

Advancing sustainable urban forestry - National roles in governance & policies

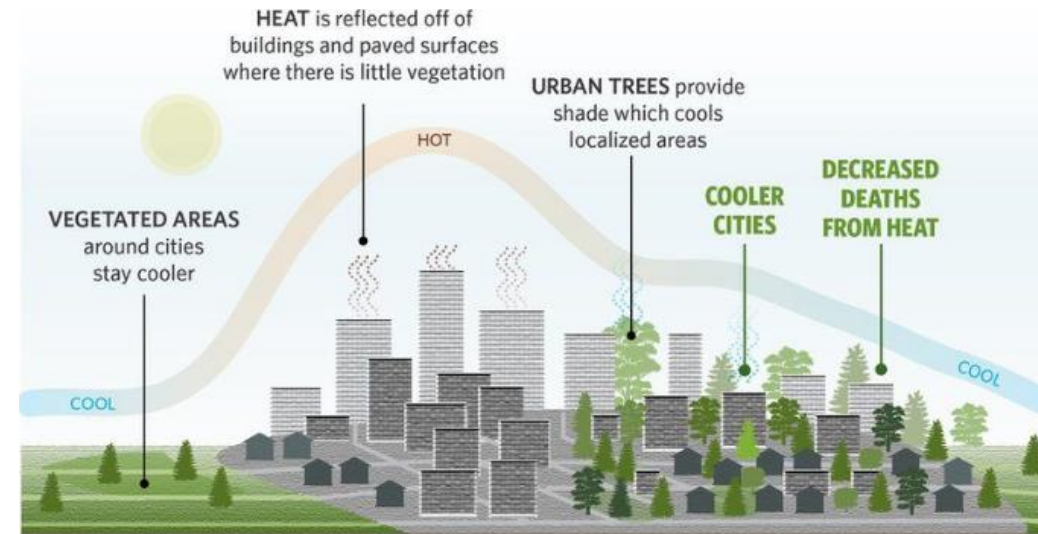


White House Council on Environmental Quality

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National roles in governance & policy

- Grow a community of science and practice
- Communicate a commitment to sustainability and resilience
- Mitigate climate change with nature-based solutions
- Ensure equitable access to nature
- Promote public engagement in care stewardship
- Nurture local leadership and capacity



Grow a community of science and practice

- Data and research findings are critical to informing action
- Nationally standard data quality is important
- State universities and colleges are primary assets
- Local government, community advocates, practitioners elected officials all need data
- A diverse community of science and practice brings all voices forward



Communicate commitment to sustainability

- Nature in communities needs a national voice – the big picture
- A regional vision that puts local tree protection into context
- National funding that puts emphasis on climate resilience
- Technical assistance that helps nature thrive as city infrastructure



