

Trees: Your Community's Best Investment



Key points to remember:

1. *Trees improve the quality of life in our communities.*
2. *Trees require maintenance like all other infrastructure.* Just like neglecting your sidewalks increases your community's risk and liability, failing to care for your trees can lead to hazards and costs.
3. *Not caring for trees on public property makes municipalities legally liable.*



Communities that don't invest in trees risk losing out on the benefits that trees provide.

- * Trees intercept rainwater, easing the load on storm sewers
- * Mature trees increase the sale price of a house 3.5—4.5%
- * Shoppers will travel farther to a retail area with trees and will spend up to 12% more
- * Trees that are well-cared for can increase both property and sales tax revenue
- * Investing in trees and tree care can improve your community's bottom line.

Take Action!

Start by assessing the trees you have and make a plan to care for them. The Chicago Region Trees Initiative can help with advice, examples, templates, and free or low-cost training.

Visit [Chicago RTI.org/ReduceCosts](https://ChicagoRTI.org/ReduceCosts) to take the next step.



**CHICAGO
REGION
TREES
INITIATIVE**

Our Trees.
Our Communities.
Our Future.

How can you take your forestry program to the next level?

Do you need help figuring out how to

Plant Trees?

Remove Trees?

Prune Trees?

Protect Trees?

Inspect Trees?



We can help you take the next step:

Find resources at ChicagoRTI.org/ReduceCosts

or

Reach out to the Chicago Region Trees Initiative for free technical assistance. ZWirtz@mortonarb.org or 630-725-2498