# City of Kingston, NY Street Tree Inventory Summary Report May 17, 2018 



## Report Summary

On April 25, 2018 ArborPro, Inc. began operations on a comprehensive GPS inventory of the trees along street rights-of-way and in public parks in the City of Kingston, NY. ArborPro assigned three ISA Certified Arborists to collect detailed information on the condition, size, species, maintenance recommendations, etc. for all trees owned by the City of Kingston. This summary is a result of the trees collected along city street rights-of-way and includes a total of $\mathbf{4 , 4 0 6}$ sites, comprised of 3,119 trees ( $70.8 \%$ ), 89 stumps ( $2.0 \%$ ), and 1,198 vacant sites ( $27.2 \%$ ).

## Size Characteristics

The general size of a tree provides insight into the age and value of the tree as well as the overall age of the urban forest. There are two industry-wide recognized size characteristics, height and diameter at breast height. Diameter at breast height ( DBH ) is determined by the diameter of the tree at 4.5 feet above grade. DBH range distribution can be used to analyze the relative age distribution of an urban forest. This allows a city to adjust their planting plans to ensure that there are enough young trees to replace aging and overmature trees. It is important that all age classes are adequately represented throughout the urban forest to ensure a healthy, vibrant tree canopy for future generations.


Height Class Distribution


## Tree Condition

Good - The tree has no major structural problems; no significant damage from diseases or pests; no significant mechanical damage; a full, balanced crown, and normal twig condition and vigor for its species.

Fair - The tree may exhibit the following characteristics: minor structural problems and/or mechanical damage; significant damage from

| Tree Condition | Tree Count | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Good | 1,214 | $27.6 \%$ |
| Fair | 1,619 | $36.7 \%$ |
| Poor | 260 | $5.9 \%$ |
| Dead | 26 | $0.6 \%$ |
| Stump | 89 | $2.0 \%$ |
| Vacancy | 1,198 | $27.2 \%$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{4 , 4 0 6}$ |  | non-fatal or disfiguring diseases; minor crown imbalance or thin crown; minor structural imbalance; or stunted growth compared to adjacent trees.

Poor - The tree appears healthy, but may have structural defects. This classification also includes healthy trees that have unbalanced structures or have been topped. Trees in this category may also have severe mechanical damage, decay, severe crown dieback or poor vigor/failure to thrive.

Critical - The tree is in a physical state that requires immediate attention. Generally these trees are recommended for a Priority One Removal.

Dead - Trees in advanced states of decline are not included. This category refers only to dead trees.

Condition


## Recommended Maintenance

Priority 1 Prune - Trees that require priority one pruning are recommended for trimming to remove hazardous deadwood, hangers, or broken branches. These trees have broken or hanging limbs, hazardous deadwood, and dead, dying, or diseased limbs or leaders greater than four inches in diameter.

Priority 1 Removal - Trees designated for removal have defects that cannot be costeffectively or practically treated. The majority of

| Maintenance | Tree Count | $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Priority 1 Prune | 47 | $1.1 \%$ |
| Priority 1 Removal | 27 | $0.6 \%$ |
| Priority 2 Prune | 256 | $5.8 \%$ |
| Priority 2 Removal | 112 | $2.5 \%$ |
| Routine Prune | 2,258 | $51.2 \%$ |
| Training Prune | 419 | $9.5 \%$ |
| Stump Removal | 89 | $2.0 \%$ |
| Plant Tree | 1,198 | $27.2 \%$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{4 , 4 0 6}$ |  | the trees in this category will have a large percentage of dead crow $n$ and pose an elevated level of risk for failure. Any hazards that could be seen as potential dangers to persons or property and seen as potential liabilities would be in this category. Large dead and dying trees that are high liability risks are included in this category. These trees are the first ones that should be removed.

Priority 2 Prune - These trees have dead, dying, diseased, or weakened branches between two and four inches in diameter and are potential safety hazards.

Priority 2 Removal - Trees that should be removed but do not pose a liability as great as the first priority will be identified here. This category would need attention as soon as "Priority One" trees are removed.

Routine Prune - These trees require routine horticultural pruning to correct structural problems or growth patterns, which would eventually obstruct traffic or interfere with utility wires or buildings.

Training Prune - Young, large-growing trees that are still small must be pruned to correct or eliminate weak, interfering, or objectionable branches in order to minimize future maintenance requirements. These trees, up to 20 feet in height, can be worked with a pole-pruner by a person standing on the ground.

