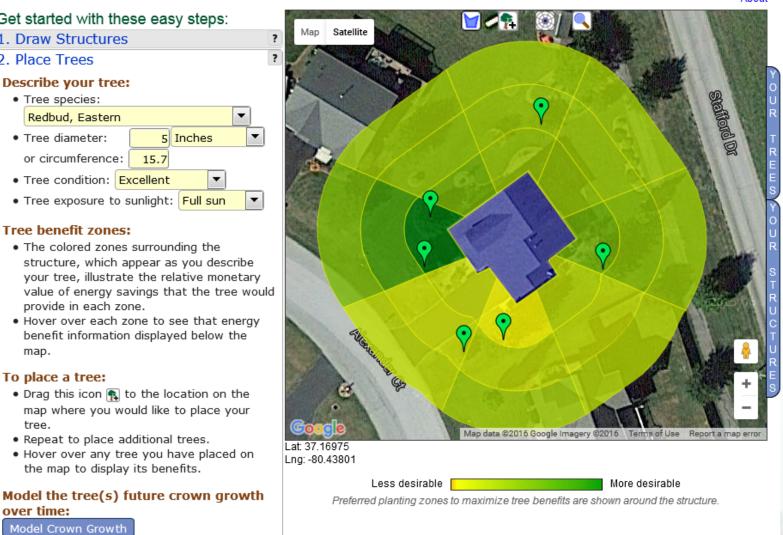
Repeat to place additional trees.

the map to display its benefits.

2. Place Trees

35 Alexander Ct, Christiansburg, VA 24073, USA

Start Over Save Progress

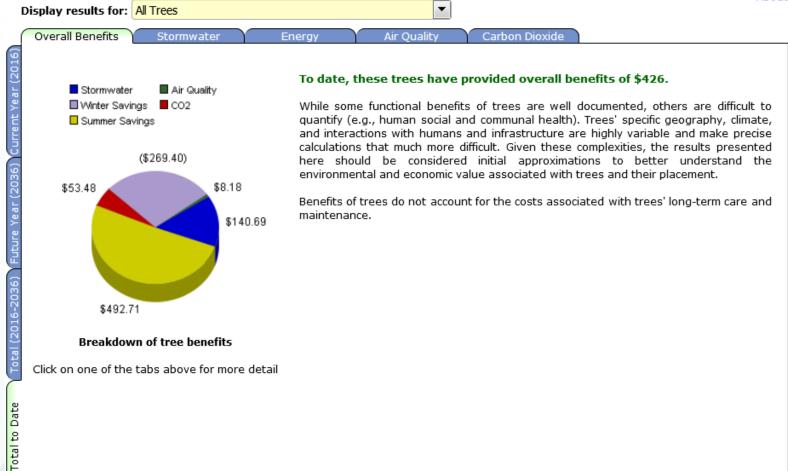


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## **URBAN FOREST PLANNING**

i-Tree Design v6.0 35 Alexander Ct, Christiansburg, VA 24073, USA

Start Over Return to Setup View Report Print Save Result About

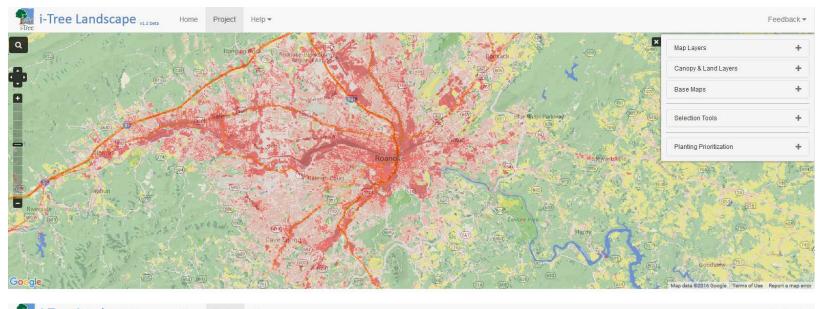


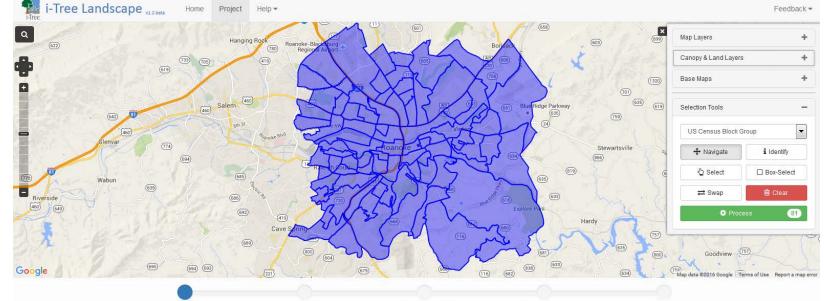
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## **URBAN FOREST PLANNING**

