USDA United States Department of Agriculture

What is FIA?

The **Forest Inventory & Analysis Program** of the U.S. Forest Service works in partnership with State and local forestry agencies, universities, and nongovernmental organizations to provide key data needed to assess the status, trends, and sustainability of the Nation's forests. FIA is the only comprehensive, long-term, field-based inventory of forest ownerships in the U.S., covering the 50 states and affiliated Pacific and Atlantic Islands.

FIA provides U.S. forest carbon estimates to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); collects information to understand the values, land ownership objectives, and forest management practices of the Nation's private forest landowners; and monitors wood mills and mill products throughout the U.S.

The Forest Service is extending its annual forest data collection, analysis, and reporting to urban areas. New Urban FIA methods and protocols are now in use to estimate the composition, health, and benefits of urban trees and forests. Social science surveys will provide information on the stewardship values, attitudes, and behaviors of urban landowners and homeowners.

A national urban forest inventory, one city at a time.

Urban FIA is an annualized inventory of trees in urban settings that provides key data to assess the status and trends of urban trees and forests, including the services they provide, their health, and future risk from insects and disease.

The Urban FIA program fuses the methods and infrastructure of our traditional, more rural FIA program with the expertise provided by **i-Tree**.

Over 25 cities are currently participating in the Urban FIA program. The program will involve over 100 cities across the U.S. to build a strategic, national inventory of urban forests.

Through a partnership with Texas A&M Forest Service, Urban FIA data are easily accessible via the **My City's Trees** web-based, interactive tool.

www.mycitystrees.com

What information is FIA collecting?

Trained and certified field crews collect critical Information about our urban forests in the Urban FIA cities, including:

Tree species **|** Identifying the trees species growing in the urban environment and which tree species are most abundant.

Tree size **|** Measuring tree size helps us learn more about the tree's ability to provide benefits as well as the future of the urban forest.

Tree crown condition **|** Recording the size, shape, and density of a tree's branches and leaves tells a lot about the health of a tree, how well it's growing in its location, and its impact on plants growing underneath.

Tree damage | Assessing trees for any signs of damage, such as the presence of forest pests or disease, impact from storms or environmental stresses, or improper care or management.

Ground cover | Describing the existence of other plants as well as permeable (gravel, bare soil) and impermeable (asphalt, cement) surfaces to learn more about runoff and water infiltration potential and runoff.

Urban markets | Providing traditional wood quality volume and merchantability metrics to help inform wood utilization and urban wood economies.

Ownership and social values **|** Classifying land as public or private; social science surveys will provide information on the values and perceptions of the urban home/landowner.

Repeated measurements over many years will tell us how the Nation's urban forests are changing.

To learn more about Urban FIA, contact our Regional FIA Program Leaders

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www.fs.fed.us/research/urban/fia