

North Central Texas

Council of Governments

Urban Forestry Stakeholder Meeting: Forestry Opportunities Within Your Community

June 5, 2024

This project was funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Alyssa Knox, NCTCOG aknox@nctcog.org







Procedures for Workshop

- The workshop is being recorded and will be posted to NCTCOG's Environment and Development YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@NCTCOGED
- If you submitted an RSVP for this, you will receive an email with the presentation slides and the recording when it is available. If you did <u>not</u> RSVP and would like these materials, please email <u>aknox@nctcog.org</u>.
- Please keep your microphone on mute until the Questionand-Answer period at the end of the presentation.
- Thank you!



Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
 - Courtney Blevins, Regional Forester, Texas A&M Forest Service
- > Time for Q & A after presentation

Speaker Introduction

Courtney Blevins

Regional Forester,Texas A&M Forest Service



Tree City USA®

Purpose through Process





Michael Merritt
Bayou Region Urban Forestry Coordinator
713-688-8931, mmerritt@tfs.tamu.edu

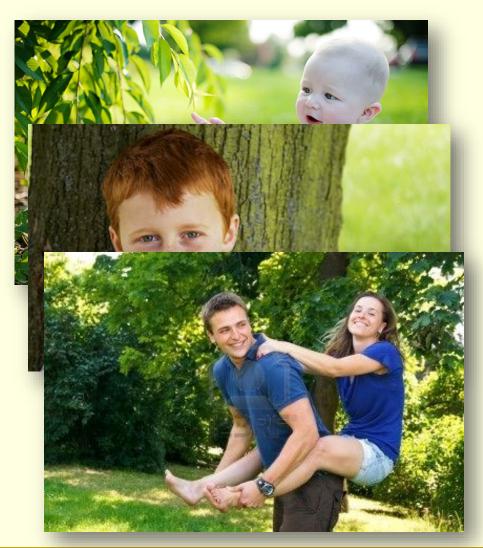




Trees...

- Part of community infrastructure
- Vital to community health
- Create a community legacy
- Positive impact on business and tax base
- Wise investment of community dollars

Worth Our Time. Worth Our Resources.



Biophilia

an innate affiliation to natural settings

- increases employee productivity
- Reduces symptoms of ADHD in kids
- faster hospital recoveries
- less crime
- overall reduction in stress and anxiety





- Large trees can add 10% to property values
- Treed streets = more frequent and longer shopping
- Shoppers spend 12% more for goods and parking



- 100 mature trees catch 200,000 gal of rainwater/year...
 Cleaner water and less \$ for stormwater control
- 100 trees remove 26 tons of CO₂ and 300 lbs of pollutants/year...
 including 66 lbs. of ozone and 91 lbs. of particulates
- 100 trees provide the net cooling effect as 1,000 air conditioners

(McPerson et. Al., 2004)

100 Trees Over 40 Years...

Benefits = \$161,000

Costs = \$89,000

Energy

Air Quality

Runoff

Real Estate

Planting/Pruning

Removal/Disposal

Irrigation

Sidewalk Repair

Litter

Legal/Admin

Pay Off: \$72,000



Provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs

Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters









Began in NE in 1972, went national in 1976

Over 3500 Tree City USA communities across the United States

Over 135 million people live in or near a Tree City USA community



About 100 Tree City USA communities in Texas



Great diversity within those communities







Longest running community in Texas

• Ft Worth, pop. 903,073 (Almost 50 years)

Some New Texas communities (1 year)

- Mount Vernon, pop. 2,781
- Childress, pop. 6,513
- Bastrop, pop. 8,378
- Boerne, pop. 10,283
- Sugar Land, pop. 84,511 (2012)
- Katy, pop. 14,102 (2012)





Smallest: Buffalo Gap pop. 436





Largest: Houston pop. 2,140,000



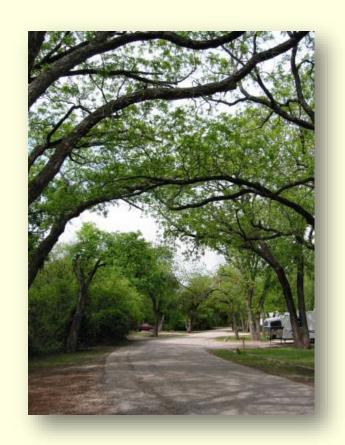


Different: Randolph AFB pop. 1436





From the east...





...to the west





- Framework for Action
- > Education
- Public Image
- Citizen Pride
- Financial Assistance
- > Publicity



Framework for Action

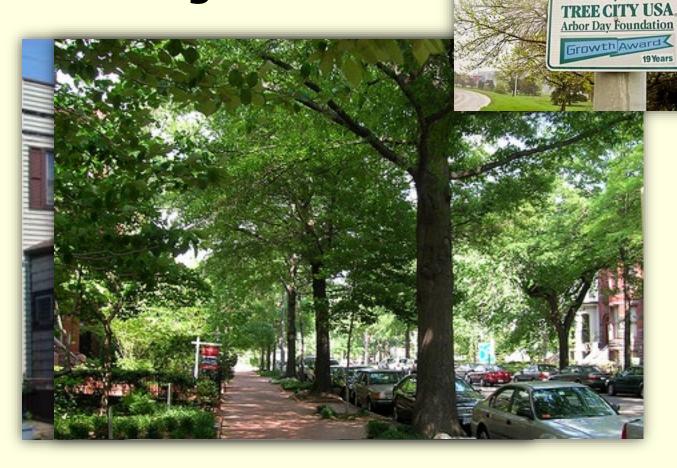


- Provides initial direction for an urban or community forestry program
- Meeting the Four Standards helps to get started toward systematic management of tree resources

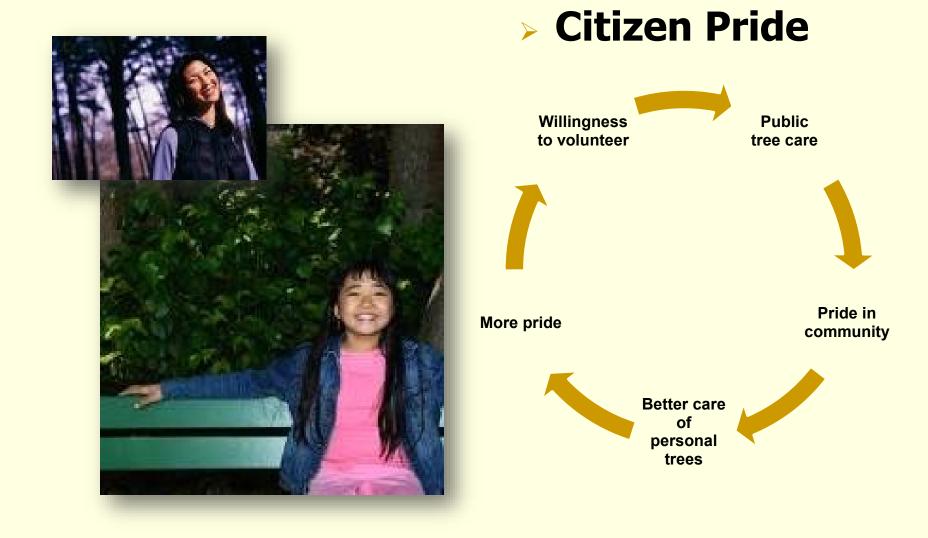
Education



Public Image



33 Years



> Financial Assistance

Grants for trees and forestry programs.

