Tree Equity for Safe & Equitable Walking

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100+ Years Working for Trees in Cities
Trees = Safer, Healthier Walking

Air quality benefits provided by green space are particularly relevant for human health due to the relationship between air pollution and respiratory illnesses. Nowak and others (2014) found that in 2010, trees removed 17.4 million tons of air pollution across the United States, which prevented 850 human deaths and 670,000 cases of acute respiratory symptoms.
Today’s Challenge: We Need *Tree Equity*
Tree inequity has consequences.
Tree Equity Can **Save Lives**

Potential 22% reduction in heat-related deaths in Dallas
Tree Equity Can **Save Lives**

Potential 22% reduction in heat-related deaths in Dallas.
117,000 Bostonians have limited access

We Need Walk Equity, Too
With these trees...

As part of the Live Healthy Miami Gardens initiative, volunteers planted trees in May 2013 to provide shade and create a beautiful green space that will encourage physical activity for years to come. With this investment, residents of Miami Gardens can enjoy green spaces, increased health benefits, and improved air quality.

You too can help change the world with trees!
To learn more, visit milarg.org/trees
How We Mobilize Together
Need to Drive Integration
Cities Are Ready to Connect Trees and Transportation
And Whole States!
CLIMATE STEWARDSHIP ACT

TITLE II—FORESTS

A Moment of Policy Opportunity?

How it will happen:

Reforest America Grant Program

Provides cost share grants to states, tribes, local governments, and non-profits to plant 1.6 billion trees by 2030 and over 6.5 billion trees by 2050. This includes dedicated funding for urban forests sufficient to plant 400 million trees, prioritized for under-served urban neighborhoods most in need of tree canopy cover and most at risk from climate change threats such as extreme heat.

The urban trees to be planted under this act will save more than 800 lives and avoid 200,000 incidences of heat and respiratory illness, while saving 6.1 TWh hours of electricity and 417 trillion BTU of gas for heating and cooling. These benefits will generate more than $10 billion in health care and energy savings, and will further reduce greenhouse gas emissions by avoiding emissions of 12.4 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.
Vibrant cities cultivate thriving urban forests that boost public health, safety, sustainability and economic growth.

Let’s Integrate!

- **Shared Narrative & Research Agenda?**
- **Tree Equity Score + Walk Audit & Score?**
- **Tree Investment + Walk Investment?**
- **Community Partnerships?**

[www.VibrantCitiesLab.com](http://www.VibrantCitiesLab.com)