

Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

# Healthy Trees, Healthy Cities Overview and Update

Continental Dialogue 2015  
November 17, 2015

Rachel Holmes

# CHALLENGES:



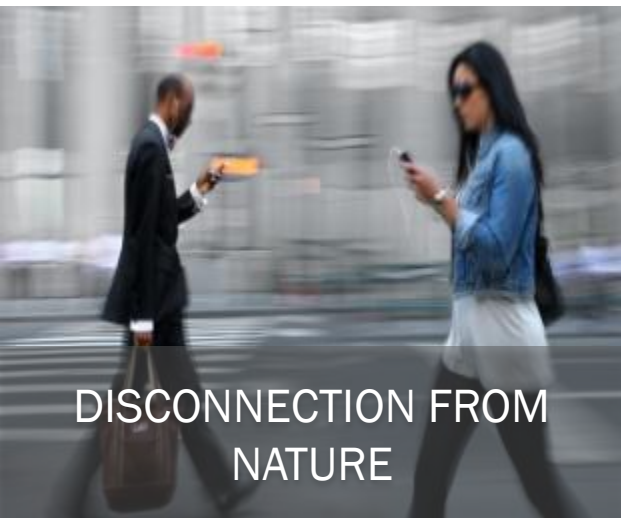
EXCESSIVE HEAT



POOR AIR QUALITY



INADEQUATE PLANNING &  
URBAN DESIGN



DISCONNECTION FROM  
NATURE




BIODIVERSITY LOSS



FLOODING & POOR  
WATER QUALITY



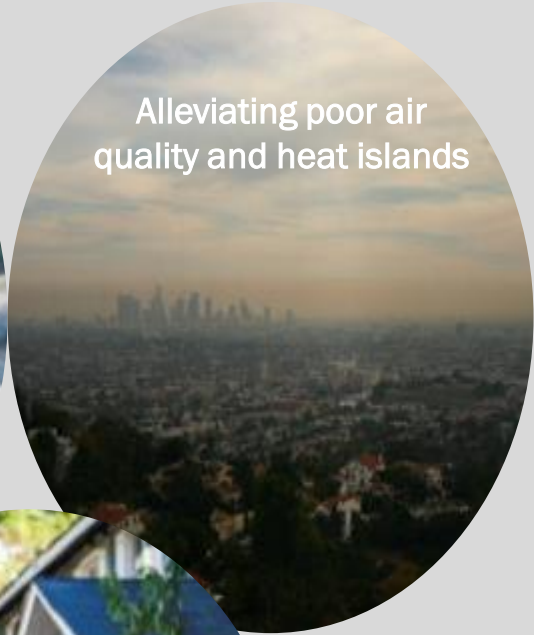
# Nature's Solutions For Resilient Cities



Improving water quality &  
mitigating flooding



Protecting coastal  
communities



Alleviating poor air  
quality and heat islands



Safeguarding urban  
biodiversity



Connecting people with  
nature

INTEGRATE NATURAL SOLUTIONS INTO CITIES TO MAKE THEM

**FLOURISH**

BY REIMAGINING A CITY AS A PLACE.  
ENGAGING CITIZENS AND FOCUSING  
ON HEALTH & WELLBEING

**LIVABLE**

BY ADDRESSING CHRONIC PUBLIC  
HEALTH ISSUES SUCH AS AIR QUALITY  
AND HEAT ISLAND EFFECT

**RESILIENT**

TO URBANIZATION, NATURAL  
DISASTERS, AND CLIMATE CHANGE





HEALTHY TREES · HEALTHY CITIES



To protect the health of our nation's trees and forests and the well-being of communities by creating a **culture of stewardship** that engages people in the planting, care, and stewardship of urban trees and forests

**Collaborate**

Partnership Building with Government Agencies, Local and National Organizations

**Science**

Science-based Urban Forest Assessment, Health Monitoring, and Early Pest Detection