TCUSA may be preferenced





> Publicity

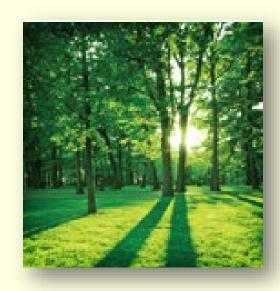
Presentation of the Tree City USA award

Arbor Day celebration

Public education

> Four Standards

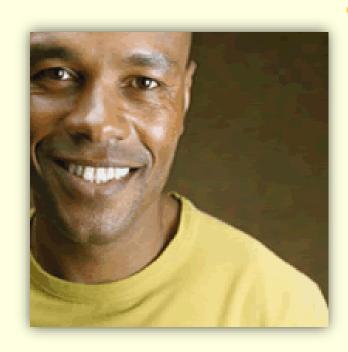
- 1. Tree Board or Department
- 2. Tree Care Ordinance
- 3. Community Forestry Program with per capita
 - budget of at least \$2
- 4. Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation





1. Tree Board or Department

- May be a professional forester/arborist, an entire forestry or parks department, or a tree board
- Charged by ordinance with developing and administering a tree management program
- Delegates responsibility for the management of the community's public trees



2. Tree Care Ordinance

- Establishes a tree board and gives it responsibilities
- Guidance for planting, maintaining and removing trees on public property
- Provides an opportunity to set good policy that is legally enforceable

3. Community Forestry Program



Minimum budget of \$2/capita

- Percentage of city workers salaries spent on tree care
- Tree planting/watering/fertilizing
- Equipment rental/purchase/maintenance
- Arbor Day expenses
- Tree care conferences, workshops, memberships
- Value of volunteer labor

4. Arbor Day Observance and

Proclamation

Tree Planting

Awards Ceremony

Conservation Education

Festival





Process

- Steps to become a Tree City USA
 - Obtain application info online
 - Meet the Four Standards
 - 1. Tree board or department
 - Tree ordinance
 - 3. Community forestry program
 - 4. Arbor Day celebration
 - Upload application documents by December 31 No Fee!





www.arborday.org http://txforestservice.tamu.edu

Purpose through Process



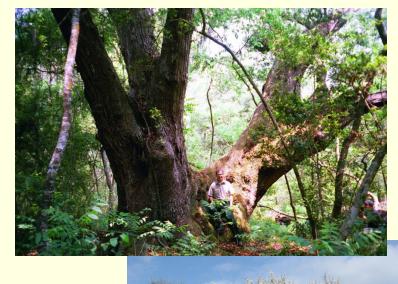
Trees...

Worth Our Time. Worth Our Resources.

"To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, and to live as a people, we must have trees" -- Theodore Roosevelt

"Every oak tree started out as a couple of nuts who decided to stand their ground"

-- Unknown





Trees Count

App and Inventory Starter Kit for Anyone

Gretchen Riley
Staff Forester
@LaArborista • griley@tfs.tamu.edu





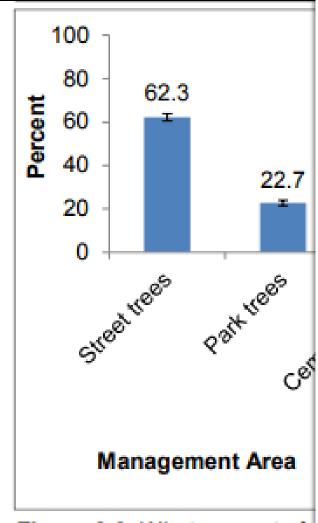
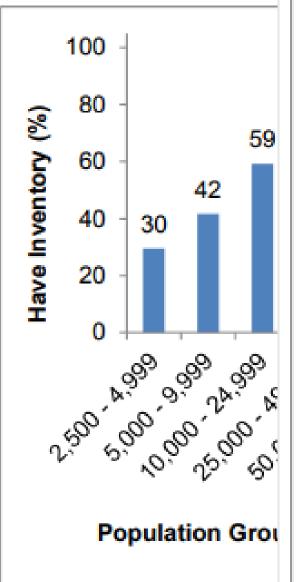
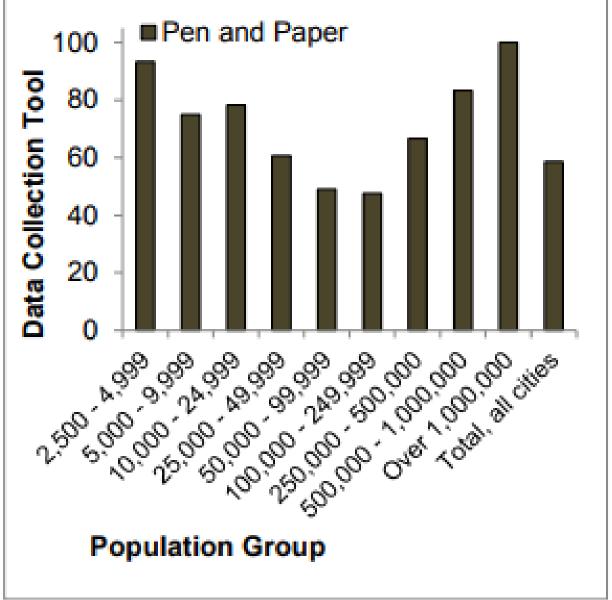
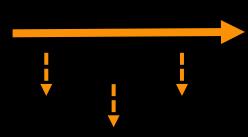


Figure 2-9. What percent of the following general areas?





