

Urban & Community Forestry and the Inflation Reduction Act

ACES: A Community on Ecosystem Services December 2024

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Urban & Community Forestry Program

- Urban forests are vital to human well-being.
- The Forest Service's Urban & Community Forestry (UCF)
 Program is the only dedicated urban forestry program in the federal government.
- UCF assists State Forestry agencies and other partners in applying nature-based solutions to chronic and emergent economic, social, and environmental challenges.
- UCF is a Justice 40 program directing at least 40% of the overall benefits to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.





- Historical funding: \$20-40 million per year
- Technical and financial assistance to more than 80% of Americans living in 7,500+ communities managing, developing, or exploring UCF programs
- Guided by the National Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) 10-Year Action Plan and State Forest Action Plans
- Authority to fund tree planting and maintenance, planning and assessment, urban natural areas management, ordinance development, community engagement, conservation education, workforce development, and related activities

Urban And Community Forests Increase Sustainability, Wellness, and Resilience in All Communities.

A: Create environmental education programs

awareness and education campaign. C: Increase engagement of undeserved and

Plan Mission

Help All Communities Create Urban and Community Forests that are Diverse, Healthy, and Accessible for All Citizens.

1. Integrate Urban and Community Forestry Into all Scales of Planning

A: Support inclusion of trees and forests as elements of all community comprehensive and master planning efforts. B: Support the integration of urban forestry into all scales of city

regional, and state-scale master plans

C: Launch a public awareness and education campaign to elevate recognition of the value of urban trees and urban forests ecosystems as essential contributors to community sustainability

Increase community capacity to use urban trees and forestry in public space planning.

for Urban and Community Forestr

A: Increase funding Goal 6. Funding

R: To leverage and diversify funding expand collaboration between urban orestry and related fields, agencies

Community Forest

Improve urban and community forest management, maintenance, and arboricultura

Goal 5. Managemen

and resources for enhancing urban forestry C: Promote for better use of technology and

tools in urban forestry.

D: Facilitate expanded research and delivery

Overarching Principles

1. Advance health and wellness of forests, ecosystems and people

2. Maximize community and ecosystem sustainability.

3. Build community and atural ecosystem resilience

A: Increase the biodiversity, health, and resilience

of urban and community forests facing climate

C: Support use of urban forests for increasing

of trees in urban and community forests. B: Foster resilience, restoration, and sustainability

Goal 4. Environmental

Goal 3. Diversity. Equity and Leadership

A: Increase diversity, equity, and accessibility in urban and community forestry

B: Engage under served communities in urbar

C: Develop effective leadership at all levels to build a national voice for urban forestry.

D: Increase workforce development opportunities

and communication within the field of urban

Plan Vision

minority communities in urban

Goal 7. Education

Human Health

2. Promote the Role of Urban and Community Forestry in Human Health and Wellness

> A: Expand opportunities for collaboration with the health

B: Champion a nationwide marketing campaign that links

C: Plan, design and manage urban forests to improve human health and wellness.

D: Develop tools to improve and highlight the relationship improved public health, wellness, and urban and community forestry and green

3. Cultivate Diversity, Equity, and Leadership Within the Urban Forestry



and green jobs in urban and community forestry, with particular attention to under served E: Promote expanded collaboration, training

