

URBAN FORESTS CREATE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

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TREES & LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT

A photograph of a modern building with a sidewalk and a landscaped area featuring trees, rocks, and a red car. The image is used as a background for the text. The building has large glass windows and a concrete sidewalk. The landscaped area includes several young trees, large grey rocks, and smaller green plants. A red car is parked on the street next to the sidewalk.

Trees intercept rainfall before it hits the ground.

Tree roots reduce erosion from stormwater runoff.

Tree roots increase soil infiltration capacities and rates.

Trees remove harmful chemicals, including metals, organic compounds, fuels, and solvents.

ENVIRONMENT

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Cambridge, Massachusetts, showing a dense canopy of trees in various shades of green and autumnal colors. A river flows through the lower portion of the image, with a multi-arched stone bridge crossing it. In the background, several buildings are visible, including a prominent white steeple. The sky is overcast and grey.

Trees improve climate and save energy.

Trees clean the air.

Trees improve water quality.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Trees stimulate downtown business.

Trees influence residential property values.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Trees calm traffic and encourage walking.

Trees reduce crime and increase social ties.



TREES WORTH THE COST?

Cost: According to the Center for Urban Forest Research, large trees can be maintained for as little as \$13/tree/year

Benefit: And each tree returns an average of \$65/tree

How?

- Cleaner air;
- Better managed stormwater;
- Extended life of streets (shaded streets require resurfacing less often); and
- Higher property values.

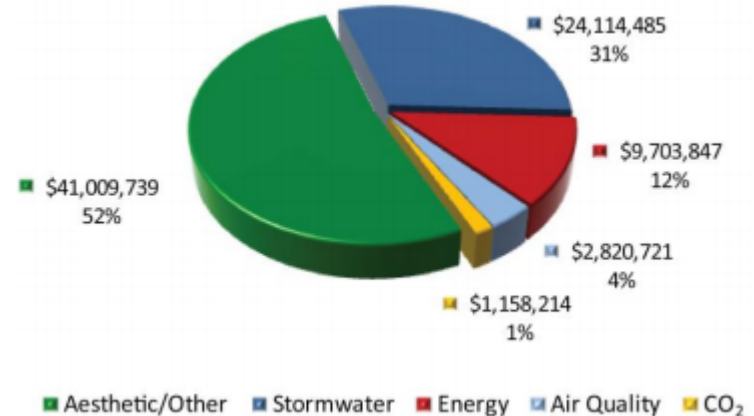


An aerial photograph of a vast agricultural field, likely a potato field, with rows of crops stretching towards a range of snow-capped mountains under a clear sky. The text "CASE STUDIES" is overlaid in the center of the image.

CASE STUDIES

According to a 2010 study, street trees returned the following benefits to Indiana residents:

Energy Conservation: \$9.7 m
Stormwater Management: \$24.1 m
Improved Air Quality: \$2.8 m
CO2 Sequestration: \$1.1 m
Increased Property Values: \$41 m



CLOVIS, CA

Benefit: \$2,149,435 annually (\$22.19 per capita)

Including: energy savings, air quality improvements, stormwater interception, atmospheric CO2 reduction, and aesthetic contributions to the social and economic health of the community.

Cost: \$895,661 annually (\$9.25 per capita)

For every **\$1** spent on public trees,
Clovis receives \$2.40 in benefits.

VISALIA, CA



Trees provide disadvantaged youth age 18-24 with valuable green job experience and technical skills conservation.

The City successfully passed a **Street Tree Ordinance** (2004) Requires all new commercial and residential development to plant street trees.

BAKERSFIELD, CA



Bakersfield has over one-million trees growing within 408 square miles, providing an average tree canopy of 10%.

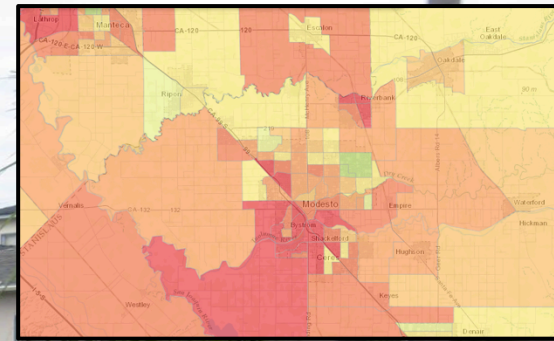
Tree care provides 750 local jobs and is a \$20 million industry.

CALFIRE GRANTS

GGRF Grants are designed to:
“assist disadvantaged communities create or implement multi-benefit forestry projects with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.”

Projects must serve **disadvantaged areas**
(areas in the 75th percentile of CalEnviroScreen)

Late May/Early June: Dinners for elected officials,
Workshops for Municipal Staff members



THANK YOU!

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Technical Support

Local Government Commission/

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