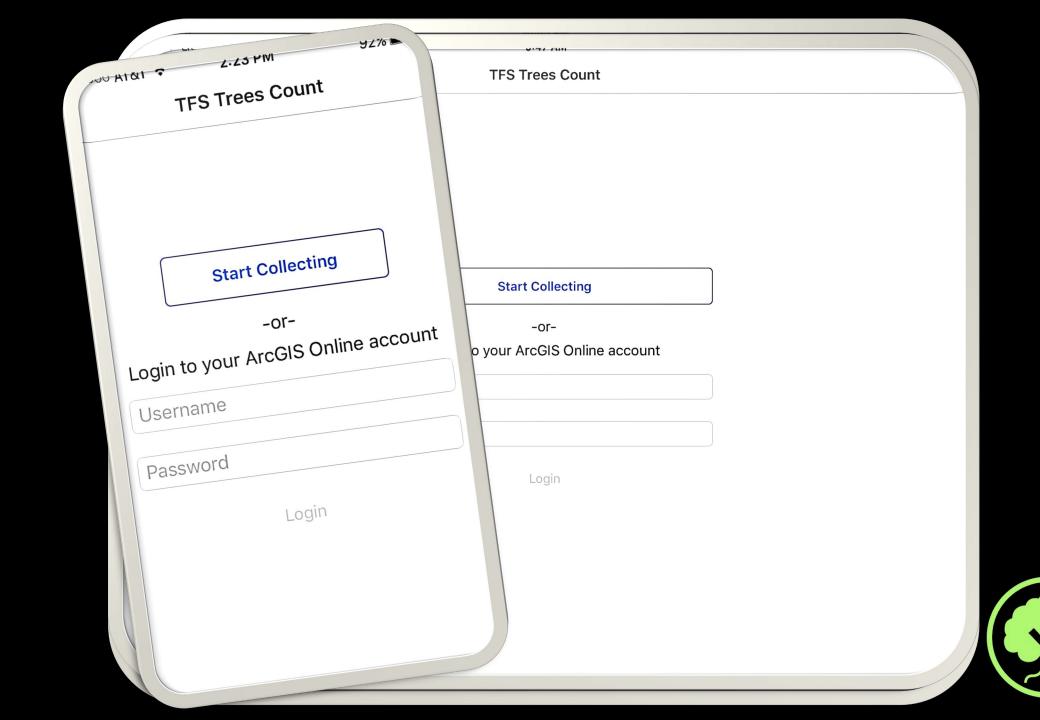


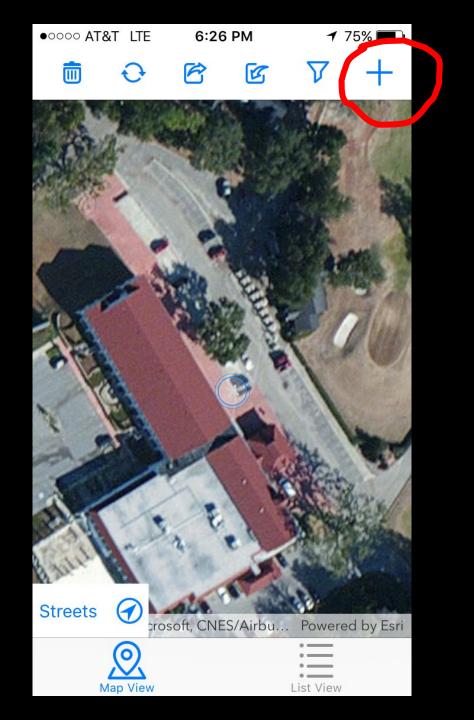






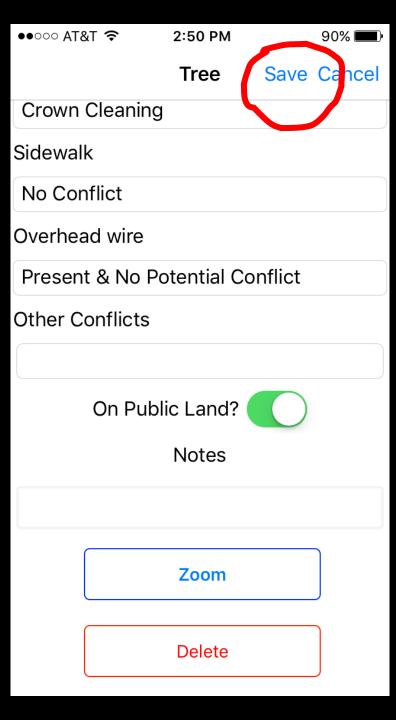






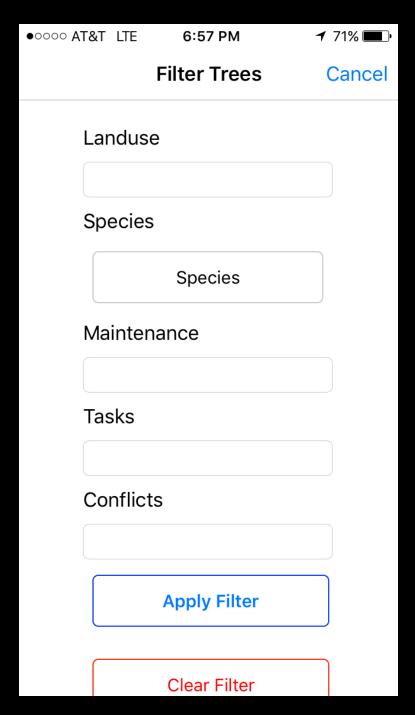


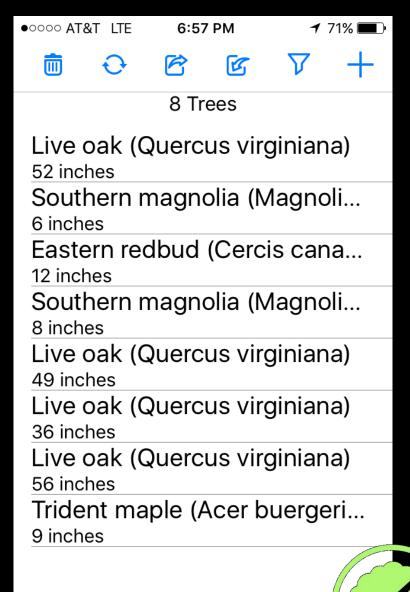
Updated version has a different appearance





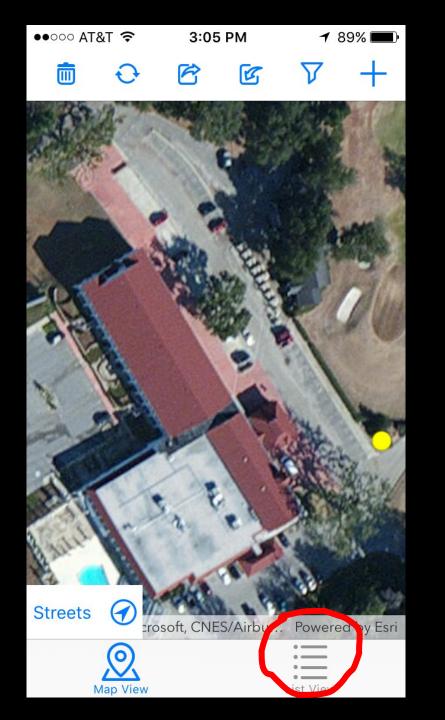
Land Use Parks Residential Commercial Site Median Front yard Planting strip Condition (based on % live crown) Dead/Dying Poor Fair Good Maintenance none Routine **Priority** Critical