and community forestry to build workforce

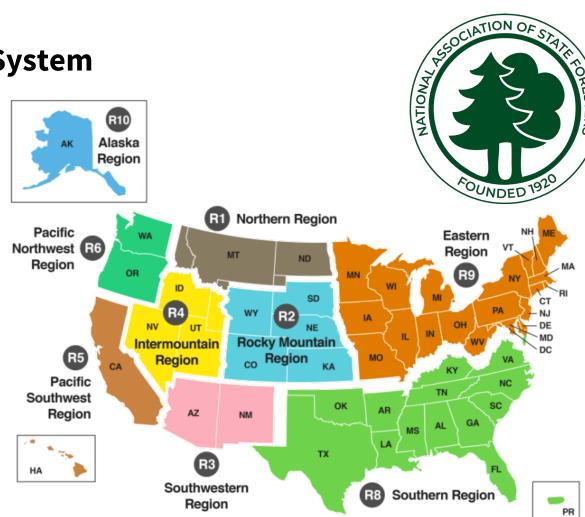
Traditional Delivery System

USFS WO

USFS Regions

State Forestry

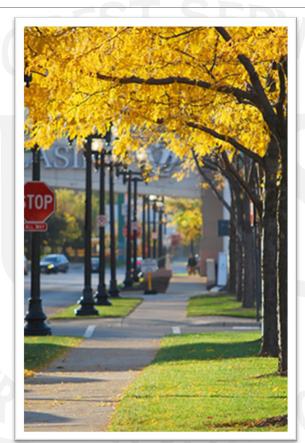
Local Partners



UCF Funding through the Inflation Reduction Act

Historic **\$1.5 billion investment** in "tree planting and related activities" with a priority for projects that benefit underserved populations and areas

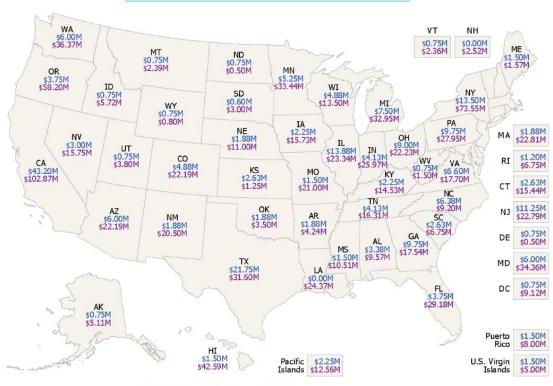
- \$250 million allocated to State Forestry Agencies
- Funding nearly 400 awards to increase equitable access to trees and green spaces
- 100% of benefits will flow to disadvantaged communities as designated by CEJST, EJScreen, and the EPA Disadvantaged Communities tool
- Projects in all 50 states, DC, U.S. territories, U.S. affiliated Pacific islands, and tribal communities



Awards managed by USFS Regional Offices and 12 National Pass-Through Partners

- Includes community, regional, statewide, and multi-state projects
- Awards range in size from \$100k to \$22.8 million
- \$20 million set-aside for tribal and faith-based projects with NPTPs

Urban and Community Forestry FY 2023 IRA Grant Allocations in Millions of Dollars



FY 2023 IRA State Allocation - \$250 Million Total FY 2023 IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity Grants - \$1.13 Billion Total

UCF Funding through the Inflation Reduction Act

Award selection prioritized multiple IRA-UCF themes.

- Tree Planting & Maintenance 90% will support planting, monitoring, and long-term maintenance of trees.
- Workforce Development 45% will create and sustain living-wage jobs in green industries.
- Extreme Heat 43% will help mitigate rising temperatures in growing metropolitans.
- Restoration & Resilience 60% will support climate-adapted tree planting and strategies to increase community resiliency.
- Community Engagement & Planning 36% will empower communities to participate in urban forestry decision making.











National Pass-Through Partners

Arbor Day Foundation	River Network
American Forests	Student Conservation Association

