Report Agenda

2022 Year in Review

- Tree Equity & the Tree Equity Tool
- Community Partners
- Tree Planting Operations
  - 3 New City Foresters & Expanded Tree Trimming Operations
  - 2022 Tree Planting
- Tree Ambassador Program
- Tree Trimming
- Ash Tree Update

2023 Look Ahead
Tree Equity

- Equitably increase the City’s public urban tree canopy
- Deliver the public health, environmental, economic, societal and climate co-benefits
- Prioritize historically marginalized, disinvested, and under-canopied communities on the South and West sides.
Tree Equity Tool

Tree data visualization tool complements on the ground community experience to prioritize the planting of trees in areas of Chicago where the benefits of trees are most needed.

By looking at tree canopy coverage and overlaying public health indicators with surface temperature, and air quality data, the City is further able to analyze and prioritize tree planting at the census tract level.
Population: 2,741,193

Trees: 1,710,860

Tree Canopy Coverage %

Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake View</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Town</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Square</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Park</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>665</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Search in 77 categories
Tree Canopy Coverage by Neighborhood
(citywide average is 16%)

Community Tree Equity

- Highest social vulnerability
- Worst flooding susceptibility
- Most severe economic hardship
- Highest traffic volumes
- Highest surface temperatures
- Most age-adjusted asthma cases
- Lowest tree canopy coverage

Priority communities for equity tree planting, maintenance & community engagement
Community Partners
Community Tree Equity Working Group

American Forests
Blacks in Green
Bloomberg Associates
Chicago Department of Public Health
Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation Bureau of Forestry
Chicago Department of Transportation
City of Chicago Mayor’s Office
Chicago Park District
Chicago Sustainability Office
Chicago Muslims Green Team
Chicago Region Trees Initiative
Chicago Wilderness
Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community
Equitable Resilience & Sustainability, LLC
Galewood Neighbors, Inc.
I Am Able Center
Illinois Environmental Council
Imani Village
Latinos Progresando
Lincoln Park Zoo
LUCHA
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
Mi Villita Neighbors
Nordson Green Earth Foundation
North Lawndale Greening Committee
North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council’s Greening Open Space Water Soil and Sustainability (NLCCC/GROWSS)
Openlands
Rush University Medical Center
Sacred Roots
Save Your Ash
St. Agatha’s Church
Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church
The Climate Reality Project Chicago Metro Chapter
The Nature Conservancy
The Nature, Culture, and Human Health
The Partnership for Healthy Cities
The Southwest Collective
The Student Conservation Association
The Trust for Public Land
University of Illinois Chicago
US Forest Service
Walder Foundation
West Chesterfield Community Association
Young Men’s Network Association
Community Led Logo Design
Community-Driven Content: Website

OUR ROOTS CHICAGO
Equitably Expanding Chicago’s Tree Canopy

PURPOSE

Chicago continues to work toward creating resilient and sustainable communities across the city. Joining 96 cities around the world, the City of Chicago has updated its Climate Action Plan to reflect the bold action needed to protect and strengthen communities—locally and globally.

With historic investments coming in 2022, Chicago is ready to strengthen partnerships and programs across the city to expand access to green space, reduce carbon emissions, and connect residents to meaningful resources and services.

One of the ways we are carrying out our Climate Action Plan here in Chicago is through Our Roots Chicago project. Our goal is to expand the tree canopy in Chicago through an equitable approach to every neighborhood in Chicago leaving no neighborhood behind.
Community-Driven Content: Tools & Door Hangers

FSQ One-Shot:
Let’s Talk About Trees!
Find the graphic for your community:
‘Do it for: ‘Social Media Community package (10)
Languages:
English | Arabic | Chinese
Published: 6/6/2022
Social Media:
Planting trees help our community grow
Languages:
English | Arabic | Chinese
Published: 6/6/2022
Social Media:
I’ve heard... Trees Create Plumbing Issues
Languages:
English
Published: 6/7/2022
Social Media:
Trees: All you need to know
Languages:
English
Published: 6/7/2022
Social Media:
What actually happens when roots do break underground pipes, but rather, broken tree roots can actually help with water infiltration.
Published: 6/7/2022
Social Media:
If you’re interested in learning more about Trees, please visit Chicago.gov/OurRoots
Published: 6/7/2022
Social Media:
A New Tree Has Been Planted for your Neighborhood!
Published: 6/7/2022
# Community-Driven Content: Misinformation

## What I’ve Heard About Trees

I’ve heard that...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Misinformation</th>
<th>Truth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trees break and crack sidewalks and create plumbing issues</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree roots do not break pipes; rather, broken pipes attract tree roots due to moisture in the pipes. Did you know that tree roots only go down 2-3 feet?</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees increase crime</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees are high maintenance and costly to maintain</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting more trees will disrupt our natural ecosystem</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees are dangerous for homes. They can damage property</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
18,000 Trees Later – December 1, 2022
New City Foresters & Tree Trimming Plan

Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation Bureau of Forestry (BoF)
  • Sarah Helding
  • Jared Shaffer

Chicago Department of Transportation
  • Allison Preble

Bureau of Forestry
  • Doubled the number of Tree Trimmer crews, from 14 to 30, including equipment
Tree Planting - Previous Years

New Trees in Public Parkways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Trees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2022 Tree Plantings

Total 18,728 (as of December 3):
• DSS 10,654
• CDOT 5,174
• Parks 2,900

• Efficiencies in Planting Requests
• 33% went to 11 priority communities
• 3 Year Backlog for Tree Requests Fulfilled
• Removed 11,358 (combination of storm damaged, diseased, dead, DWM, and Aldermanic requests)
• 2022 Baseline for years to come to prioritize equity areas

### Community Trees Planted Percent of Planting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Trees Planted</th>
<th>Percent of Planting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. North Lawndale (TA Pilot)</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Humboldt Park</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. New City</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. South Lawndale (TA Pilot)</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Austin</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Greater Grand Crossing</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Near West Side</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. McKinley Park</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Brighton Park</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. East Garfield Park</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57. Armour Square</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,222</strong></td>
<td><strong>33%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total City-Wide</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,882</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Tree Ambassadors
Tree Ambassadors Training

Created for CBOs to increase parkway tree planting through a modified CHI311 mobile app entry to speed planting in priority neighborhoods while they engage residents on the benefits of trees.