Find Locations

**Explore Location Data** 





See Tree Benefits

Prioritize Tree Planting

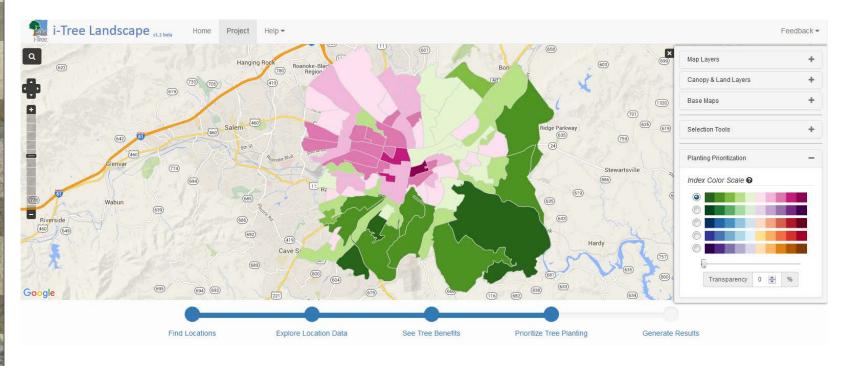
Generate Results

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## **URBAN FOREST PLANNING**



iree :	Tree Stocking Level					_
	Importance (weight)			50♣	%	



Below Poverty Line				•
	O_			
	Importance (weight)	25	%	



## **URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT**



### Description

Virginia Tech Tree Identification brings the award winning Virginia Tech digital dendrology material to your iPhone. It contains fact sheets for 969 woody plants from all over North America with an in-depth description, range map and thousands of color images of leaves, flowers, fruit, twigs, bark and form.

vTree Support ) ....More

#### What's New in Version 2.1.8

Updates that allow a user to sort species by common or latin name.

#### View in iTunes

#### Free

Rated 4+

Category: Reference
Updated: Nov 25, 2015
Version: 2.1.8
Size: 14.2 MB
Language: English
Seller: Michael Whitt
© 2012 Virginia Tech
University (Department of
Forest Resources and
Environmental Conservation)

Compatibility: Requires iOS 6.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

#### **Customer Ratings**

We have not received enough ratings to display an average for the current version of this application.

All Versions: ★★★ 27 Ratings

More iPhone Apps by Michael Whitt

#### iPhone Screenshot





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## **URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT**



#### View in iTunes

#### Free

Category: Education
Updated: Jun 05, 2015
Version: 1.07
Size: 87.9 MB
Language: English
Seller: Peter Belhumeur
© 2015 Columbia University,
University of Maryland, and
the Smithsonian Institution

Rated 4+

Compatibility: Requires iOS 5.1.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

#### **Customer Ratings**

Current Version: ★★ 92 Ratings All Versions: ★★ 894 Ratings

More iPhone Apps by Columbia University, University of Maryland, and Smithsonian Institution



#### Description

Leafsnap is the first in a series of electronic field guides being developed by researchers from Columbia University, the University of Maryland, and the Smithsonian Institution. This free mobile app uses visual recognition software to help identify tree species from photographs of their leaves.

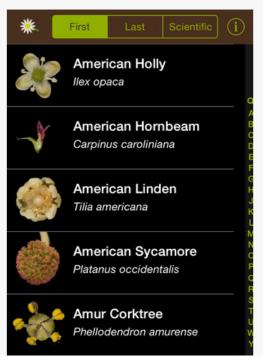
Columbia University, University of Maryland, and Smithsonian Institution Web Site > Leafsnap ...More

#### What's New in Version 1.07

- Expanded species coverage to Eastern Canada, with 36 new species
- Fixed minor bugs

#### iPhone Screenshot





# OVERVIEW BACKGROUND ASSESS PLAN TAKE HOME

## **URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT**



#### View in iTunes

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

#### Free

Category: Education Updated: Jan 20, 2016 Version: 4.2 Size: 457 MR

Size: 457 MB Language: English Seller: Charles T. Bargeron © UGA Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem

Health Rated 4+

Compatibility: Requires iOS 8.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

#### **Customer Ratings**

We have not received enough ratings to display an average for the current version of this application.