Stump Removal - This category indicates a stump that should be removed.


## Vacant Sites

Vacant planting sites were recorded in suitable areas and can be used for future tree plantings. Vacant sites were recorded based on the size of the planting location and the available rooting space. The size of the vacant site is based on the height of a potential tree at maturity. The criteria used to determine size is as follows: Small - 3-4' of root space, Medium - 5-6' of root space, 7' or more of available root space.

| Vacant Site Size | Tree Count | \% |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Vacant planting site - Large | 195 | $16.3 \%$ |
| Vacant planting site - Medium | 119 | $9.9 \%$ |
| Vacant planting site - Small | 884 | $\mathbf{7 3 . 8 \%}$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 , 1 9 8}$ |  |

## Hardscape Damage

Hardscape damage was recorded based on the type of material used to construct the sidewalk. Damage was recorded when the vertical lift of the sidewalk was over .5 ' and could cause a potential tripping hazard.

| Hardscape Damage | Tree Count | \% |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| No Damage | 3,161 | $71.7 \%$ |
| Yes - Bluestone | 723 | $16.4 \%$ |
| Yes - Concrete | 416 | $9.4 \%$ |
| Yes - Other | 106 | $2.4 \%$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{4 , 4 0 6}$ |  |

## Species and Distribution

Below are the top 10 species for this delivery.


## Benefits of a Healthy Urban Forest

Trees provide a host of environmental, social, and economic benefits in urban areas. When properly maintained, trees can reduce pollution, improve mental health, and lower energy costs. It is important to understand the benefits trees provide as they can offset the cost associated with tree maintenance. A properly implemented tree maintenance program will maximize tree benefits in the urban setting, allowing trees to provide benefits that meet or exceed the time and money invested in maintenance activities.

The i-Tree Streets application was used to quantify the benefits provided by Kingtson's trees. This application uses growth and benefit models designed around predominant urban trees to calculate the specific benefits that trees provide in dollar amounts. The benefits calculated by i-Tree Streets include energy conservation, air quality improvements, carbon dioxide $\left(\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)$ reduction, stormwater control, and aesthetic/other. It creates annual benefit reports that demonstrate the value urban trees provide to the surrounding community.

The trees in Kingston provide a total of $\mathbf{\$ 4 2 6 , 2 8 1}$ in annual benefits.
The total replacement cost for all the trees is $\mathbf{\$ 1 2 , 7 1 3 , 8 1 9}$.

## Ecosystem services provided by urban trees



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## Energy Conservation

Public trees contribute to energy conservation by providing shade that reduces cooling costs in the summer and diverting wind to reduce heating costs in the winter. The savings in electricity and natural gas are converted into monetary values to illustrate the annual energy savings that trees provide.
Kingston's trees account for a savings of $\$ 181,799$ in energy consumption each year.

## Air Quality

Trees improve air quality by removing a number of pollutants from the atmosphere, including ozone, nitrogen dioxide, and particulate matter. The estimated value of pollutants removed by the inventoried tree population each year is $\$ 33,130$.

## Carbon Dioxide Sequestration

It is well known that trees absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen into the atmosphere as a product of photosynthesis. Carbon absorbed during this process is ultimately stored in the wood of trees. The amount of carbon sequestered by the inventoried tree population is valued at $\$ 4,319$ annually.

## Stormwater Control

Trees reduce the costs associated with diverting stormwater by intercepting rainfall before it hits the ground and enters the storm runoff system. This greatly reduces the strain placed on public stormwater runoff systems and can represent a significant monetary savings by reducing the amount of infrastructure needed to divert stormwater throughout the city. The estimated savings for the City in the management of stormwater runoff is $\$ 44,158$ annually.

## Aesthetic/Other

Trees provide many social and economic benefits that are classified as aesthetic/other in the i-Tree Streets application. The major economic benefit in this category is increased property values. Trees contribute to higher property values when compared to similar properties that do not have trees. The major social benefits provided by trees are lower crime rates, improved mental health, greater time spent in businesses with tree lined streets, and higher productivity in the workplace when a view of nature is available. The inventoried trees contribute $\$ 162,875$ annually in aesthetic/other benefits.


