



Learning Exchange Series Presents:

Dimensions of Urban and Community Forestry

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Meet the Panel



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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



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USDA FOREST SERVICE

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANTS



Urban & Community Urban and Community Forestry Program

MAY 2023

About the Urban and Community Forestry Program

- The **USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program** is the only dedicated urban forest program in the federal government.
- The UCF Program assists State Forestry agencies and partner organizations in **addressing and applying nature-based solutions to chronic and emergent economic, social, and environmental challenges** in communities across the United States.



About the Urban and Community Forestry Program

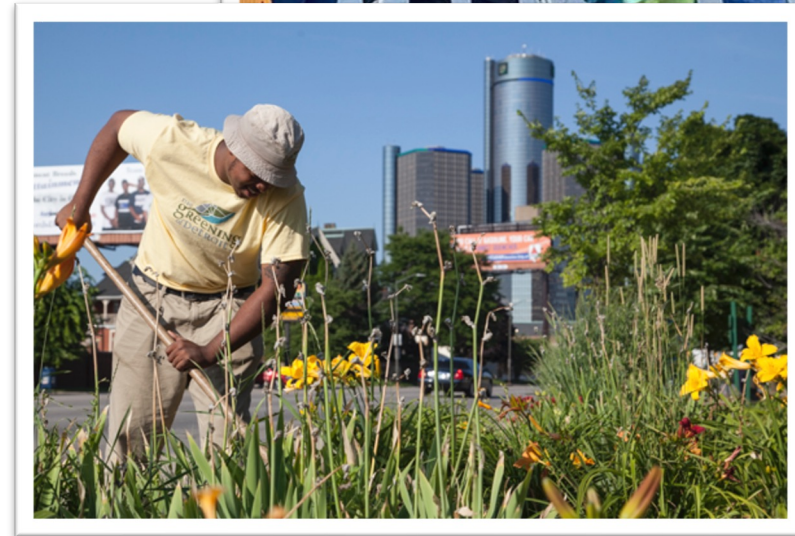
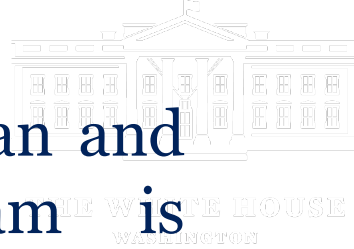
The UCF Program is designed to **direct funding to communities** experiencing low urban tree canopy, dead and hazardous tree conditions, extreme heat and severe flooding, and limited awareness of and/ or access to green job workforce to these communities:

- Become more **resilient to climate change**
- Benefit from the **cooling effects of increased urban tree canopy**
- Experience **improved forest health** conditions and **safer access to tree benefits**
- Attain broadened exposure and access to **environmental career pathways.**



