



# Bloomington, Indiana State of the Urban Forest Results

Completed by: Davey Resource Group



# What is an Urban Forest?

# Why measure an Urban Forest?

### You can't manage what you can't measure

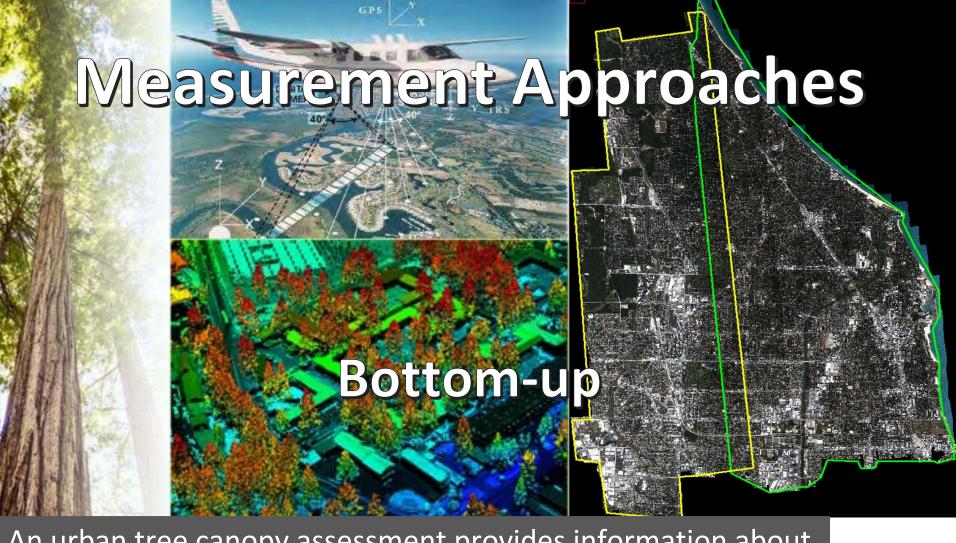
- ✓ Prioritize and schedule work.
- ✓ Budget predictions.
- ✓ Understand and plan for threats.
- ✓ Develop or measure progress towards goals.
- ✓ Report accomplishments.
- ✓ Communication and outreach.





A tree inventory provides information about individual trees; collectively the data can provide information about the benefit-services and reliance of the tree population.





An urban tree canopy assessment provides information about public and private trees; collectively the data can provide information about the benefit-services and equity of the natural resource.



#### Sites included in the inventory:

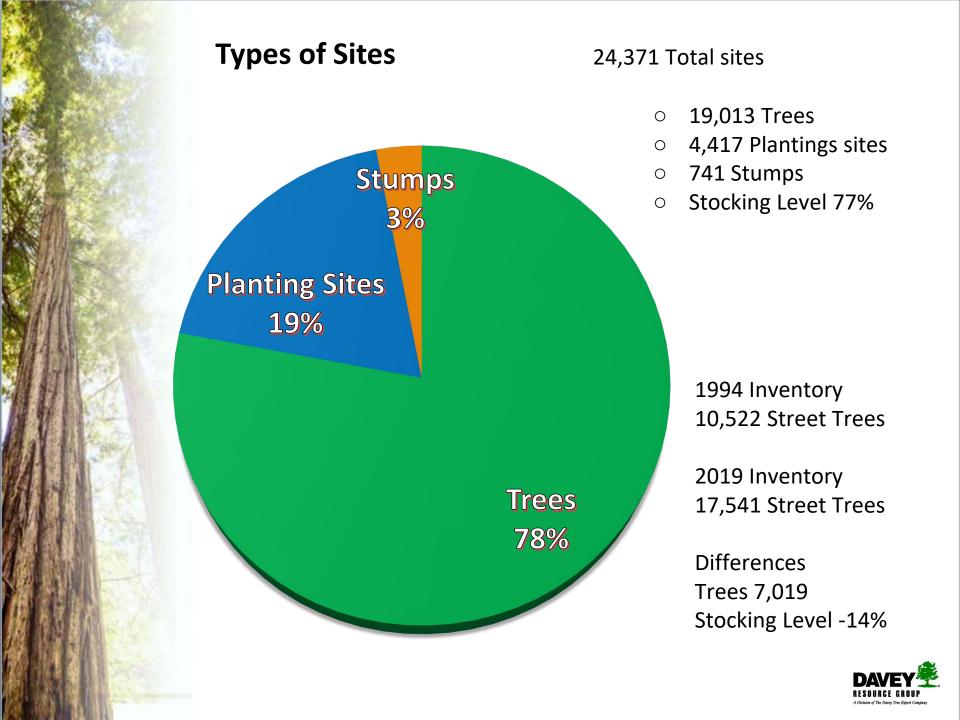
- Trees, stumps, and vacant planting sites
- Located within the 237 miles of city maintained street ROW and 11 city parks
- Planting sites were identified as small, medium and large