1890 Universities Foundation Trust for Public Land

Hispanic Access Foundation The Corps Network

Urban Sustainability Directors Network

GreenLatinos Sus<mark>tainable Forestry Initiative</mark>

Groundwork USA

New Delivery System













Local Partners

Local Partners

Local Partners

Accomplishment Reporting System @ treesatwork.org



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TREES AT WORK







Overview

Tree Canopy App 7

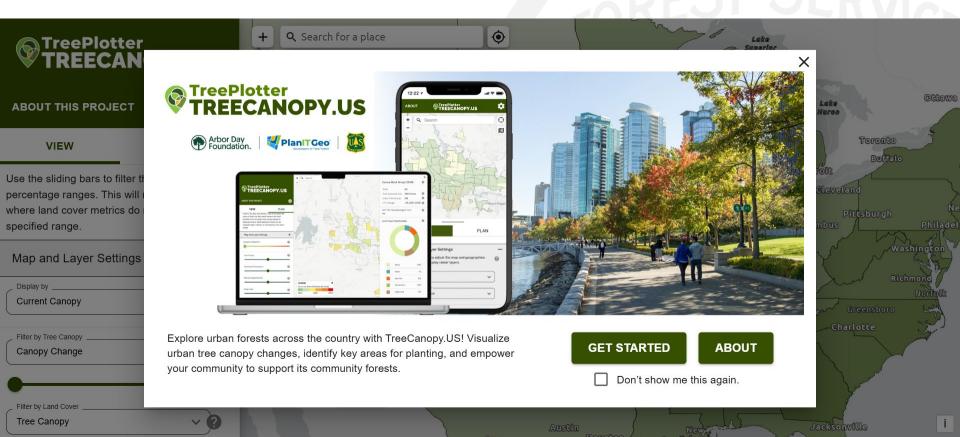
Data Gallery