Figure 1: Community Resilience Cycle

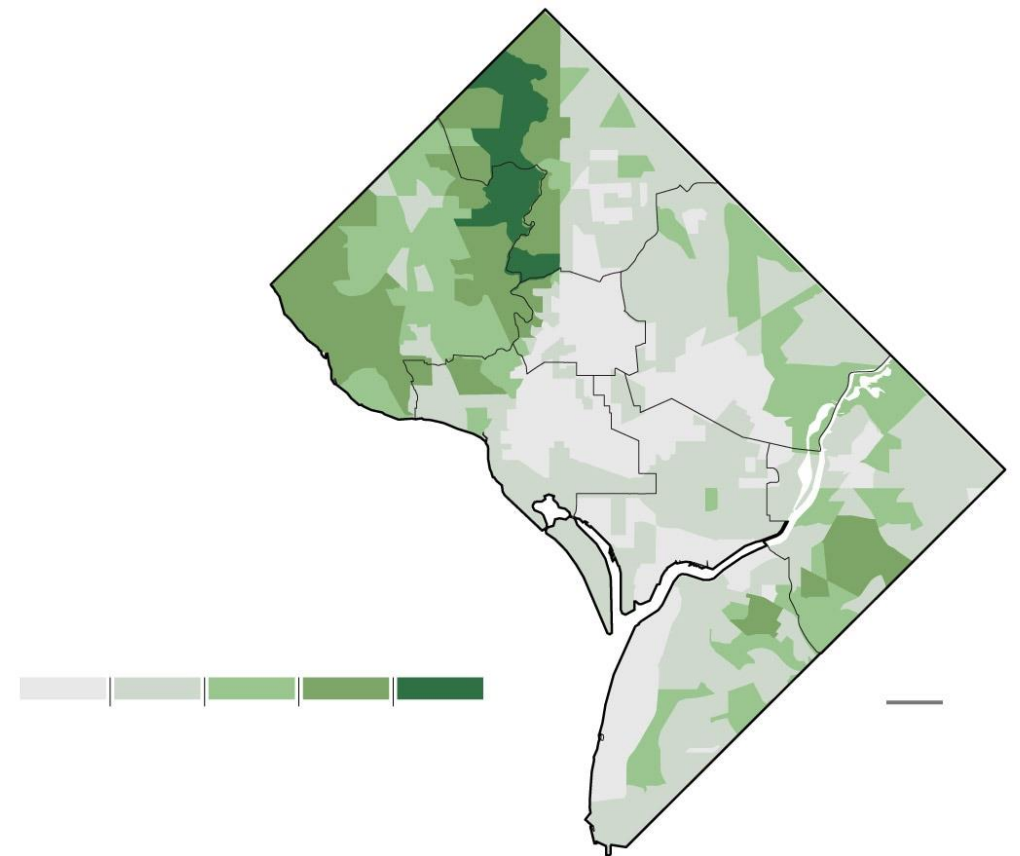
Mitigate climate change

- National governments can help protect vulnerable populations
- Targeted funding to mitigate extreme heat, fire, wind, and flooding events
- Trees and green spaces offer refuge and relief
- Nature-based solutions to social, economic, and environmental challenges



Ensure equitable access to nature

- Densely developed communities may not have access to parks
- Tree canopy cover may not be evenly distributed – Tree Equity Score
- National governments can give priority funding
- Help to re-balance access to parks and tree cover



Promote voluntary care and stewardship



- More than tree planting
- Everyone can play a role in the care of existing green infrastructure
- Government should not do it alone
- Cultivate a culture of engagement
- Training and workforce development

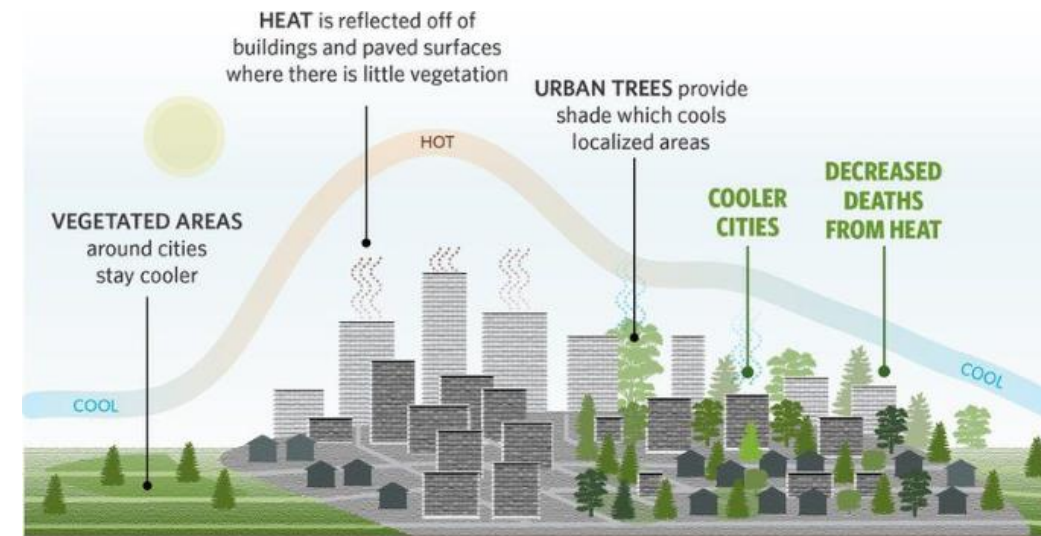
Strengthen Local Leadership and Capacity

- Put priority on protecting and developing people
- Find and mentor local leaders – give them a national stage
- Support and test innovative practices – take risks
- Leverage local investment in parks, tree quality and forest health



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Federal & state roles in governance & policies for advancing urban forestry



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