## Total Replacement Value

In addition to Environmental Benefits, the City can consider the Total Replacement Value for its urban forest. Total Replacement Value is the amount of money it would take to completely replace the existing urban forest with trees of the same size. While this is a scenario that will likely never happen, it gives the City a specific dollar value of its trees in their current state. Replacement value differs from Environmental Benefits in that it shows how much the trees are worth instead of the dollar values that they provide in benefits. For example, a mature sugar maple could provide $\$ 2,100$ in environmental benefits by reducing stormwater runoff, improving air quality, etc. but the total cost of replacing an 18" DBH sugar maple would be $\$ 24,270$. According to i-Tree Streets, the total replacement cost for the Kingston's trees is $\$ 12,713,819$. The table below shows the breakdown of Replacement Value by Diameter Class.

| DBH (inches) | Replacement Value |
| :--- | ---: |
| $00 "-03 "$ | $\$ 30,705$ |
| $04 "-06 "$ | $\$ 189,603$ |
| $07 "-12 "$ | $\$ 1,107,506$ |
| $13 "-18 "$ | $\$ 2,254,066$ |
| $19 "-24 "$ | $\$ 3,182,124$ |
| $25 "-30 "$ | $\$ 2,786,090$ |
| $31 "-36 "$ | $\$ 1,766,313$ |
| $37 "-42 "$ | $\$ 843,345$ |
| $43+$ | $\$ 554,067$ |
| Total | $\$ 12,713,819$ |

Below is a Species Frequency report.

| Botanical Name | Common Name | Tree Count | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Abies balsamea | Balsam Fir | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Abies concolor | White Fir | 5 | 0.1\% |
| Acer buergeranum | Trident Maple | 4 | 0.1\% |
| Acer ginnala | Amur Maple | 8 | 0.2\% |
| Acer griseum | Paperbark Maple | 6 | 0.1\% |
| Acer negundo | Box Elder | 15 | 0.3\% |
| Acer negundo 'Flamingo' | Variegated Box Elder | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Acer palmatum | Japanese Maple | 36 | 0.8\% |
| Acer plantanoides | Norway Maple | 474 | 10.8\% |
| Acer rubrum | Red Maple | 173 | 3.9\% |
| Acer saccharinum | Silver Maple | 114 | 2.6\% |
| Acer saccharum | Sugar Maple | 247 | 5.6\% |
| Acer tataricum | Tatarian Maple | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Acer x freemanii | Freeman Maple | 3 | 0.1\% |
| Aesculus hippocastanum | Common Horsechestnut | 10 | 0.2\% |
| Aesculus x carnea | Red Horsechestnut | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Ailanthus altissima | Tree of Heaven | 30 | 0.7\% |
| Albizia julibrissin | Mimosa, Silk Tree | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Amelanchier canadensis | Canadian Serviceberry | 22 | 0.5\% |
| Betula lenta | Sweet Birch | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Betula nigra | River Birch | 5 | 0.1\% |
| Betula papyrifera | Paper Birch | 3 | 0.1\% |
| Betula pendula | European White Birch | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Betula populifolia | Gray Birch | 7 | 0.2\% |
| Carpinus betulus | European Hornbeam | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata' | Upright European Hornbeam | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Carya cordiformis | Bitternut Hickory | 8 | 0.2\% |
| Carya ovata | Shagbark Hickory | 3 | 0.1\% |
| Catalpa speciosa | Western Catalpa | 30 | 0.7\% |
| Celtis occidentalis | Common Hackberry | 7 | 0.2\% |
| Cercidiphyllum japonicum | Katsura Tree | 2 | 0.0\% |
| Cercis canadensis | Eastern Redbud | 7 | 0.2\% |
| Cornus florida | Eastern Dogwood | 29 | 0.7\% |
| Crataegus crus-galli | Cockspur Thorn | 10 | 0.2\% |
| Crataegus crus-galli inermis | Thornless Hawthorn | 9 | 0.2\% |
| Diospyros virginiana | American Persimmon | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Fagus sylvatica 'Fastigiata' | Upright European Beech | 3 | 0.1\% |
| Fraxinus americana | White Ash | 11 | 0.2\% |