#### More by Charles T. Bargeron



#### Description

Identify and Report Invasive Plants, Insects and Plant Pathogens in the Mid-Atlantic States

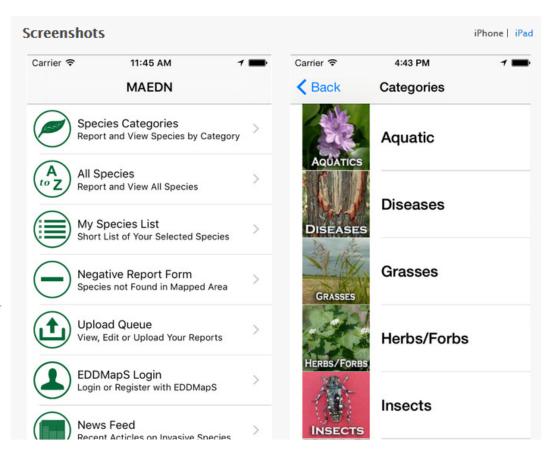
The Mid-Atlantic Early Detection Network (MAEDN) App brings the power of EDDMapS to your smartphone. Now you

Charles T. Bargeron Web Site > Mid-Atlantic Early Detection Network Support >

...More

#### What's New in Version 4.2

-minor bug fixes





## **URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT**



#### View in iTunes

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

#### \$1.99

Category: Reference
Updated: Aug 20, 2015
Version: 1.5.5
Size: 249 MB
Language: English
Seller: Purdue University
© Purdue University
Rated 4+

Compatibility: Requires iOS 8.4 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

### **Customer Ratings**

We have not received enough ratings to display an average for the current version of this application.

All Versions: ★★★★ 20 Ratings

### More by Purdue University



#### Description

The Purdue Tree Doctor app has been developed by experts at Purdue University to help people better identify and manage tree problems caused by a variety of factors, including insects and diseases. Landscape professionals, arborists, and garden center personnel can use this app to improve communication with their customers.

Purdue Tree Doctor Support

...More

#### What's New in Version 1.5.5

- -App now works natively with iPad.
- -Includes August 2015 content updates.



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## **URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT**



#### View in iTunes

This app is designed for both iPhone and iPad

#### Free

Category: Productivity Updated: Nov 02, 2014 Version: 1.1

Size: 19.3 MB Language: English

Seller: Texas A&M Forest Service © Texas A&M Forest Service

Rated 4+

Compatibility: Requires iOS 7.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

#### **Customer Ratings**

We have not received enough ratings to display an average for the current version of this application.

#### More by Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS)



#### Description

The Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment app helps perform a limited visual tree assessment. It maps those trees with obvious defects that have a Probable or Imminent likelihood of failure and identifies treatment. Designed for pre-and post-storm use this app can store tree assessments locally, export them via email or can be connected to

Tree Risk Assessment - Level 1 Support)

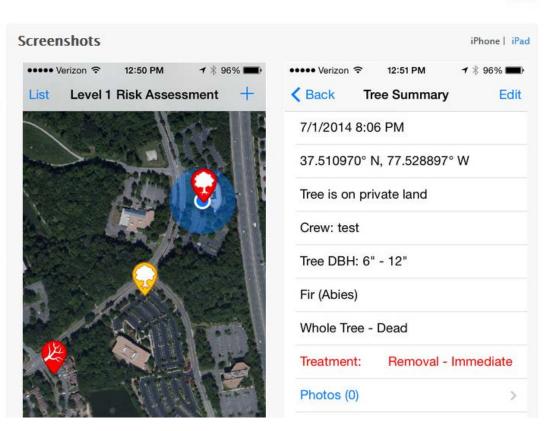
...More

#### What's New in Version 1.1

Bugfixes:

- tree assessments properly sort by timestamp in offline workflow

...More





## **TAKE HOME MESSAGES**

- Technology is an increasingly important tool in urban forestry analysis, decisionmaking and communication
- Technology is critical for urban forest assessment, planning, and management
- i-Tree Tools is a suite of free mobile, desktop, and web-based applications that are great for urban forest assessment and planning
- Web-based and mobile apps are increasingly available for a diversity of field applications





## **QUESTIONS & COMMENTS**

## **Eric Wiseman, PhD**

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Horticulture Dayz! March 7, 2016 Front Royal, VA