TRAINED TO:
Survey based on City Landscape Ordinance to submit potential tree planting sites in their communities on behalf of residents that agree to a free City tree planting warrantied for 2 years using 311 App/Online

COMMUNITY DRIVEN TREE EDUCATION:
They develop their own culturally relevant tree care and education materials with the help of either the City and/or Conservation Partners if needed (e.g., marketing, workshops, conversations, storytelling to residents, etc.)

TREE AMBASSADORS ARE NOT TRAINED TO:
Plant, Mulch, Trim, ID Trees Species, Study Plant Biophysiology, Soil, or ID Pathogens
Train the Trainers: Class
Train the Trainers: Field
**Tree Ambassadors**

Number of Tree Ambassadors - 60
Number of Trainings – 5 (June, 2 in July, September, November)
Number of 311 Requested for Community Areas – 380 Requests for 416 Trees

**PILOTS**

Mi Villita Neighbors: 2 TAs, 237 Trees, 4 months, $14K City Grant

TREEmendous in North Lawndale: 3 TAs, 113 Trees in 2 months, $40K USFS Resiliency Grant
   - St. Agatha Catholic Church
   - Stone Temple Baptist Church
   - Young Men's Network Association (YMEN)
   - I Am Able

Roseland West Chesterfield Community Association: 1 TA, 48 Trees, 2 Weeks

Chicago Muslims Green Team
Sacred Roots

CRTI Resiliency Grant - $350K
   - Chicago Muslims Green Team
   - Coalition for a Better Chinese America
   - Galewood Neighbors
   - Grow Greater Englewood
   - Imani Village
   - Southwest Collective
   - The Wild Turkey Cut Thru
Ash Tree Inventory and EAB Competitive Bid

- BoF surveyed approximately 20,000 Emerald Ash trees in 2022 to determine status.

- Due to autumn leaf drop, stopped surveying because ash condition is difficult to accurately assess after leaf drop.

- In spring, will resume when and if buds begin to swell.

- DSS is also moving forward with the competitive bid process to assess costs for tree inoculation. Awaiting Procurement update.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Ash Counted</th>
<th>Total Dead</th>
<th>Total Grids</th>
<th>Grids Completed</th>
<th>No Ash Trees in Grid</th>
<th>Active Grids</th>
<th>Percent Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19,990 (out of 45k)</td>
<td>378 (&lt;1.9%)</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>357 (51%)</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>51.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Currently developing a BoF Mobile Application
• Application will be Apple and Android mobile compliant devices
• Application is Salesforce Field Service Lightening
  o Enhanced field operations for efficiency
    ▪ Foresters in the field will enter data workorder and updating tree inventory (no longer on one desktop that one person manages)
    ▪ GPS enabled devices in application for tree locations
• 50 New Tablets purchased for foresters to use in the field – no more paper and manual entry for tree plantings
• This will also help with Tree Inventory
Tree Planting Contract

Revised Tree Planting Commodity Contract (lowest bidder)

• Contractor required to assess climate conditions for watering
• Responsible for that tree’s survival
• 2 Year Warranty remains
• Split city into zones for the first time
• Lessons learned from the procurement process
• Will redo RFP
2023 Look Ahead

311 Tree Trimming Requests will be retired December 16th!
- Moving to grided area trimming
- Residents will be notified of schedule in April – BoF will do entire blocks at one time.

Applying for federal funding from Inflation Reduction Act to Amplify Year 1’s Progress
- Tree Survey for Parkways and Parks

Formalize Tree Ambassador Program
- Grow program by funding more communities
  - CCA/Accenture to develop a 5-year strategic plan for TA Program
- Tree Ambassador Funding for 2023
  - US Rep Sean Casten Congressional $100K Earmark - Need 10 CBOs
  - Expand Tree Ambassador Training $2.85M for 5 Years - 50 CBOs and 1 Full-Time Coordinator

- Developing and Applying Heat Vulnerability Index and NOAA Project Building HVI to help guide tree tool and plantings, amongst others
- Updated Tree Equity Tool Dashboard 2023
- Tree Community Opinion Survey – IRB Approved
- Improve Partnership with Tree Equity Working Group
  - The IT Tree Equity Working Group monthly updates on plantings
  - Our Stories Tab – videos community/pictures
  - Community Tree Benefit Flier
- Strategic Visioning in January 2023 with Bloomberg for entire Our Roots Initiative
Interested in landscaping, construction, or ecological restoration?

Greencorps Chicago is the City's green-industry employment program with on-the-job training for individuals with barriers to employment.

Apply to their 10-month green industry employment opportunity where you will receive training, earn licenses, certifications, and more!

https://greencorpschicago.org/how-to-apply
Thank You All for Your Dedication, Guidance, Partnership and Hard Work!

“To be without trees would, in the most literal way, to be without our roots.”
— Richard Mabey