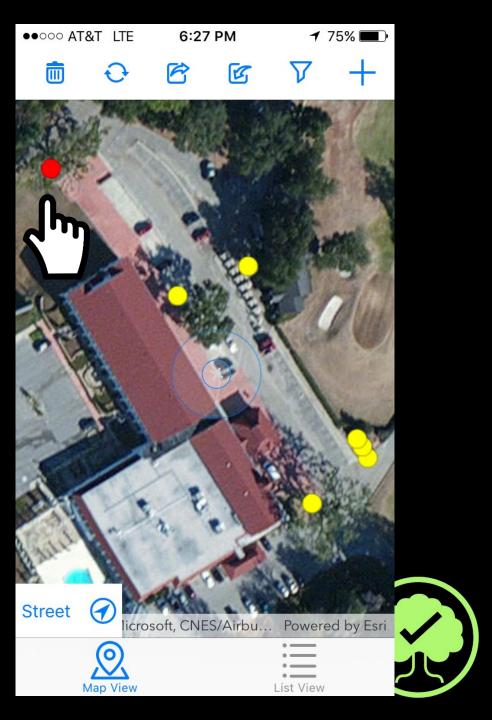


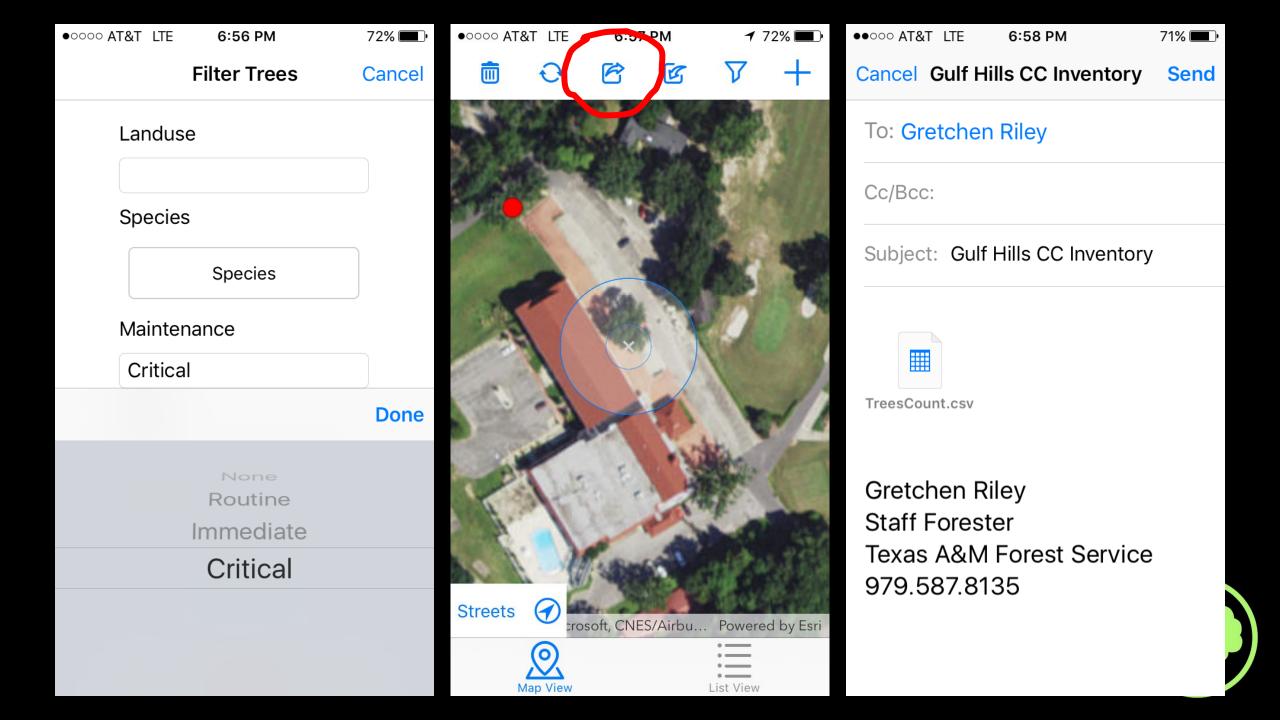






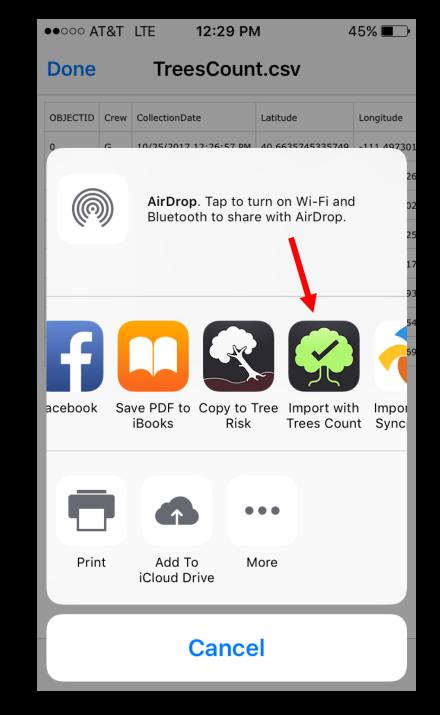






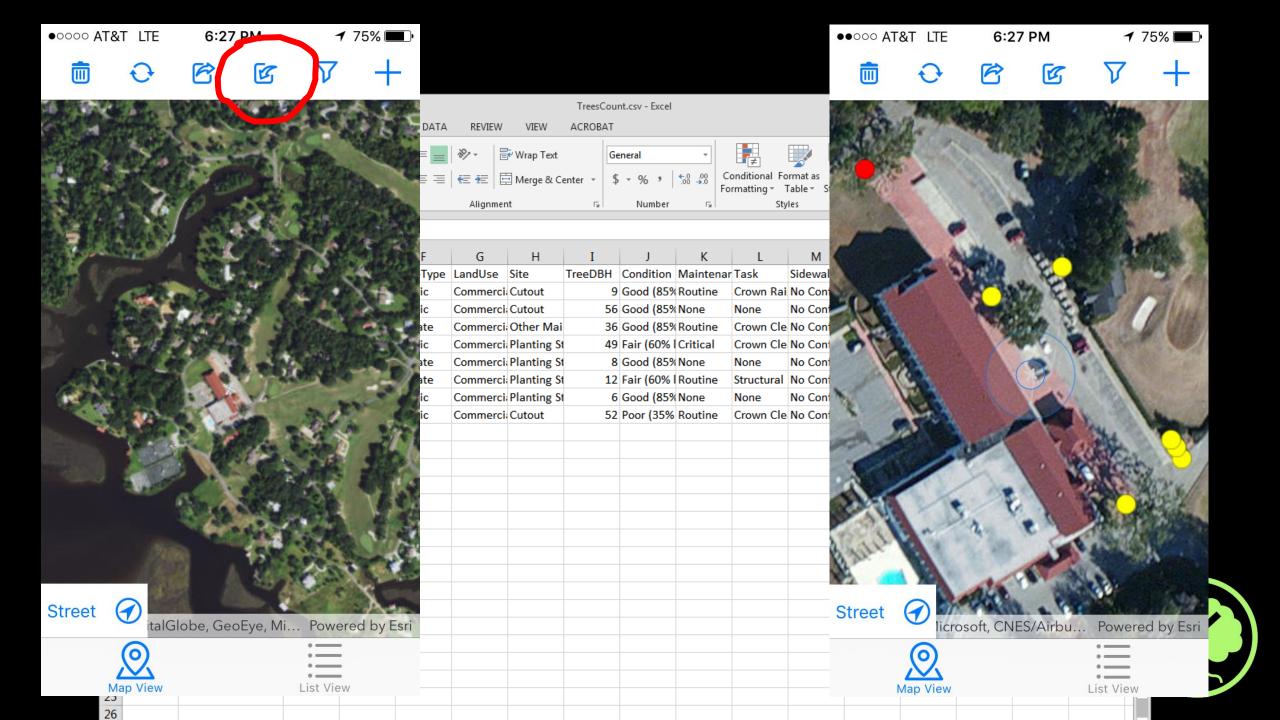
Done TreesCount.csv

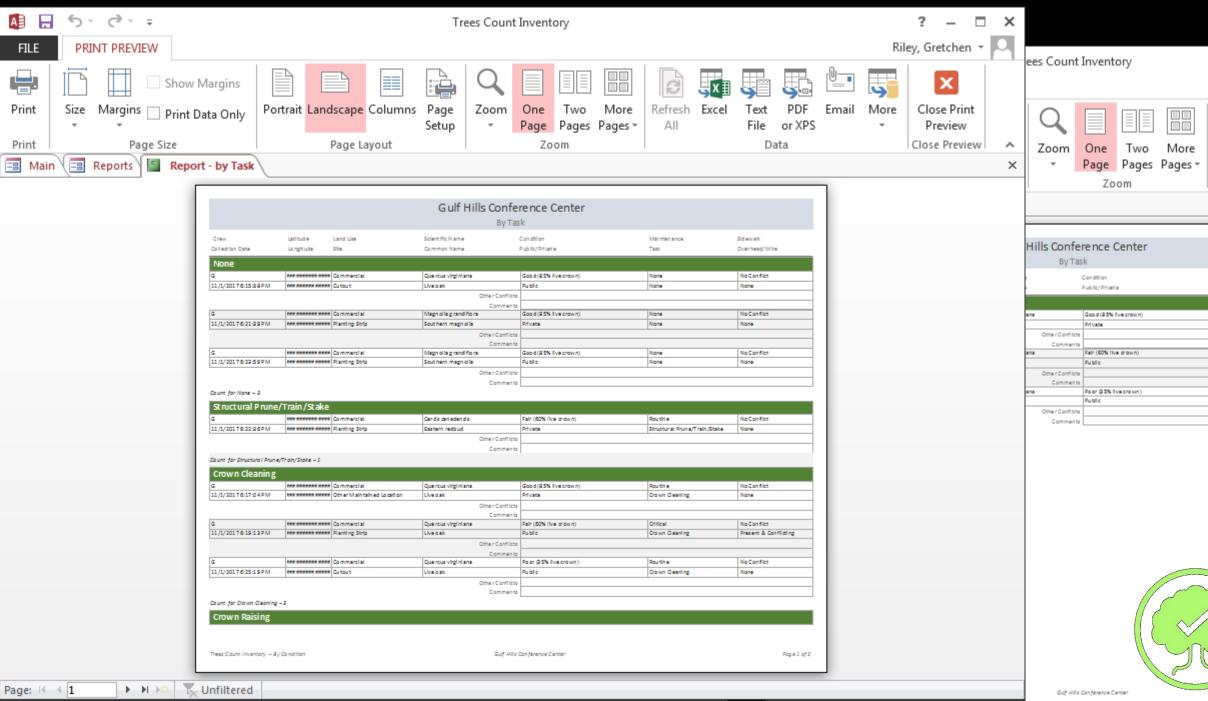
OBJECTID	Crew	CollectionDate	Latitude	Longitude
0	G	10/25/2017 12:26:57 PM	40.6635745335749	-111.497301
0	G	11/1/2017 6:15:38 PM	30.4273117846161	-88.8380326
0	G	11/1/2017 6:17:04 PM	30.4273925023437	-88.8378102
0	G	11/1/2017 6:19:13 PM	30.4276577476695	-88.8384325
0	G	11/1/2017 6:21:38 PM	30.4268699325904	-88.8374317
0	G	11/1/2017 6:22:36 PM	30.4269007360846	-88.8374493
0	G	11/1/2017 6:23:59 PM	30.4269215232045	-88.8374654
0	G	11/1/2017 6:25:19 PM	30.426745922333	-88.8376069





