

Urban Forestry

Salt Lake City plants and maintains trees to improve air and water quality, save energy, provide shade, buffer noises, enhance habitat, create more walkable sidewalks, foster public health, and improve economic sustainability.

Goals

- 1 Plant new trees, while maintaining and protecting existing trees
- 2 Support a diversity of tree species and ages to protect watersheds, soil, air quality, and habitat
- 3 Consider future climate impacts in selecting tree species and locations

Strategies and 2015 Targets

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STRATEGIES

2015 TARGETS

► Determine the vulnerability of the city's trees.

- Complete and update city tree inventory through geographic information systems (GIS) and physical inventories.
- Update tree inventory to include a vulnerability rating of each tree based on size, age, condition, location, species, and future climate impacts.

► Review city codes and policies to determine additional ways to protect trees on both public and private property.

- Complete review of city codes and ordinances in 2013 to identify needed updates.
- Update codes and ordinances in 2014.
- Complete testing of permeable pavement and benefits to trees; adopt policy to address benefits of permeable pavement for trees.

► Implement public tree-planting initiatives to increase both the number and variability of species.

- Launch Arbor Day initiative in 2013 to encourage tree planting.
- Increase number of trees citywide by 2% each year.
- Increase diversity of trees citywide so that no single species represents more than 6% of the total population by 2023.

► Investigate additional funding sources for operations.

- Identify beneficial end-markets for forestry byproducts to support their highest and best use, generate revenue, and offset costs.

► Provide high-quality customer service and education on tree care.

- Update and provide posters and handouts informing residents and contractors to contact the Forestry Office before digging within the dripline of trees.
- Complete web-based application in 2014 for customer notification of tree spraying, including spraying dates and times.