**Support**

Training and Outreach Material, Application and Tool Development

**Engage**

Community-based Volunteer Urban Forest Management

**Empower**

Youth Empowerment and Leadership Development

**Motivate**

Public Outreach Campaign

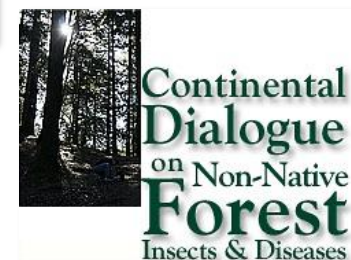




# 1. National and Local Partnerships



Sustainable Urban  
Forests Coalition



City of New York  
Parks & Recreation



The National Invasive Species Council

## 2. Science-based Urban Forest Assessment

### Urban Tree Health Monitoring with USFS



Tree 36  
Stress Index -0.783



Tree 75  
Stress Index -0.009



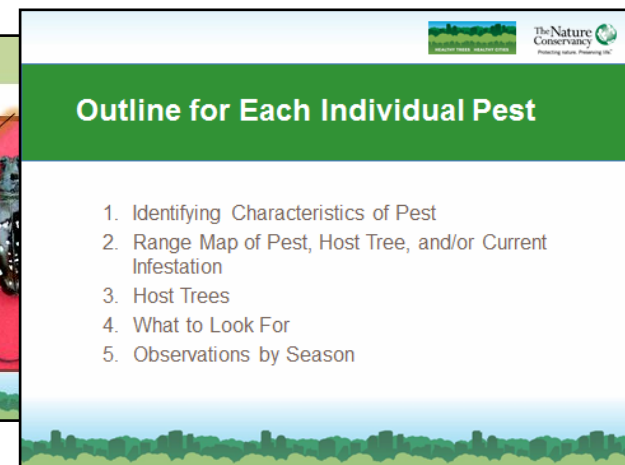
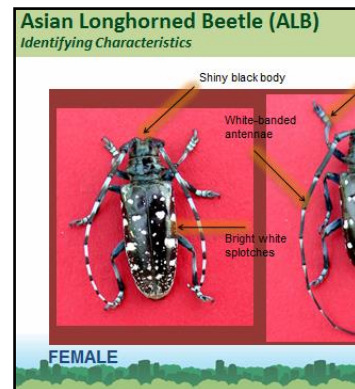
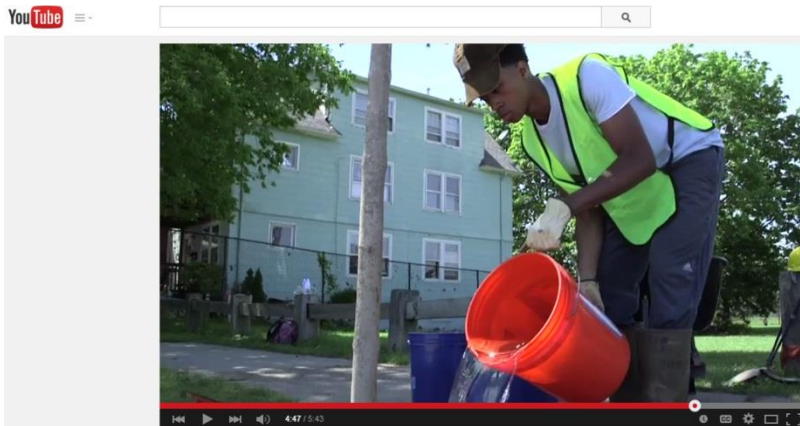
Tree 65  
Stress Index 1.3





# 3. Educational Resources and Tools

1. **Training Powerpoint** 14 Presentations for major pests
2. **In Person Trainings** designed for diverse audiences
3. **3 Short Instructional Videos** available on YouTube
  - Planting
  - Pruning
  - Stewardship
4. **Smart phone apps** for pest reporting, with training videos



## 4. Community-based Volunteer Urban Forest Management





## 5. Youth Leadership and Job Training



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKgR6g7f9Bk>















# Looking Forward...



Rachel Holmes  
rholmes@tnc.org  
Healthytreeshealthycities.org