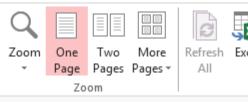






NUMBOCK

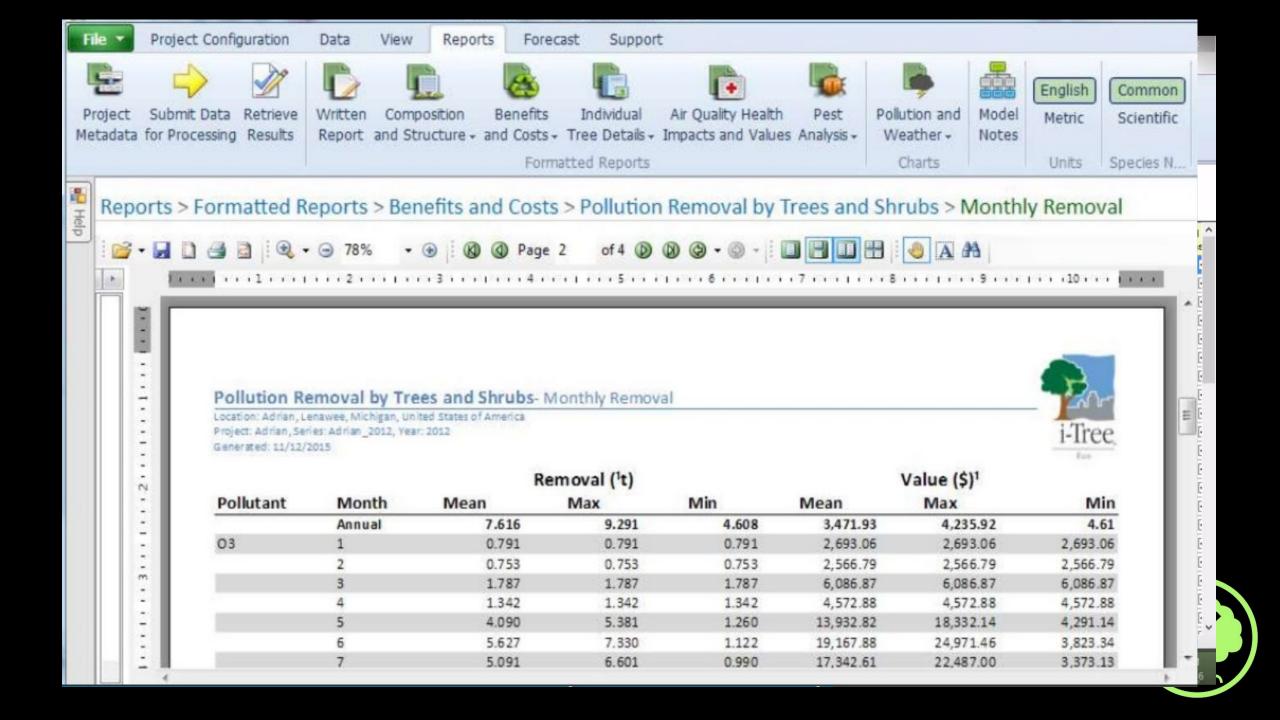
Deady







4 50%



Support Contact Sign Up



Mobile Apps



Tree Risk

The Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment app helps perform a limited visual tree assessment. It maps those trees with obvious defects that have a Probable or Imminent likelihood of failure and identifies treatment.

Designed for pre-and post-storm use this app can store tree assessments locally, export them via email or can be connected to ArcGIS Online.

Download the Microsoft Access database application to explore the data.

Download at:





iTunes

Google Play



Trees Count

Trees Count is a mobile app for iOS and Android devices that allows users to inventory trees in communities. Trees are mapped and characterized with informative attributes. Inventories can be transferred across devices. The data is iTree compatible and can be exported to CSV files that can be opened in Excel or imported into the companion Access database application for printing reports.

<u>Download the Microsoft Access database application to explore the data.</u>

Download at:





iTunes

Google Play

TexasForestInfo.com



Applied Forestry



Using the Level I Tree Risk Assessment Mobile App

The state of the s





Tree Risk Management

Promotes the safety of people and property by providing a standardized and systematic process for assessing tree risk.

Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment Mobile App Apple Store & Google Play

Level 1 – limited visual assessment to identify trees with an imminent or probable likelihood of failure [and there is a target]

ANSI A300 – Part 9 Tree Risk Assessment an ISA Best Management Practices for Tree Risk Assessment



Likelihood of Failure

Imminent:

Failure has started or is likely to in the near future

Requires immediate attention to reduce harm to people

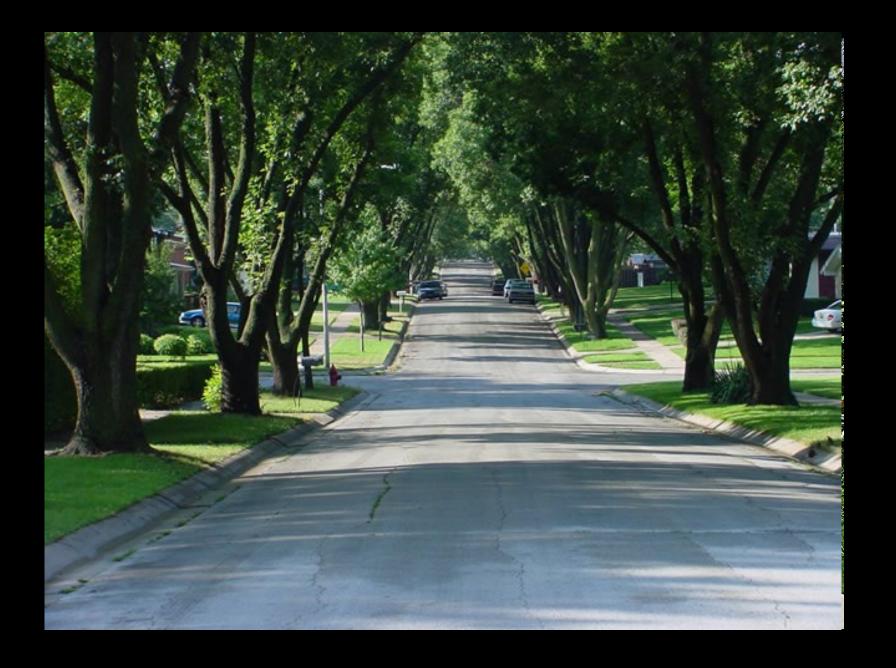
Probable:

Failure can be expected under normal conditions within the specified time frame

Target

People, property, or activity that could be injured, damaged or disrupted within striking distance of the tree part affected









Level 1 Risk Assessment







Tool Limitations

This application is a tool for conducting a Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment (see ANSI Standard A300 – Part 9 Tree Risk Assessment and ISA Best Management Practices for Tree Risk Assessment). Level 1 is a limited visual assessment typically used for identifying trees with imminent or probable likelihood of failure. Obvious defects in trees are identified from one perspective. Additional assessment may be necessary to fully evaluate risk and make appropriate mitigation recommendations. The scope of work should note specifics beyond the limitations of this tool.