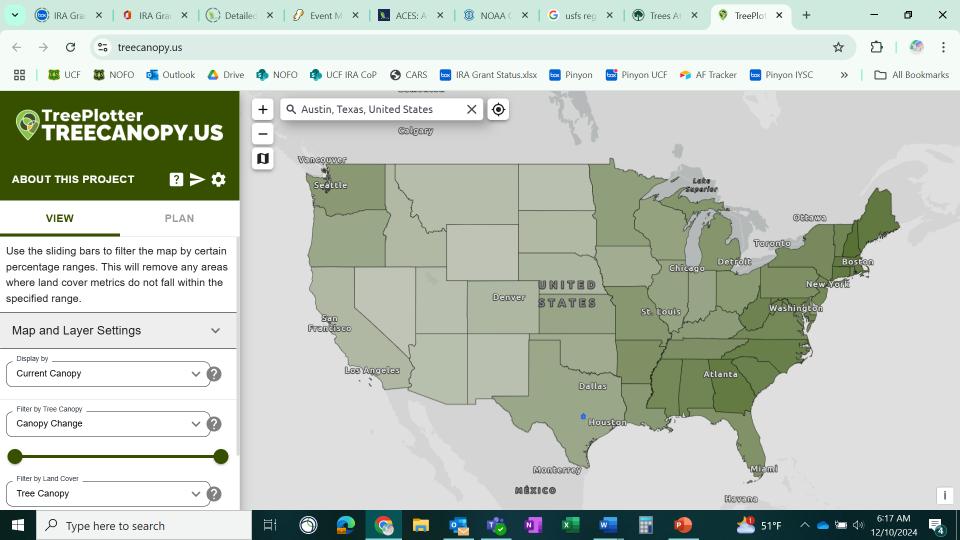
Contact Us

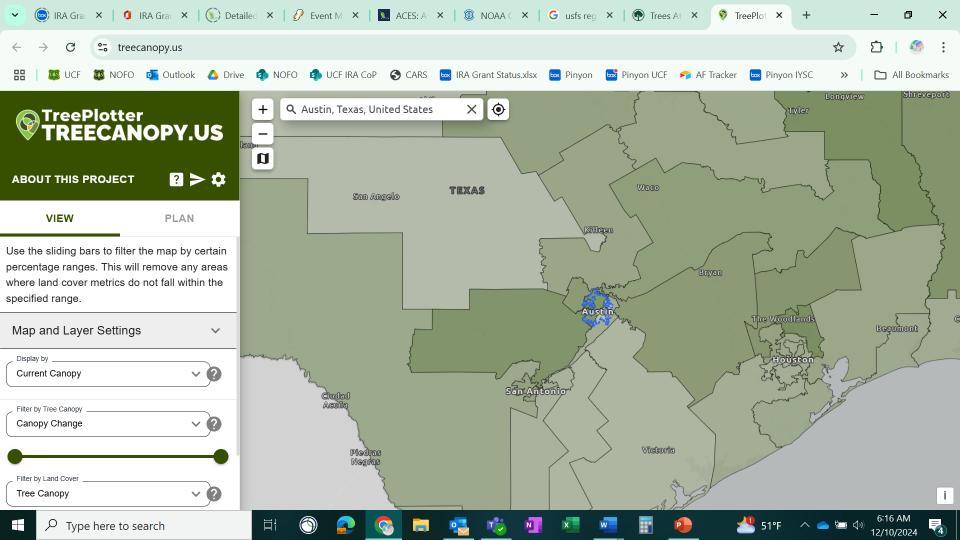
GROWING STRONGE COMMUNITIES THROUGH URBAN **FORESTRY**

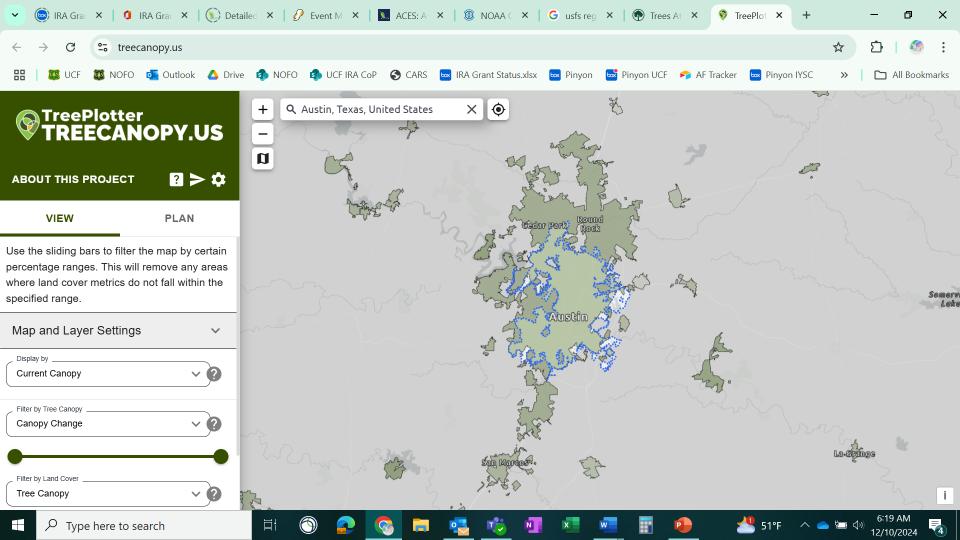
Discover how \$1.5 billion in Inflation Reduction Act funding is transforming urban forestry and underserved communities' access to trees and green spaces. Explore the impact these projects are having through mapping, data, reports, and more.

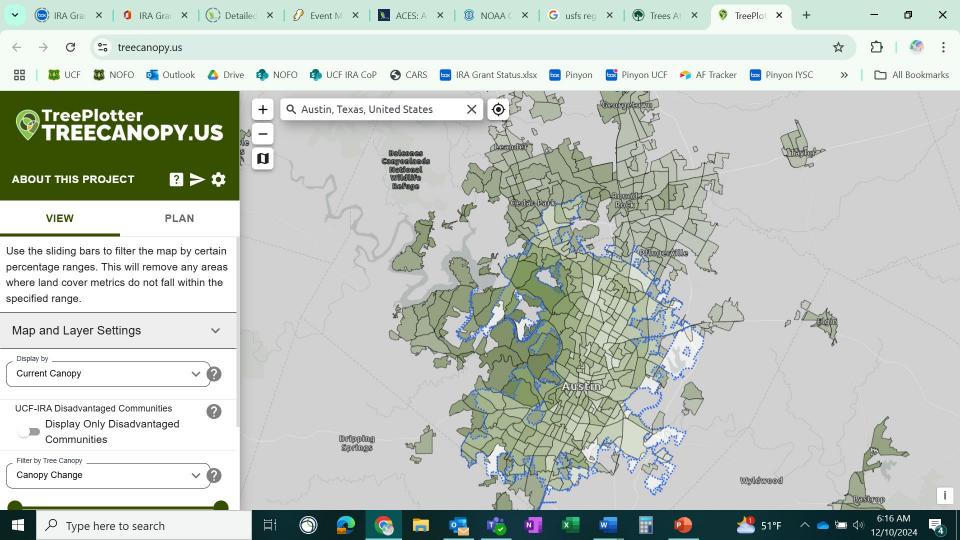
National Urban Tree Canopy Assessment @ treesatwork.org