#### Data fields:

Location (Address)	Primary Maintenance Need
GIS X and Y	Defects
Species	Risk Rating
Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)	Further Inspect
Multi-Stem	Overhead Utilities
Tree Condition	Tree Grate

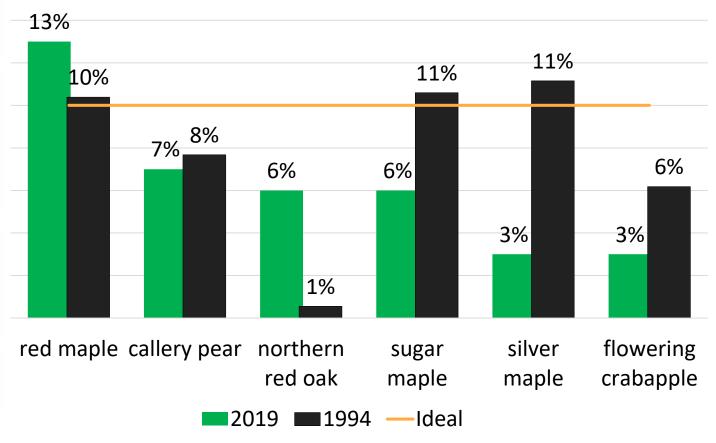
Data collection: February to August 2019





# 14% 12% 10% 8% 6% 4% 2% 0%

#### **Species and Genus Diversity**



#### 168 species representing 63 genera

2019 maple represents 24% 1994 maple represented 30%

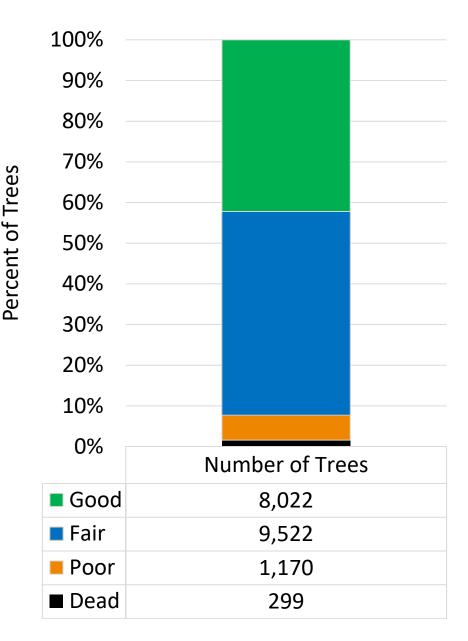


# Tree Condition

- Healthy population of Fair and Good condition trees make up
   92% of all trees
- Poor and Dead make up 8%

