



The Urban Forest Initiative:

Growing urban forestry
awareness, outreach,
and education



The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Step One: Identifying partners



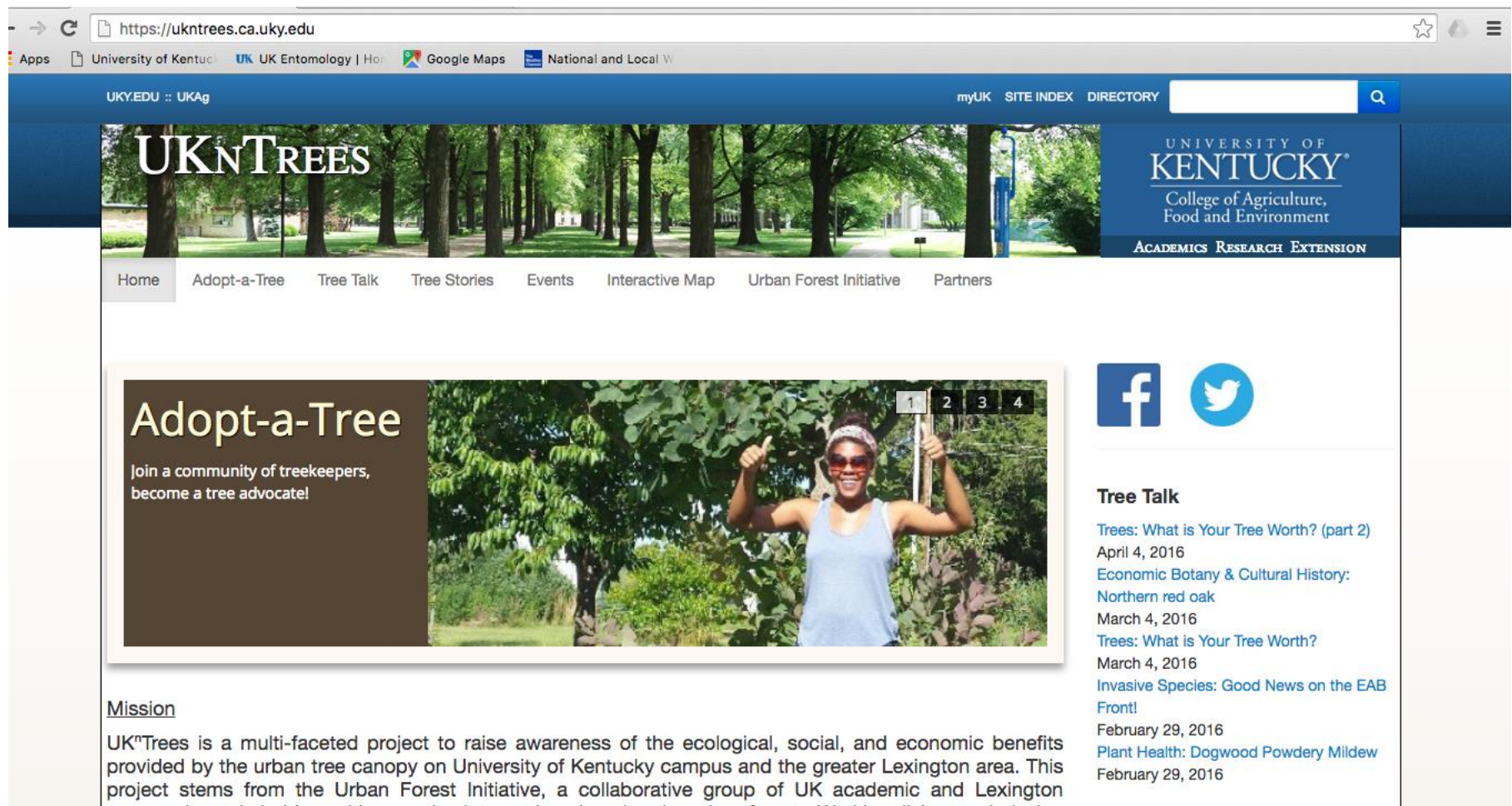
Urban Forest Initiative



The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Step Two: Increase public awareness