Whole trees must be greater than 6" DBH and Branches greater than 2" in diameter at break. Trees must be on or over public property and there must be an immediate threat to lives, public safety or improved property. Eligibility for FEMA





Procedures

- 1 Select data transfer method
 a Use Local Data to save on
 device and email as a CSV file, or
 b Login to your ArcGIS Online
 account
- 2 Specify crew ID and assessment perspective (foot, vehicle or aerial) in the Crew text box
- 3 Observe location icon on map and select Add Tree or "+" to place risk tree location
- 4 On New Tree pop-up menu, select risk tree species, condition of concern, and recommended treatment
- 5 Add desired comments in Notes field, including "Non-FEMA" during a post-disaster assessment if tree does not qualify for reimbursement under FEMA 325





Descriptions

Imminent

Failure has started or is most likely to occur in the near future, even with no significant wind or additional load

Probable

Failure may be expected under normal weather conditions within the specified time period

Condition of concern:

Identifiable tree part that has failed or is likely to fail

Crown (>50% loss)

Tree recommended for removal because it has lost greater than 50% of its crown volume

Lean/Uprooted (>30° lean or uprooted)

Tree recommended for removal because lean is greater than 30° or tree is





Scope Of Work

	Level 1 Tree Risk Assessment Scope of Work
pecifications:	Level 1 limited visual assessment will be performed using the International Society of Arboriculture's Best Management Practices Tree Risk Assessment methods and in accordance with ANSI A300 standard practices for tree risk assessment.
ktent:	All trees on all public lands accessible by selected mode, within the municipali of or limited to the following specific areas as identified by the client/manager/owner:
cope:	The Level 1 assessment will be limited to one perspective of the tree and conducted as a (select one) walk-by drive-by fly-over of the public areas within the municipality or defined area. The assessment will: • Identify trees larger than 6" DBH with obvious conditions of concerns that have an <i>imminent</i> or <i>probable</i> likelihood of failure • Record tree location, species, and condition of concern • Recommend mitigation • Identify trees that need a higher level of assessment • Report: Written Oral
me Frame:	The timeframe for likelihood of failure of the trees or tree parts in this assessment is 6 months
ssessment to be cond	ducted for: Title:
ssessment to be cond	ducted by:CA#:
cope of Work Date: _	Timeline to Assess: <u>1 week</u> To Report: <u>48 Hrs</u>

For FEMA eligible assessments this Scope of Work must be adjusted to reflect FEMA 325 Debris Guidelines

Level 1 Risk Assessment

Yes, I have read the scope of work



View Procedures

View Scope Of Work

Cancel

Log in to your ArcGIS Online account

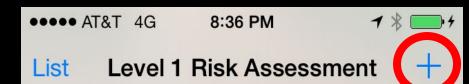
ESRI Username

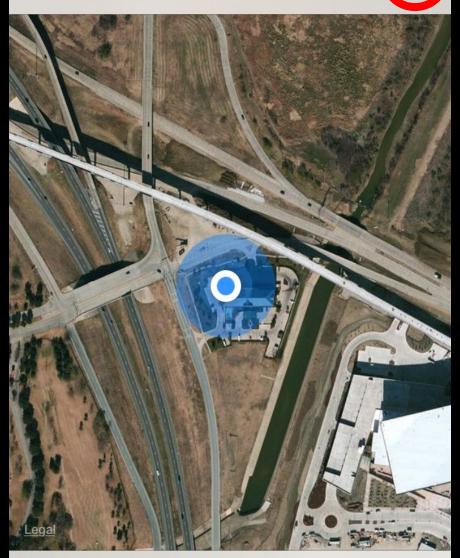
Password

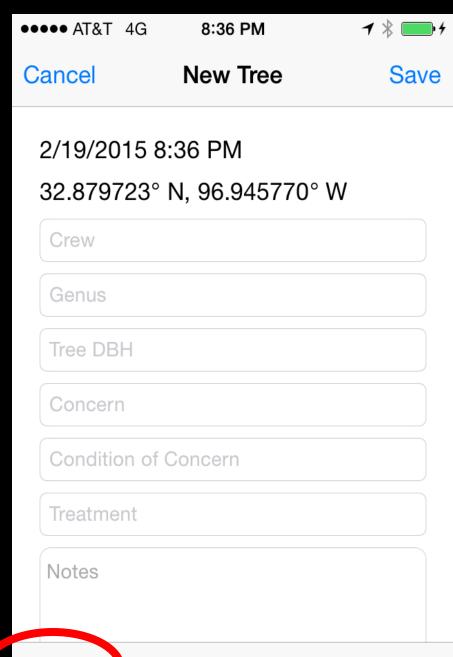
Don't have an account? Change your settings or continue by selecting "Use Local Data"