1994 Inventory Healthy population 87%

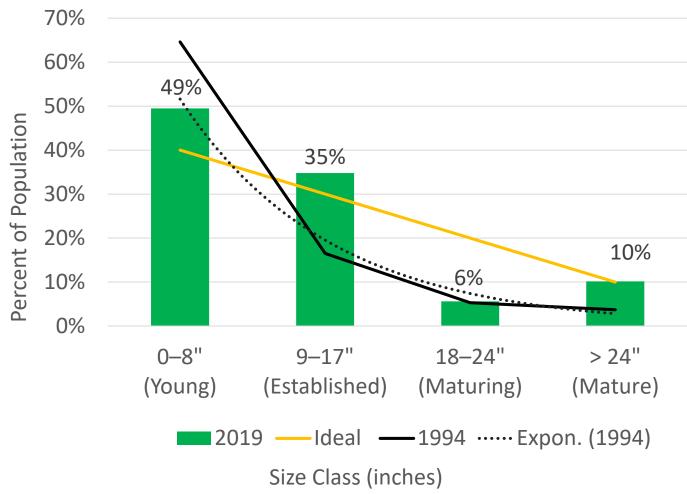
Difference Healthier by 13%





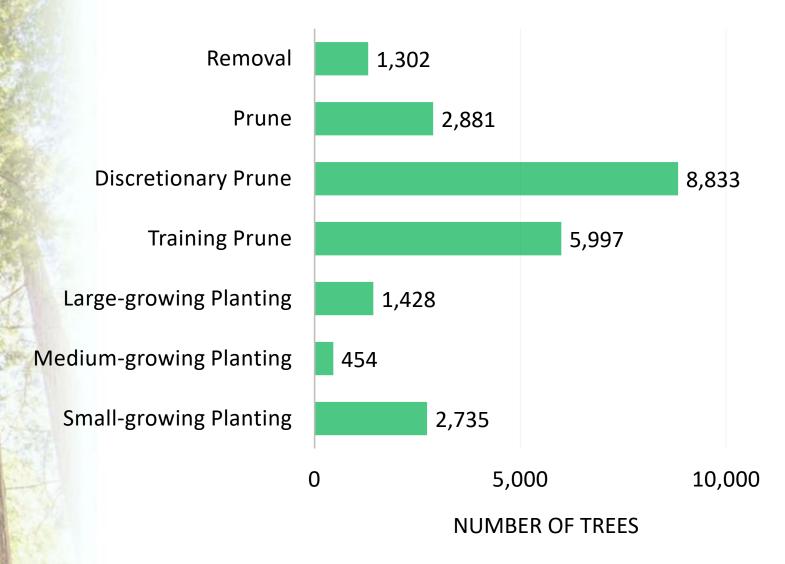


#### **Diameter Class Distribution**

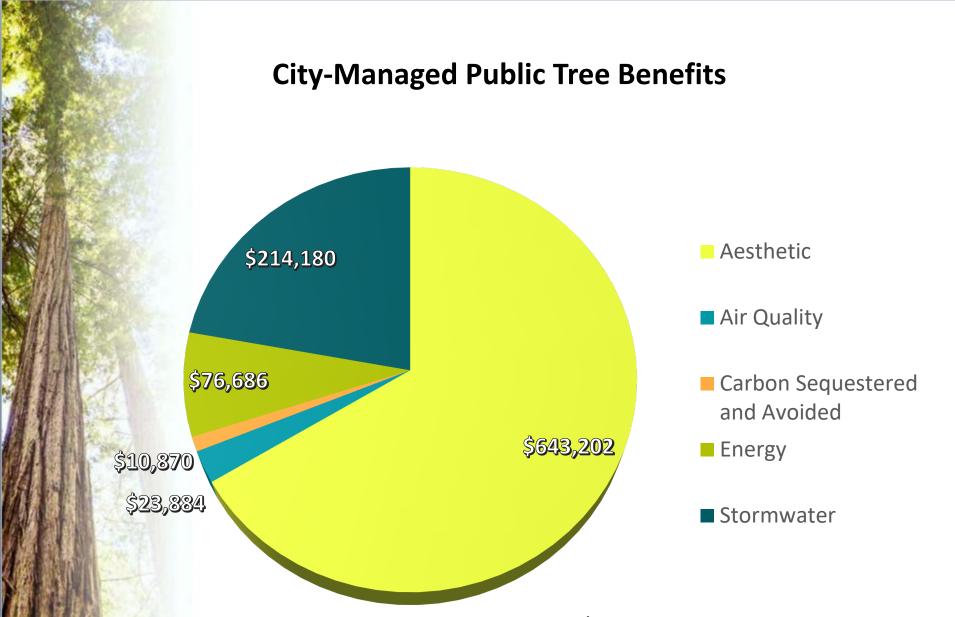




#### **Maintenance Needs**





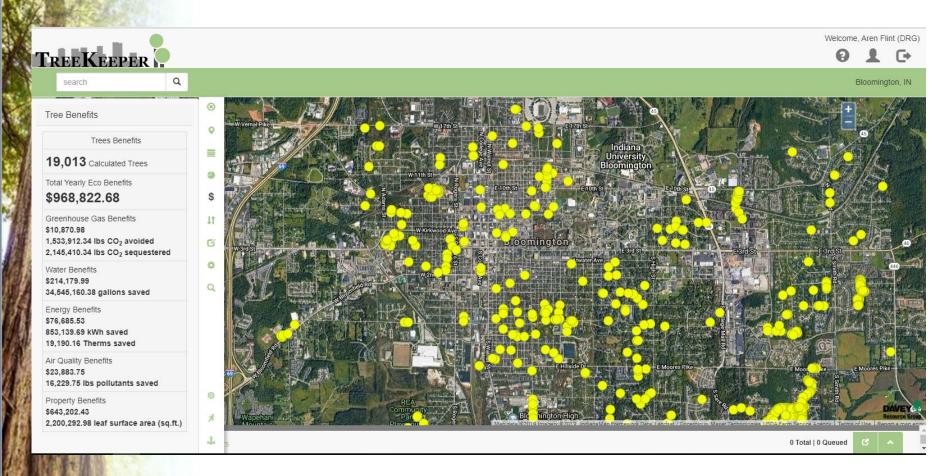


# Total Annual Benefit \$968,823 Benefit per capita \$11 Benefit per tree \$51



### **TreeKeeper Software**

Bloomington uses Davey's TreeKeeper software; data was delivered in TreeKeeper, ESRI, and Excel.





#### Land cover included in the urban tree canopy assessment:

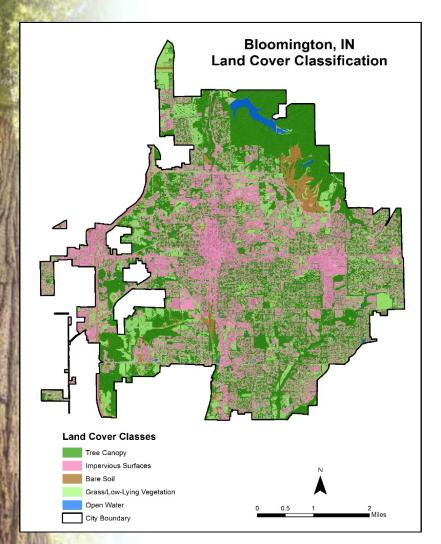
- Tree canopy, impervious surface, pervious surface, bare soil, and open water
