Making a Tre(e)mendous Difference

There is very little that they don't do; from fighting crime to lowering electric bills, they are constantly working to make our city a healthier, happier place to live. We're not referring to superheroes, but rather, an important and often overlooked part of our urban environment: the trees.

- Air Quality

Trees take in Carbon Dioxide, the major greenhouse gas emitted due to human activities, combine it with water to make food, and release Oxygen. They also absorb other airborne pollutants and collect small particles on their leaves, helping to improve urban air quality.

- Water Quality

Tree roots help stabilize the soil, preventing erosion. During and following rain storms, trees, especially trees planted alongside streams and rivers, absorb pollutants and reduce storm water runoff which helps protect water quality.

- Shade

Trees lower surface and air temperatures, helping to reduce the urban heat island effect and keep us cooler. In addition, shade can save us money. Trees help reduce energy costs of cooling buildings during summer and the USDA center for Urban Forest Research found that streets in the shade needed less maintenance over time and that shade reduced repaving costs by 58% over a 30 year period.

- Habitats for animals

Urban trees provide refuges and habitats for beneficial insects, birds, lizards, and other animals, creating vital linkages to natural areas.

- Social benefits

A variety of social benefits are associated with trees from reduced crime to improved mental health. Multiple studies have linked trees to improved quality of life and increased economic benefits to business owners and communities.

Trees do all of this and more! You can make the City a better place to be just by planting a tree.

connections

FOR SUSTAINABILITY