



CHICAGO  
REGIONAL  
TREES  
INITIATIVE

Our Trees.  
Our Communities.  
Our Future.

## Science to Action

# Mission:



A collaborative effort to support and host a healthier urban forest in the Chicago Region by 2040. This forest will be comprised of a diversity of tree species and ages, appropriately distributed across land use types in the region. The forest will provide the region improved environmental, economic and social benefits.

Built on science!

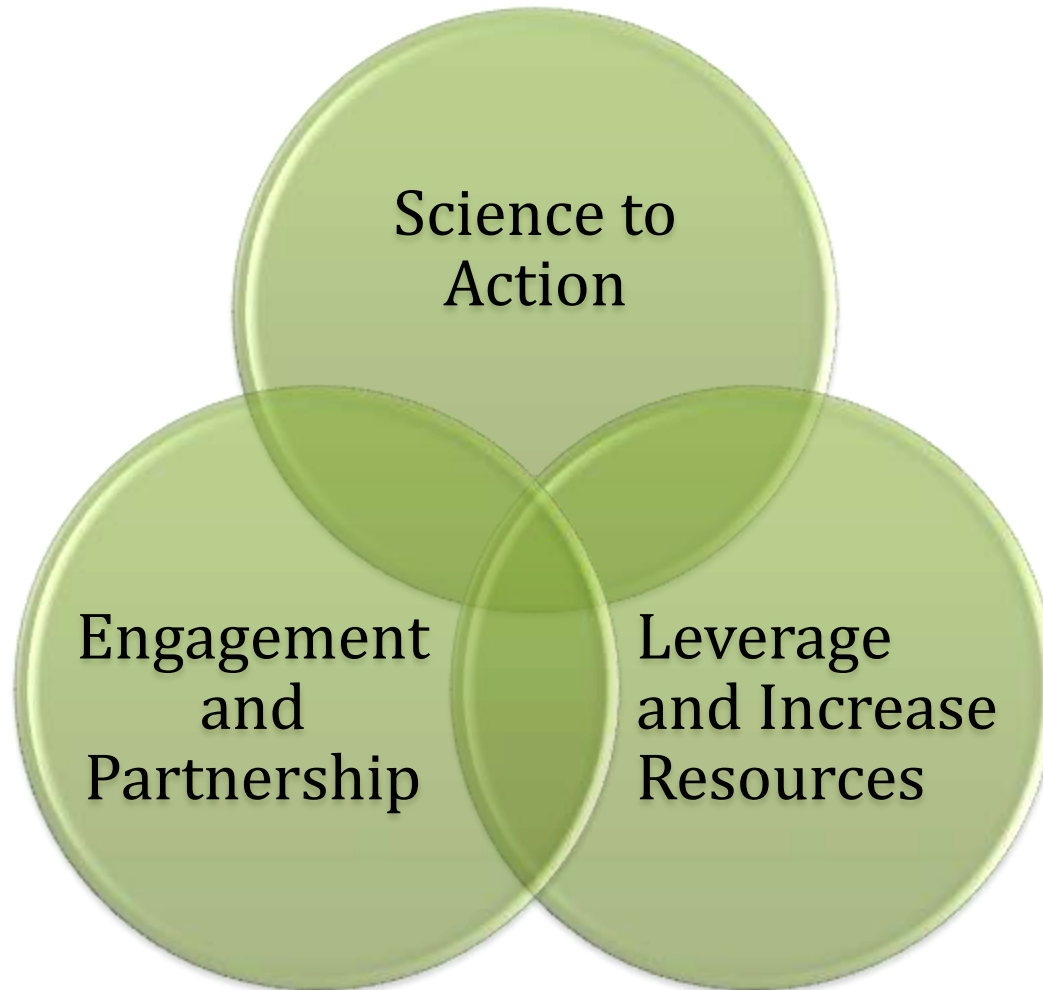
# 7 County Chicago Region



- Cook
- Dupage
- Kane
- Kendall
- Lake
- McHenry
- Will



# Chicago Regional Trees Initiative



# EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL



# Significant Needs



- 31% of our urban forest is invasive species
- 8% of our urban forest is dead or dying due to EAB
- Oaks are not regenerating in our woodlands
- Increased development and impervious surface = increased environmental impacts 9 million – 11 million people
- Increased risks due to severe weather and invasive species
- Need to understand what we have and how we can make it better – Tree Census, Oak Mapping, GIV, UTC
- Economic downturn resulting in reduced funding for care and planting of trees at a time of significant forestry issue



