



### Urban Forests

Did you know a vast forest grows right in the middle of most cities? Urban forests are the plants and trees growing in a city. They help beautifully and protect the city, providing shade, removing pollution from the earth and air, and reducing noise from traffic and streets. The average urban tree removes one ton of greenhouse gas from the air during its first 40 years of life. Trees are multiplying and thriving with the help of organizations such as Casey Tree here in Washington or other members of the Alliance for Community Trees around the country. Most all of these teach classes on planting, mulching, and pruning techniques. Volunteers who receive this training then tend to trees in public areas. Their efforts help our urban forests prosper. Can you help our urban forests grow?

Artist: Kate Tully, "CO2 Breakthrough"  
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**Urban Forests**  
Urban forests provide a wide range of benefits, including improved air quality, reduced energy consumption, and enhanced aesthetic appeal. They also provide a natural habitat for wildlife and a place for people to enjoy nature. Urban forests are an important part of any city's infrastructure and should be protected and expanded wherever possible.

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