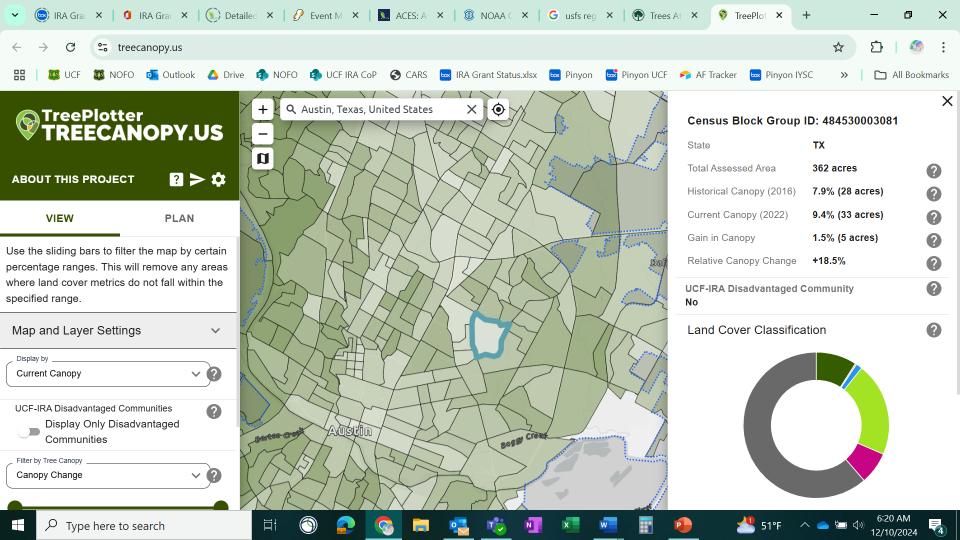


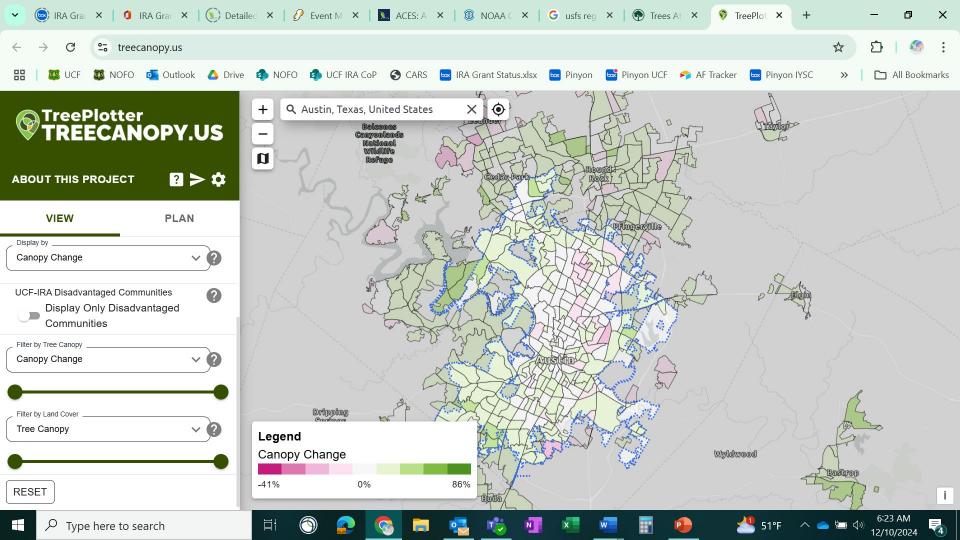


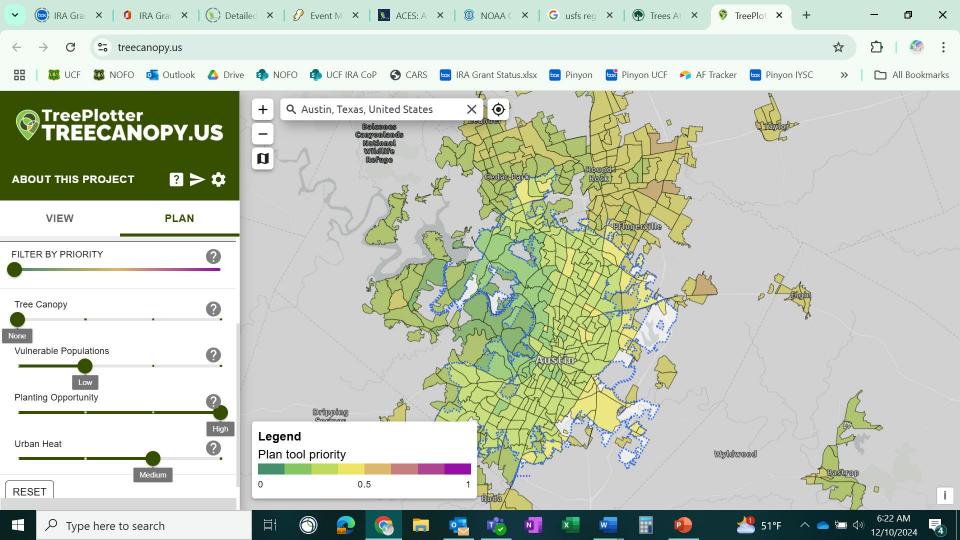


