

city of Hyattsville, MD

Urban Tree Canopy Fact Sheet

What is Urban Tree Canopy?

Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) refers to the layer of tree leaves, branches, and stems that provide tree coverage of the ground when viewed from above. The UTC provides myriad benefits to the surrounding community: trees conserve energy, reduce carbon dioxide levels, improve air quality, and mitigate stormwater runoff. Trees also provide numerous economic, psychological, social and health benefits. Trees can increase residential property values, increase consumer spending within business districts, and recent studies have linked higher levels of tree canopy to lower levels of cardiovascular and pulmonary disease.

It is not enough to simply plant more trees. The success of new plantings requires proper planning and sufficient funding for tree care, public outreach, and community education. To help ensure that desired benefits are realized, an effective and robust management strategy must involve partnerships among both public and private sectors. The City of Hyattsville, its residents, and community partners can support the urban forest by promoting and publicizing the benefits that trees provide, by fulfilling routine tree maintenance activities, and by maximizing the space available for planting new trees.



Post Park Apartments in Hyattsville, Maryland

Facts about your Urban Forest

31%

Hyattsville's existing level of UTC coverage, as of 2018. The city has 548 acres of tree canopy within its boundaries, which cover a total of 1,745 acres.

236 acres

Net acres of tree canopy loss since 2009, when the city's UTC spanned 785 acres and reached 45% coverage.



Property development, emerald ash borer, and natural tree mortality: the 3 primary reasons explaining Hyattsville's canopy loss over the past decade.

392 acres

Land area within city limits suitable for planting new trees. If these areas were fully planted, the city could achieve a maximum UTC cover of 54%.

\$3 million

The combined annual estimated value of the ecosystem services and community benefits provided by the Hyattsville urban forest.

41,343 lbs

The amount of air pollutants removed annually by the Hyattsville UTC, providing an economic value worth over \$30,000 per year.

8m gallons

In 2018, Hyattsville's trees intercepted an estimated 7,944,801 gallons of stormwater; that's enough water to fill twelve Olympic-size swimming pools!

18,579 tons

The amount of carbon stored by the Hyattsville UTC. Annually, the city's trees remove over 740 tons of carbon from air.

DAVEY
Resource Group



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