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graph BT; A[Executive Advisory Council  
Vision and Resources] --> B[Work Groups  
Strategy Definition  
Share knowledge, develop resources  
and provide outreach]; B --> C[Partners  
Adoption and Implementation of  
Strategy]; C --> D[Chicago Regional Trees Initiative];
```

# **Chicago Regional Trees Initiative**

## **Partners**

Adoption and Implementation of  
Strategy

## **Work Groups**

Strategy Definition  
Share knowledge, develop resources  
and provide outreach

## **Executive Advisory Council**

Vision and Resources

# Collaborative Approach to Build Capacity





# Working Groups



Tree  
Stewardship  
and Planting



Trees and  
Green  
Infrastructure



Communications  
& Education



Risk  
Assessment



Composition



Industry and  
Associations



Resources

- Build Volunteer Training – TreeKeepers
- Private Property Education
- Build Capacity and Opportunities for Planting
- Short Course
- Research
- Outreach

- Integrate** Biodiversity Recovery Plan
- State Urban Forestry Plan
- Green Infrastructure Vision
- GoTo 2040 Ordinances
- Research
- Outreach
- Mentor Network

- Identify Key Messages
- Gather and/or Develop Materials
- Develop Message Distribution Strategy
- Build Website
- Intranet
- Outreach

- Invasive Pests and Pathogens
- Tree Failure
- Climate Adaptation
- Research Outreach

- Regional Tree Census
- Urban Tree Canopy Assessment
- Oak Recovery Mapping
- Green Infrastructure Vision
- Analysis
- Operational Capacity

- Technical Training
- Consistent Standards and Specifications
- Nursery Production and Resources
- Research
- Outreach

- Collaborate on Funding Opportunities
- Build on Existing Programs
- Outreach

# Climate Change Response Framework

[Home](#) [Our Approach](#) [Projects](#) [Demos](#) [Products](#) [Partners](#) [Resources](#) [Contact](#)



## Partnerships



## Vulnerability Assessments



## Forest Adaptation Resources



## Demonstration Projects

## News & Events



## What is the Climate Change Response Framework?

The Framework is a collaborative, cross-boundary approach among scientists, managers, and landowners to incorporate climate change considerations into natural resource management. It provides an integrated set of tools, partnerships, and actions to support climate-informed conservation and forest management.

Six Framework projects encompass 19 states, including 14 National Forests and millions of acres of forestland. Each regional project interweaves four components: science and management partnerships, vulnerability assessments, adaptation resources, and demonstration projects. Learn more about how the components interact to build a flexible, scalable, and effective Framework at [Our Approach](#). Use the interactive map to learn more about Framework activities in your region.



# What's next?



- Work Groups work plans based on needs and gaps
- Partner Commitment and Development
- Mentor Network
- Short Course for Non-Professionals
- Workshops
- One-on-One
- Tree Planting
- July 2015- RTI Conference and Partner Recognition
- Metrics

# Workshops



- Contract Growing
- Tree Inventories and How to Use Them
- Urban Soils and Trees
- Care and Management of Legacy Trees
- Species Diversity and the New Species List
- Street Tree Selection and Planting
- How to Protect Trees During Construction
- How to Utilize Volunteers
- Corridors and Trees (IDOT, Metra, Utilities)
- New Invaders – Early Detection Rapid Response
- Tree Selection, Planting and Care for the Homeowner
- Conversion to Forest – Wood Lot Naturalized (corporate and/or university campuses)
- Managing for Risk (storm, insect, diversity, climate, other)



# More Information?



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