- 15,000 acres citywide
- Plantable spaces were identified and ranked by priority

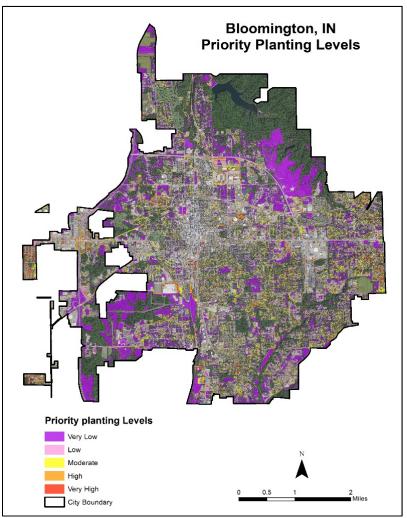
#### **Results:**

Tree canopy	5,735 acres
Impervious surface	5,064 acres
Pervious surface	3,641 acres
Bare soil	435 acres
Open water	125 acres

**Data collection:** 2018 National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) leaf-on, multispectral imagery acquired and processed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

### **Land Cover and Prioritized Plantable Space**



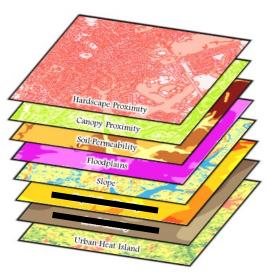




# **Maximum Tree Canopy 61%** Open Water 1% **Impervious Exiting** Surfaces Canopy 34% 38% Other Pervious Surfaces 5% Platable Space 22%