Use Local Data

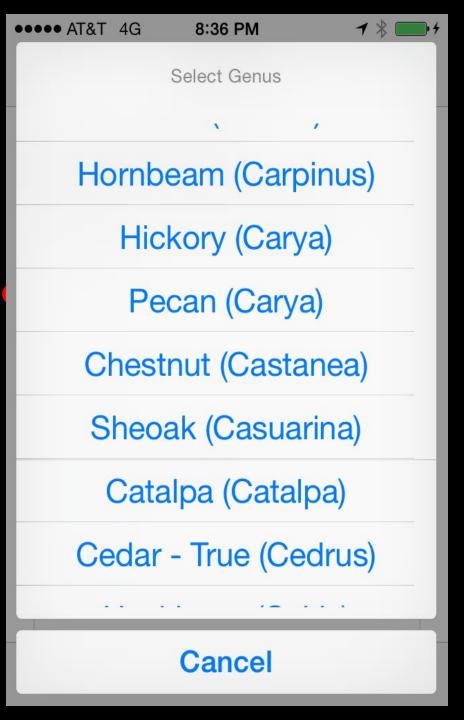
Sign In

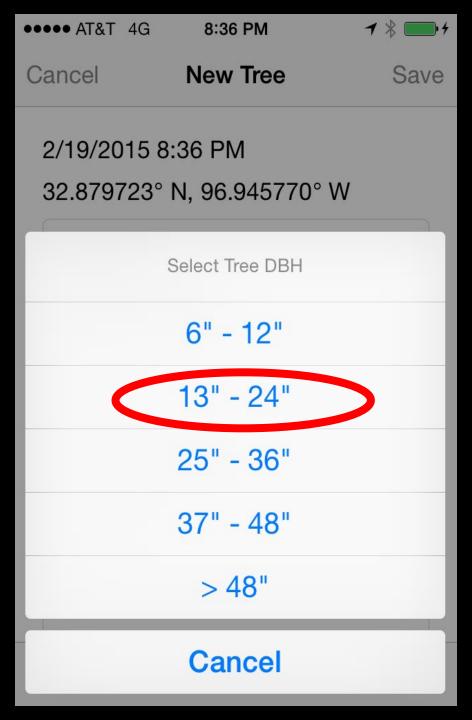


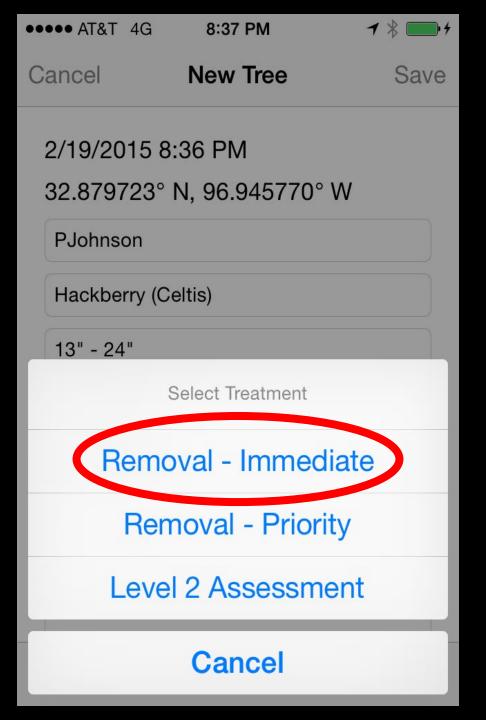


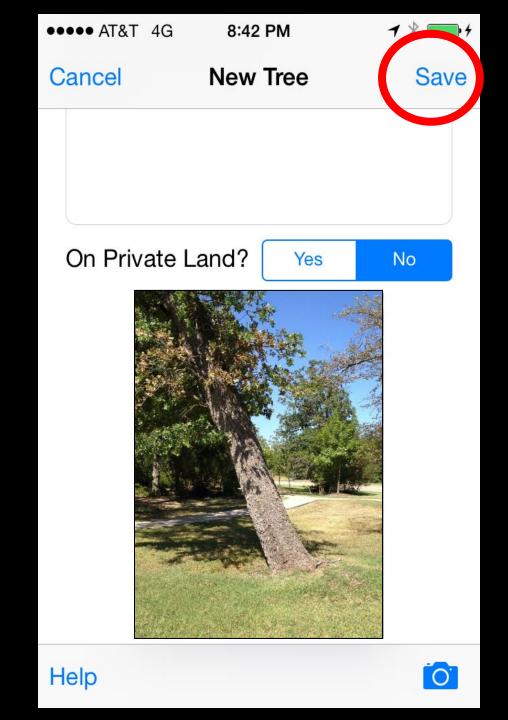


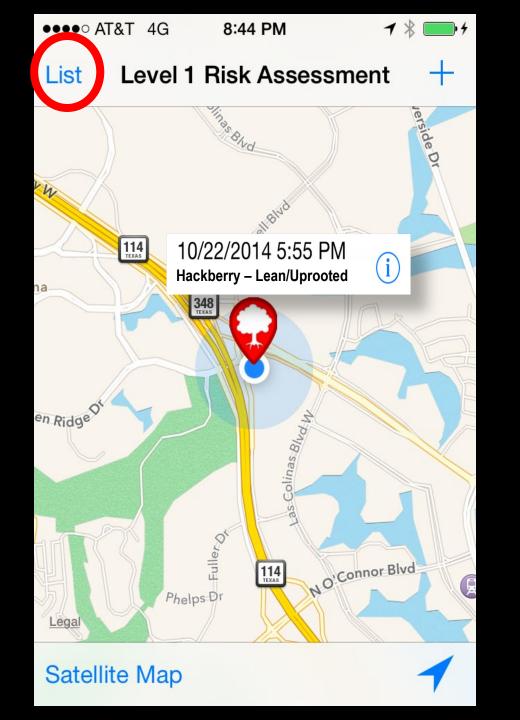


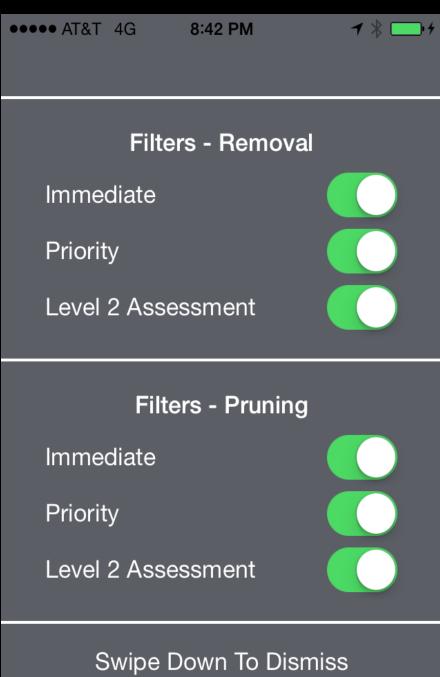


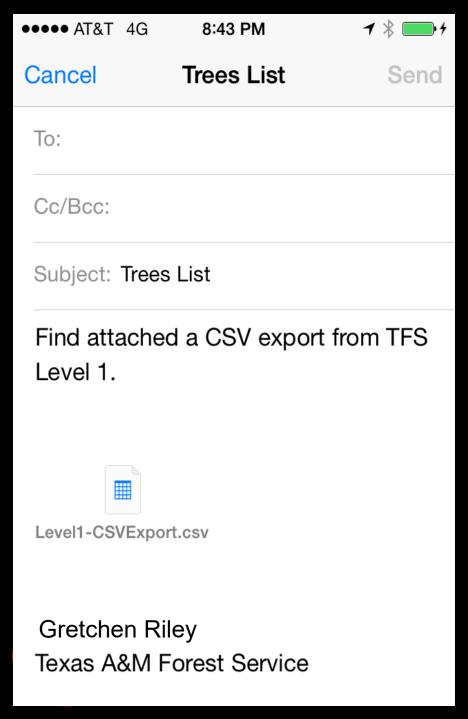


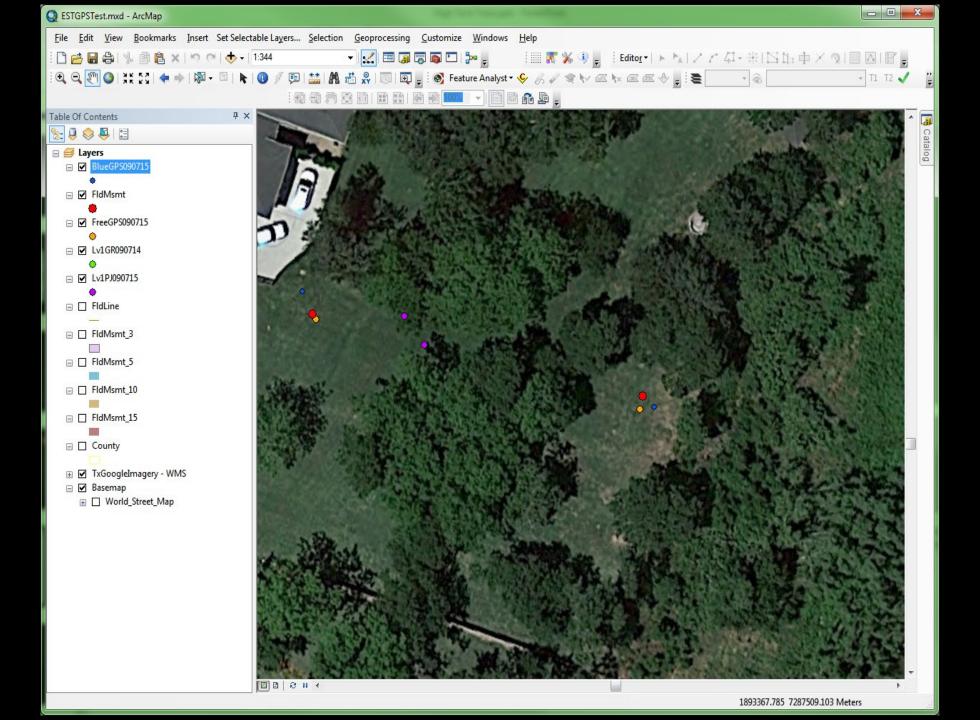












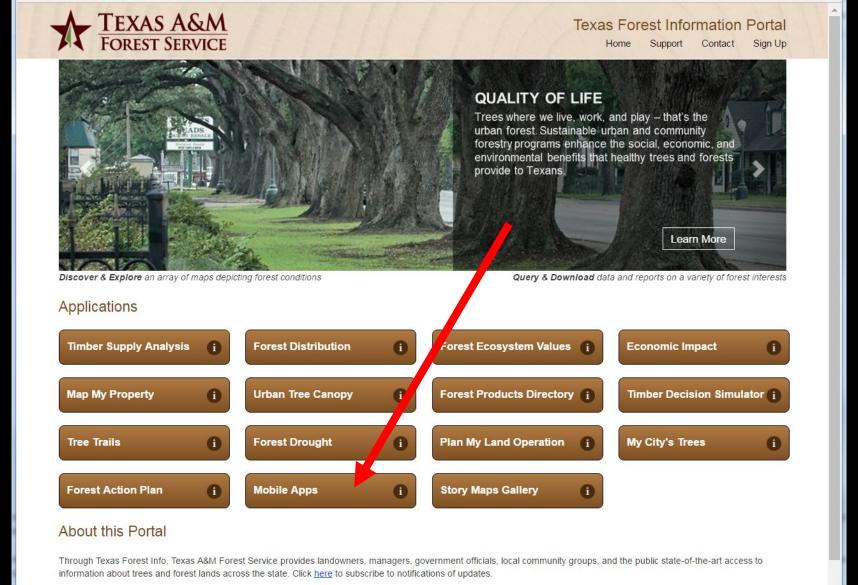




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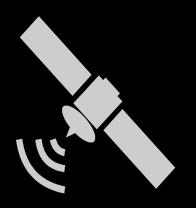
Google Play