| Fraxinus pennsylvanica | Green Ash | 25 | 0.6\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ginkgo biloba | Maidenhair Tree | 59 | 1.3\% |
| Gleditsia triacanthos forma inermis | Thornless Honey Locust | 371 | 8.4\% |
| Juglans cinerea | Butternut | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Juglans nigra | Black Walnut | 15 | 0.3\% |
| Juglans regia | English Walnut | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Juniperus virginiana | Eastern Red Cedar | 23 | 0.5\% |
| Koelreuteria paniculata | Goldenrain Tree | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Liquidambar styraciflua 'Rotundiloba' | Round-Leafed Sweet Gum | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Liriodendron tulipifera | Tulip Tree | 7 | 0.2\% |
| Maackia amurensis | Manchurian Maackia | 4 | 0.1\% |
| Magnolia stellata | Star Magnolia | 2 | 0.0\% |
| Magnolia x soulangiana | Saucer Magnolia | 7 | 0.2\% |
| Malus domestica | Edible Apple Species | 3 | 0.1\% |
| Malus floribunda | Crabapple | 95 | 2.2\% |
| Metasequoia glyptostroboides | Dawn Redwood | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Morus alba | White Mulberry | 25 | 0.6\% |
| Ostrya virginiana | American Hophornbeam | 2 | 0.0\% |
| Picea abies | Norway Spruce | 13 | 0.3\% |
| Picea glauca | White Spruce | 18 | 0.4\% |
| Picea glauca albertiana | Alberta Spruce | 2 | 0.0\% |
| Picea pungens | Colorado Spruce | 55 | 1.2\% |
| Pinus mugo mugo | Mugho Pine | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Pinus nigra | Austrian Black Pine | 3 | 0.1\% |
| Pinus strobus | White Pine | 41 | 0.9\% |
| Pinus sylvestris | Scotch Pine | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Platanus occidentalis | American Sycamore | 88 | 2.0\% |
| Populus deltoides | Cottonwood | 10 | 0.2\% |
| Populus tremuloides | Quaking Aspen | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Prunus avium | Sweet Cherry | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Prunus cerasifera | Purple-Leaf Plum | 17 | 0.4\% |
| Prunus domestica | Plum | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Prunus persica | Peach | 8 | 0.2\% |
| Prunus serotina | Eastern Black Cherry | 15 | 0.3\% |
| Prunus serrulata | Japanese Flowering Cherry | 36 | 0.8\% |
| Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan' | 'Kwanzan' Flowering Cherry | 1 | 0.0\% |
| Prunus species | Stone Fruit species | 4 | 0.1\% |
| Prunus subhirtella 'Pendula' | Weeping Flowering Cherry | 7 | 0.2\% |
| Pyrus calleryana | Ornamental Pear | 311 | 7.1\% |
| Pyrus communis | Edible Pear | 5 | 0.1\% |
| Quercus alba | White Oak | 1 | 0.0\% |

Quercus imbricaria
Quercus macrocarpa
Quercus palustris
Quercus phellos
Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'
Quercus rubra
Quercus velutina
Rhamnus cathartica
Robinia pseudoacacia
Salix babylonica
Salix integra
Salix matsudana 'Tortuosa'
Sassafras albidum
Stump
Styphnolobium japonicum
Syringa reticulata
Syringa vulgaris
Taxus spp.
Thuja occidentalis
Tilia americana
Tilia cordata
Tsuga canadensis
Ulmus americana
Ulmus parvifolia
Ulmus pumila
Ulmus x species
Vacant planting site - Large
Vacant planting site - Medium
Vacant planting site - Small

| Shingle Oak | 4 | $0.1 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Bur Oak | 3 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Pin Oak | 89 | $2.0 \%$ |
| Willow Oak | 2 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Upright English Oak | 2 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Red Oak | 19 | $0.4 \%$ |
| Black Oak | 1 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Common Buckthorn | 6 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Black Locust | 76 | $1.7 \%$ |
| Weeping Willow | 3 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Dappled Willow | 1 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Corkscrew Willow | 1 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Sassafras | 1 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Stump | 89 | $2.0 \%$ |
| Japanese Pagoda Tree | 2 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Japanese Tree Lilac | 21 | $0.5 \%$ |
| Common Lilac | 4 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Yew Species | 6 | $0.1 \%$ |
| American Arborvitae | 36 | $0.8 \%$ |
| American Linden | 6 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Little-Leaf Linden | 117 | $2.7 \%$ |
| Eastern Hemlock | 80 | $1.8 \%$ |
| American Elm | 6 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Chinese Elm | 6 | $0.1 \%$ |
| Siberian Elm | 43 | $1.0 \%$ |
| Hybrid Elm | 10 | $0.2 \%$ |
| Vacant planting site - Large | 195 | $4.4 \%$ |
| Vacant planting site - Medium | 119 | $2.7 \%$ |
| Vacant planting site - Small | 884 | $20.1 \%$ |
|  |  |  |


[^0]:    Stormwater runoff reduction