#### 3,338 Plantable acres

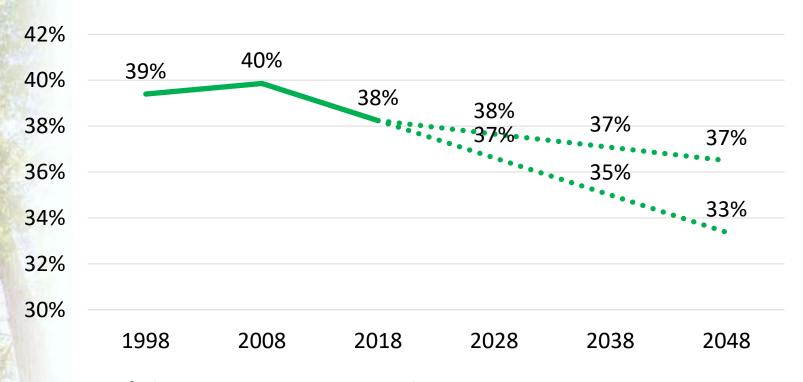
- 176 acres Very high
- o 356 acres High
- 417 acres Moderate
- 455 acres Low
- 1,934 acres Very low



**Environmental Factors** 



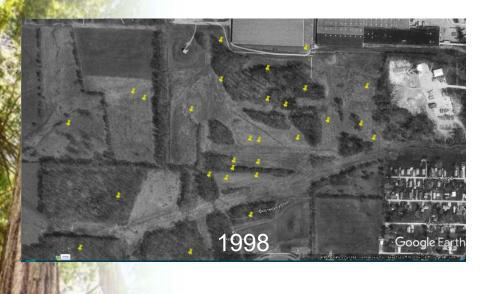
#### **Tree Canopy Change over 50 years**



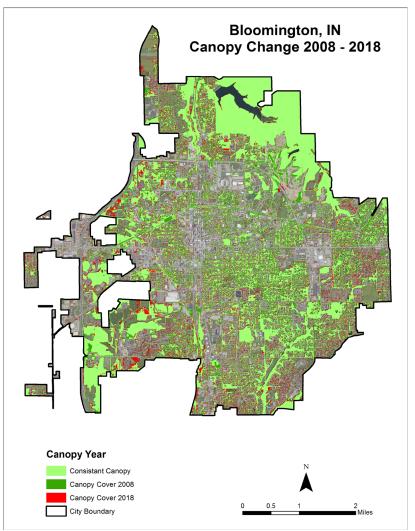
- —City of Bloomington Tree Canopy Change
- ••••City of Bloomington Tree Canopy Projected Change over 10 Years (1.6%)
- ····City of Bloomington Tree Canopy Projected Change over 20 Years (0.6%)



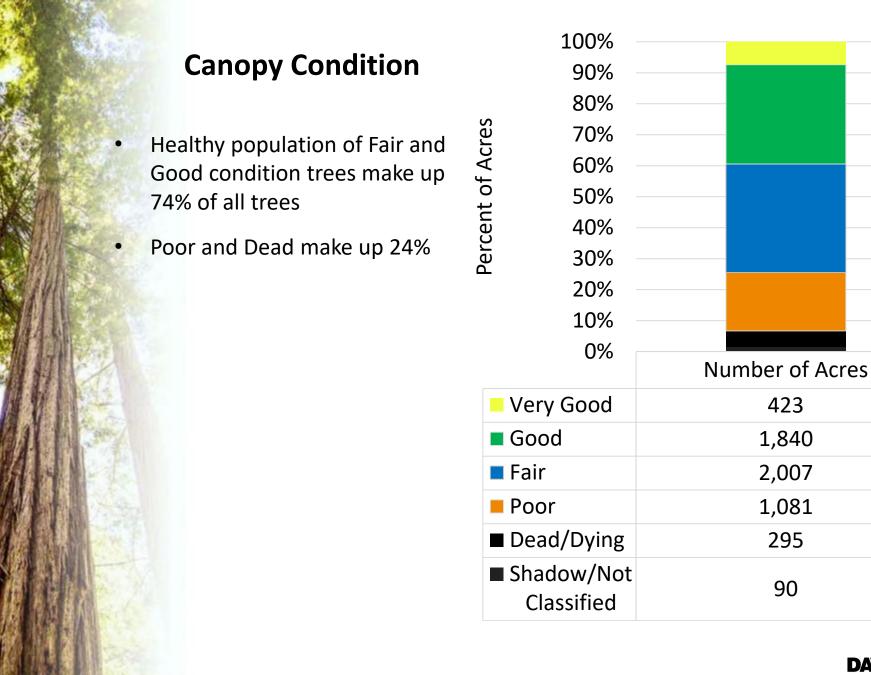
## **Tree Canopy Change**













#### **Other Analyses**

 Geographic units: census tracts, city-owned parcels, citywide, council districts, Indiana University campus, neighborhood associations, parks, watersheds, and zoning.

Neighborhoods with most tree canopy percentage: Bittner Woods, South Griffy, and Woodlands-Winding Brook

Neighborhoods with most tree canopy acreage: Elm Heights, Covenanter,
Sherwoods Oaks

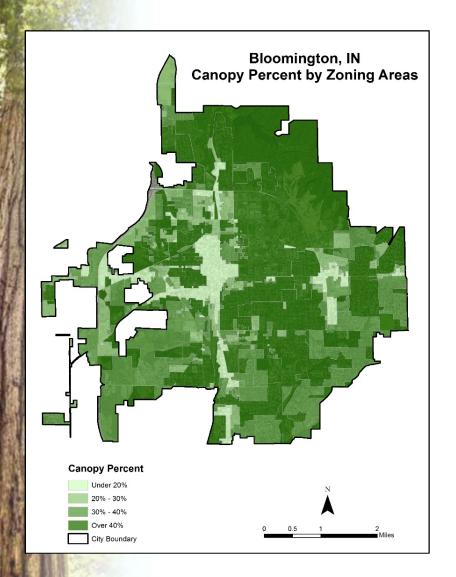
Neighborhoods with most positive change in tree canopy percentage: Autumn View, Southern Pines, Highland Village

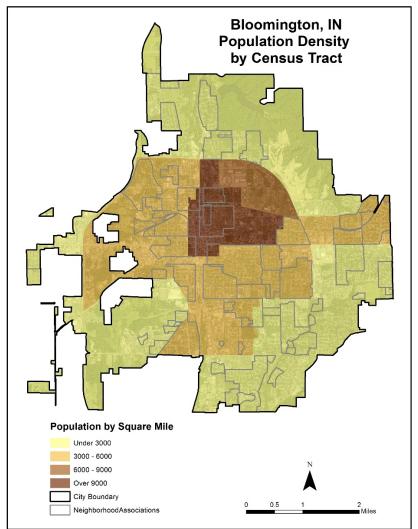
 Urban Tree Resource Analysis and Cost Estimator (UTRACE) tool, utilizes the land cover assessment data to estimate the number of trees required and costs to increase and maintain the newly planted tree canopy.

2% CANOPY INCREASE = 10,841 TREES for COST OF \$4,770,016

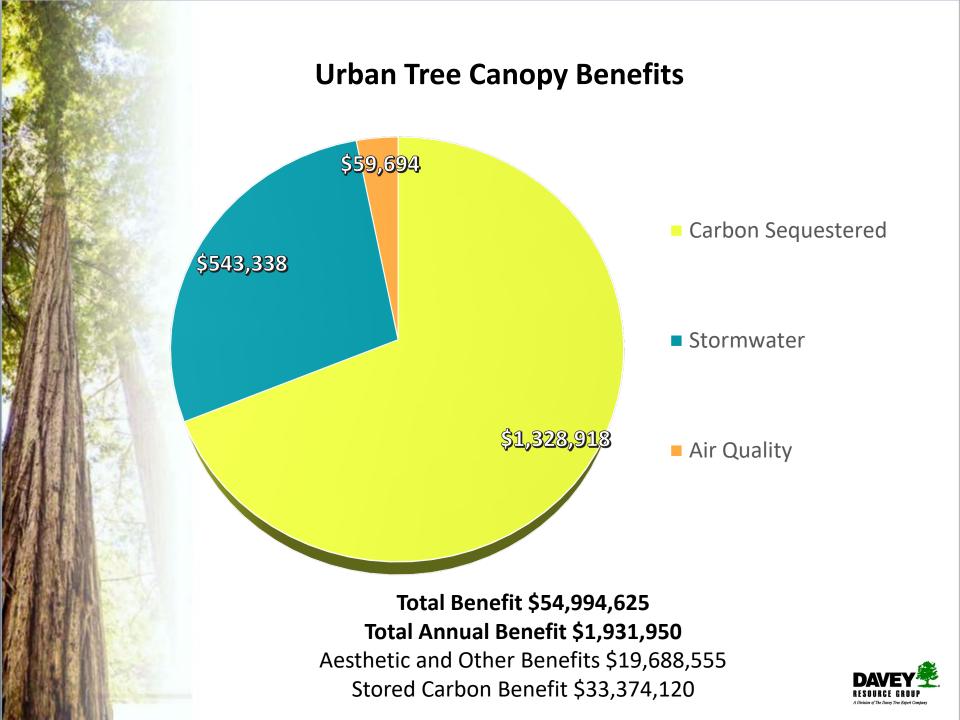
Zoning Types with most trees to be planted: Institutional, Planned Unit Development, and Residential Core

#### Other Analyses - Socio-Demographic and Economic Analyses









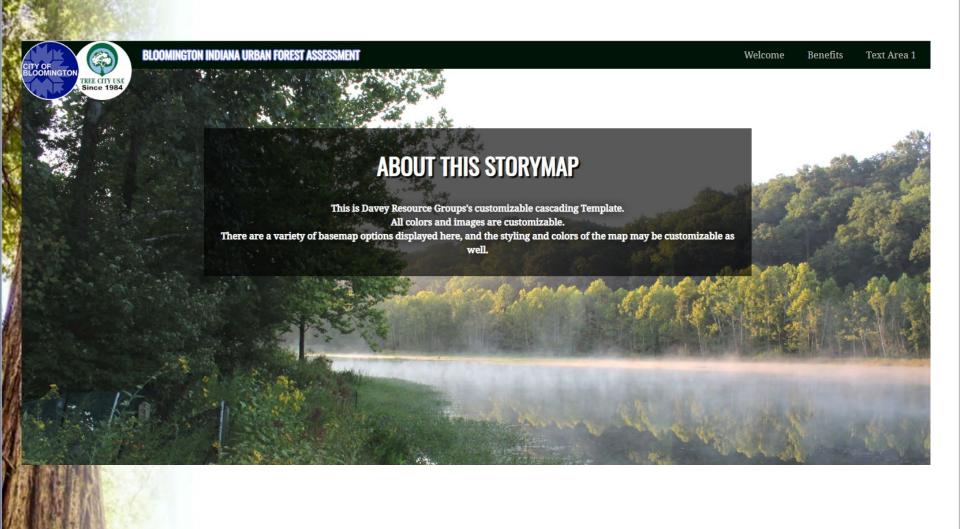
#### **TreeKeeper Software**

Bloomington's prioritized planting plan is on TreeKeeper; assessment deliverables in ESRI with projection and metadata and supporting analyses are in Excel with few Maps in jpeg and PDF formats.





# **Bloomington Storymap**







# **Summary and Next Steps**

- Create a 5 to 7 year public tree management plan to develop a strategies for improving genus and species diversity, manage for maturing/mature tree population, and maximize public benefit through planting and building resiliency.
- Prune young trees now to improve structure encouraging better from as they age. Theoretically, this is a cost saver down the road.
- Use TreeKeeper to keep the inventory up-to-date as work is performed, budget for partial re-inventory every year to continually measure progress and adjust, and tree preservation and landscape plans.
- Review and revise as necessary the tree ordinance, adjust tree preservation and landscape ordinance, and refine other policies.
- Consider tree canopy goal establishment and an urban forest master plan to bring the community together in achieving the same goal and building equity.