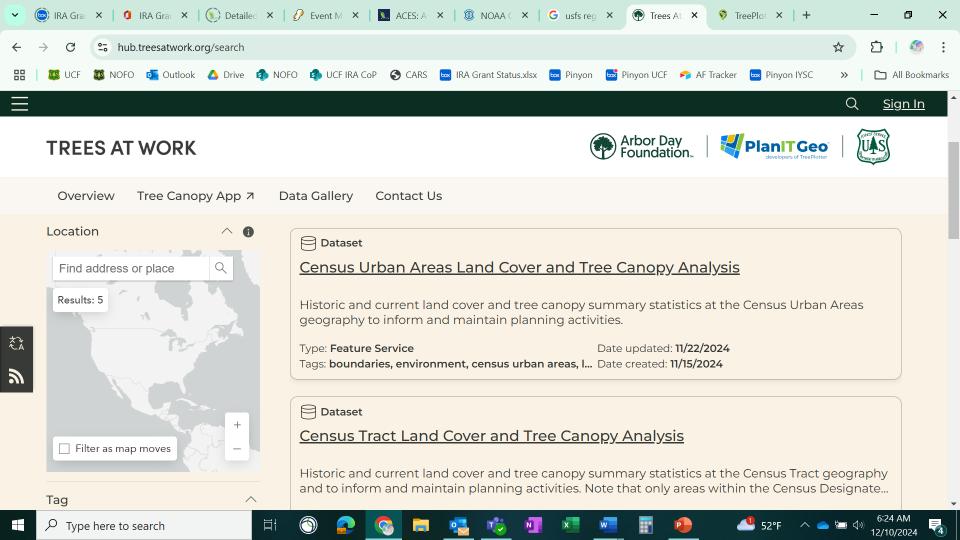


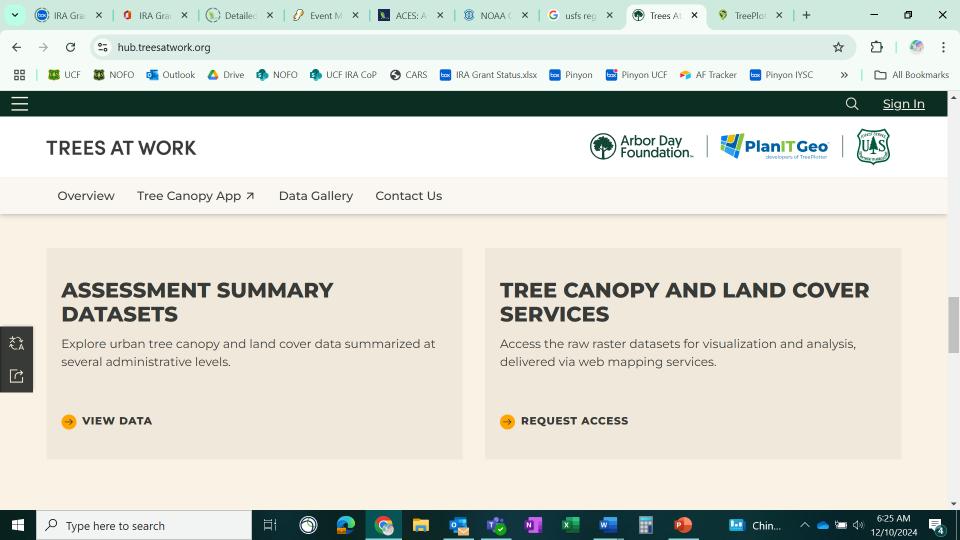


















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