TexasForestInfo.com



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Thank You





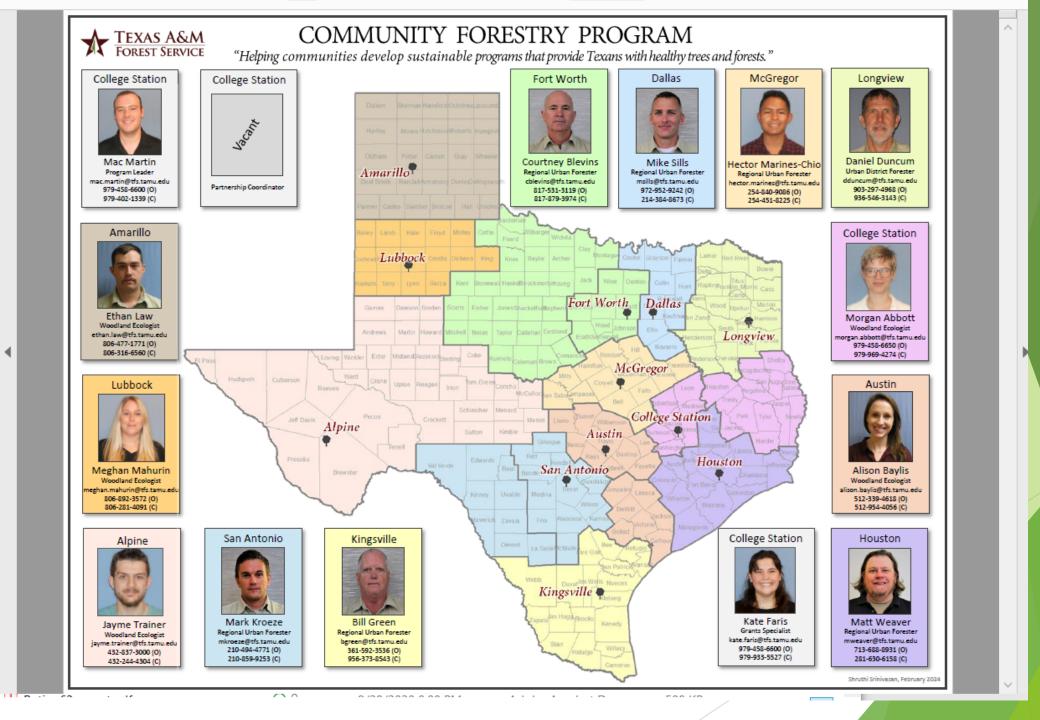
Gretchen Riley, MS, CF, CA FL-0895AM TRAQ

Staff Forester / Partnership Coordinator

griley@tfs.tamu.edu

TexasForestInfo.com





COMMUNITYFORESTRYGRANTS

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

- Request for Proposal will be released Fall 2024
- Projects including tree plantings, Tree City USA, hiring a Municipal Forester, and more have been seen in previous years.



ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

- Non-Profits
- Municipalities School
- Districts Tribal Entities
- State Agencies



JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER!

Tree Basics (Biology)

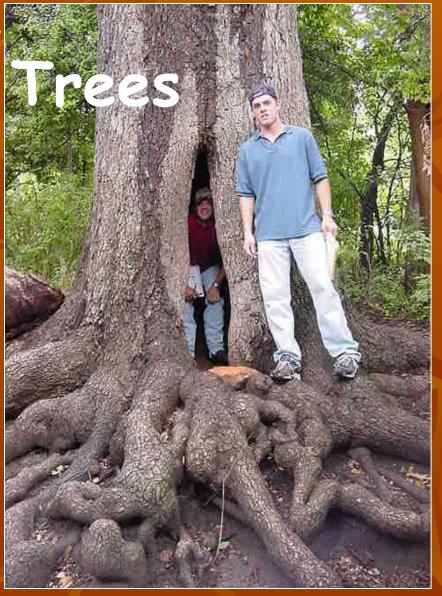


Courtney Blevins, CF, BCMA
Cross Timbers Regional Forester
Ft. Worth, Texas
cblevins@tfs.tamu.edu

Common Insect & Trees Disease Pests of Trees

Courtney Blevins, CF Regional Urban Forester







Oak Wilt in Texas

and the

Texas Oak Wilt Suppression Project

Tree Identification ISA Certified Arborist

Study guide for the Arborist Certification exam of the International Society of Arboriculture.



Courtney Blevins
Texas A&M Forest Service, Ft. Worth
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Installation & Establishment

Courtney Blevins Regional Urban Forester



Construction Damage & Prevention

Presented by: Courtney Blevins, Ft. Worth Region



Construction damage, mostly soil compaction, is one of the greatest causes of tree death & decline in urban areas.



Courtney Blevins, CF Regional Urban Forester

TEXAS A&M
FOREST SERVICE

Pruning Basics

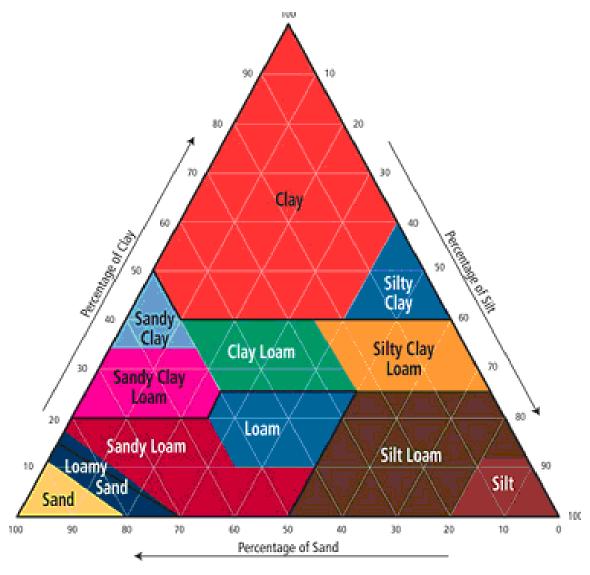


Courtney Blevins, CF, BCMA

Texas A&M Forest Service, Ft. Worth

cblevins@tfs.tamu.edu

Soils, Water, Fertilization, & Construction



Texas A&M Forest Service

Current Trends, Standards, and BMP's for Tree Risk Assessment

33rd Annual Texas Tree Conference – Waco, TX – September 27, 2012







A Division of The Davey Tree Expert Company

Skip Kincaid

Senior Consulting Urban Forester

Davey Resource Group

ISA Board Certified Master Arborist MW-0155BM

SAF Certified Forester #1516

Wrap-Up

If you submitted a RSVP for this meeting, you will receive an email with the presentation slides.

➤ If you did <u>not</u> RSVP and would like these meeting materials, please email <u>aknox@nctcog.org</u>.

Staff Contacts

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Thank you for attending!

June 5, 2024

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