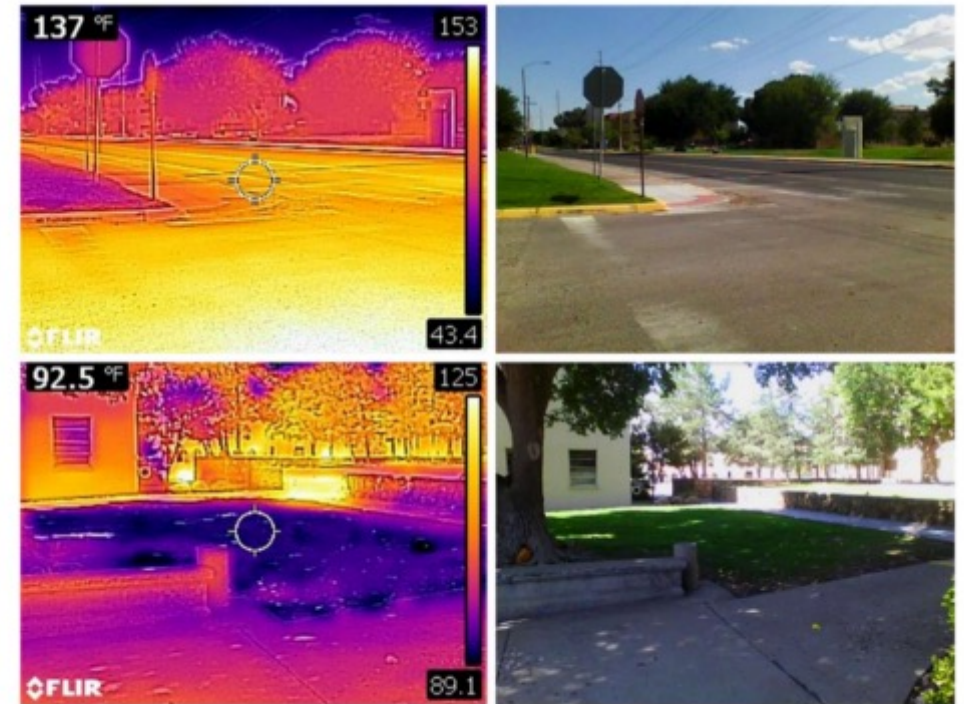
The Benefits of Trees for All

The USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program is investing a historic \$1 billion to deliver equitable access to trees and the associated benefits they provide to human health, the environment, and the economy in disadvantaged cities, towns, and tribal communities across the country.



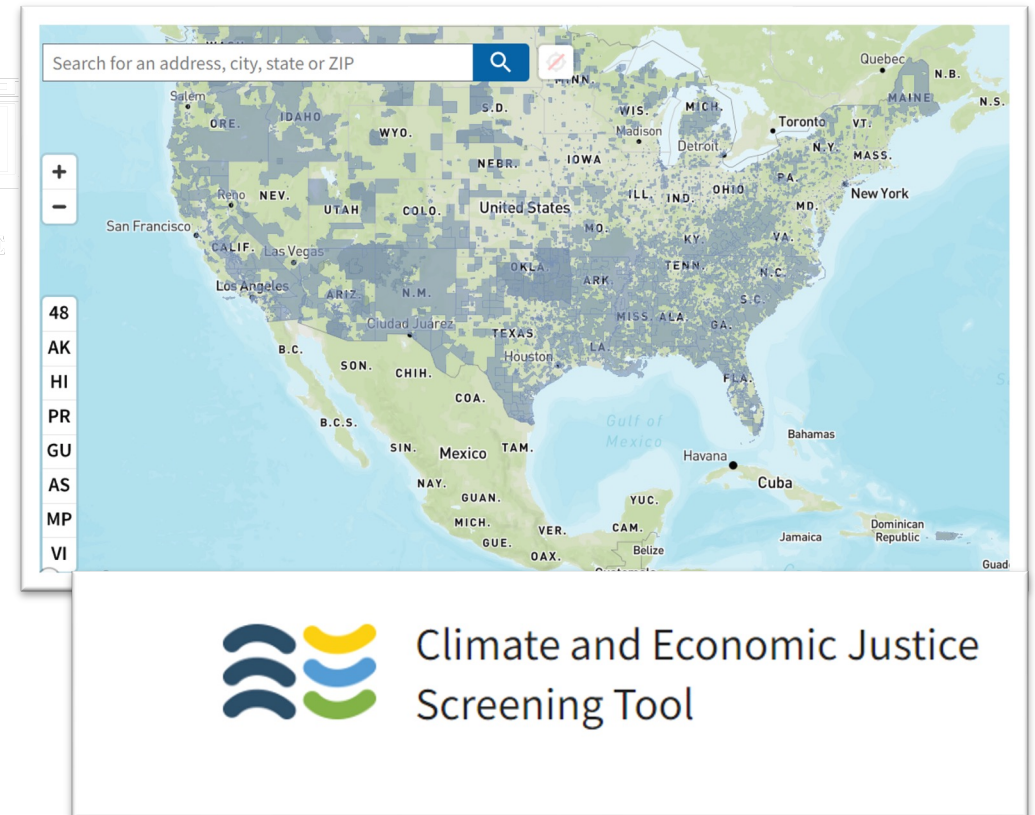
The Urban Community Forestry Program and Justice40

- The UCF Program is a **covered program under USDA's Justice40 Initiative** established through Executive Order 13985.
- A minimum of **40% of UCF Program investments will directly benefit disadvantaged communities** through:
 - Increased access to nature and associated public health benefits
 - Newly planted trees that provide shade and reduce extreme heat conditions at the neighborhood level



The Future of USDA Urban and Community Forestry Program

- Modern technology and other government sponsored vulnerability tools are mandatory in identifying at-risk and disadvantaged communities.
- These new tools will help ensure this funding is dispersed in areas that are most in need.
- The UCF Program will continue grow and will continue to promote diversity and inclusion by creating a diverse workforce as we seek to grow the next generation of conservation stewards that reflect our society.



Thank You!



Urban and Community Forestry Program

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf>