

Cambridge Canopy Project



Did you know, a two-hour ‘dose’ of nature per week could significantly boost your health and wellbeing? This includes the urban forest ([White et al., 2019](#)).



Did you know, urban trees can help to prevent flooding by intercepting rainfall, acting as a barrier to floodwater, and enabling greater infiltration. In fact, trees can help to reduce surface water runoff by up to 80% compared to asphalt alone ([Woodland Trust, 2014](#)).



Did you know, urban trees help to keep us cool, not only by providing shade, but by actively using heat energy from their surroundings to drive evaporation as trees ‘perspire’. This energy usage helps to reduce the air temperature, and helps to keep us cooler.



Did you know, urban trees provide character to towns and cities, building our sense of pride in our surroundings which can help to reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour. The urban forest provides an outdoor classroom for our children to learn in, and provides recreational opportunities for all.

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Did you know, where possible, most people actively choose to live near trees. In fact, tree-lined streets in the urban forest have been found to increase house prices by as much as 15% ([Treeconomics, 2015](#)). Just one example of how urban trees really can help residents of the City.



Did you know, a single urban tree planted to provide shade in California prevents the combustion of 18kg of carbon per year by avoiding the use of air conditioning. Combined with the carbon it locks up through natural growth, this makes it 3-5 times more valuable than a single forest tree in terms of its contribution to climatic regulation ([UKNEA, 2011](#)).



Did you know, the huge surface area of an urban tree's leaves allows particles and chemicals to be intercepted from the air, some of these are absorbed and stored in the leaf structure, and some are bound to the leaf surfaces. The effect of this filtration from the whole urban forest working together is vast and can contribute significant health benefits to city residents.



Did you know, urban trees are vitally important for nature. They act as a link to habitats beyond the city boundary, and provide food and shelter for wildlife within the urban forest – including birds, bats, and many important insects like bees and other pollinators.