



High quality urban parks and healthy urban forests are critical to sustaining prosperous towns and cities, where 80% of Americans live. Urban parks and trees are proven to create jobs, spur economic growth, increase property values, improve infrastructure efficiency, and combat obesity.

We urge your support for:

- **\$32.4 million for the Urban & Community Forestry Program, consistent with the President’s FY2012 Budget**
- **The Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act (H.R. 709)**
- **Robust funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, consistent with the America’s Great Outdoors recommendations and President’s FY2012 Budget.**

These programs are cost efficient, encourage public-private partnerships and generate economic development. We ask that you:

Support \$32.4 million appropriation for the Urban & Community Forestry Program of the USDA Forest Service, which in 2010 provided technical, financial, research, and education services to 7,000+ communities in every state. This is consistent with the President’s FY2012 budget, and includes \$2 million for strategic tree planting initiatives for energy conservation, to be delivered locally through demonstration projects in cities. We also recommend \$18 for Research and Development in urban natural resources.

Support the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act (H.R. 709), which provides federal competitive grant funds (with required local match) to redevelop and revitalize urban areas by reinvesting in community parks and recreation facilities that provide economic, community, and environmental benefits.

Support funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund in the 112th Congress

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) helps to protect important natural areas and develop public outdoor recreation space. LWCF is a program that is **ALREADY PAID FOR** using a very small percentage of offshore oil and gas production revenues. These are **NOT** taxpayer dollars. We ask you to support robust funding for LWCF including \$200 million for state and local matching and competitive grants.

Tree Benefit Facts	
Serving Size 1 Million City Trees (2" caliper)	
Recommended Servings Per City about 40%	
Costs	
Volunteer Service \$0	Trees \$250 million
Annual Value*	
Energy Conservation 30% less usage	
Cost Savings	\$10 million
Stormwater 350 million gallons captured	
Cost Savings	\$3.5 million
Clean Air 1,000 tons less air pollutants	
Cost Savings	\$5 million
Public Revenue 11% more for goods	
Cost Savings	varies by city
Property Value 1-10% higher	
Cost Savings	varies by city
Lower Crime 50% less violent crime	
Cost Savings	priceless
Total Cost Savings	\$18.5 million
ROI within 14 years not including public revenue, property, and crime benefits.	
* Annual Values are based on studies from the Center for Urban Forest Research, Center for Urban Horticulture, Lawrence Berkeley Lab, and the Univ. of Washington, and vary by city. Approximate values are indicated where the differences vary less significantly by city.	