Creating a presence on the web and in social media



The screenshot shows the UKnTREES website. The browser address bar displays <https://ukntrees.ca.uky.edu>. The website header includes navigation links: myUK, SITE INDEX, DIRECTORY, and a search bar. The main banner features the UKnTREES logo and a photograph of a tree-lined path. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links: Home, Adopt-a-Tree, Tree Talk, Tree Stories, Events, Interactive Map, Urban Forest Initiative, and Partners. The 'Adopt-a-Tree' section is highlighted, featuring a woman giving a thumbs up and the text: 'Adopt-a-Tree. Join a community of treekeepers, become a tree advocate!'. To the right, social media icons for Facebook and Twitter are displayed. Below these, the 'Tree Talk' section lists recent articles with dates: 'Trees: What is Your Tree Worth? (part 2)' (April 4, 2016), 'Economic Botany & Cultural History: Northern red oak' (March 4, 2016), 'Trees: What is Your Tree Worth?' (March 4, 2016), 'Invasive Species: Good News on the EAB Front!' (February 29, 2016), and 'Plant Health: Dogwood Powdery Mildew' (February 29, 2016). At the bottom, the 'Mission' section states: 'UKnTrees is a multi-faceted project to raise awareness of the ecological, social, and economic benefits provided by the urban tree canopy on University of Kentucky campus and the greater Lexington area. This project stems from the Urban Forest Initiative, a collaborative group of UK academic and Lexington...

The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Step Two: Increase public awareness

Tree Talk – providing seasonally relevant expert advice

UKY.EDU :: UKAg

UKNTREES

Home Adopt-a-Tree **Tree Talk** Tree Stories Events Interactive Map Urban Forest Initiative Partners

Home » Tree Talk » Plant Health: Anthracnose

Plant Health: Anthracnose

By Ellen Crocker

Economic Botany & Cultural History: Northern red oak

Economic Botany & Cultural History: Sweetgum

Featured Native Plant: Carolina Allspice

Featured Native Plant: Trumpet Honeysuckle

Featured Native Plant: Yellowwood

Fungi: There's a Fungus Among Us

Insects: A good spring for aphids

Insects: Arthropod gall makers - cell pirates

Invasive Species: Good News on the EAB Front!



UKY.EDU :: UKAg myUK SITE INDEX DIRECTORY

UKNTREES

Home Adopt-a-Tree **Tree Talk** Tree Stories Events Interactive Map Urban Forest Initiative Partners

Home » Tree Talk » Insects: A good spring for aphids

Insects: A good spring for aphids

By Lee Townsend

Economic Botany & Cultural History: Northern red oak

Economic Botany & Cultural History: Sweetgum

Featured Native Plant: Carolina Allspice

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Featured Native Plant: Yellowwood

Fungi: There's a Fungus Among Us

Insects: A good spring for aphids

Insects: Arthropod gall makers - cell pirates

Invasive Species: Good News on the EAB Front!

Aphids are among the first insects to appear on trees in the spring. They thrive under cool, rainy, conditions and our weather pattern to date has favored them.

Aphids occur in colonies on tender growth: flower buds, expanding leaves, and/or growing stems. These soft-bodied insects use their thin, piercing sucking mouthparts to feed on plant sap. Salivary secretions from the mouthparts pre-digest plant sap. Effects differ. The saliva may cause infested leaves to turn yellow, wilt, become distorted, stunted, or develop growths called galls. This varies depending upon the tree, aphid species, and their numbers.

Rich plant sap is filtered in the aphids' digestive tract to remove nutrients. However, aphids cannot efficiently process the large volumes that they ingest so they excrete water still containing nutrients. This sugary waste liquid (honeydew) forms sticky residues where it lands. The deposits support the growth of fuzzy, dark, sooty mold.



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Step Two: Increase public awareness

Bringing in experts, creating community conversations

Dr. Doug Tallamy Presents a Free Public Lecture
"Creating Living Landscapes"

Professor of Entomology, University of Delaware
Author of the bestselling:
Bringing Nature Home
How You Can Sustain Wildlife with
The Living Landscape
Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home

7 pm, Wednesday, September 30, 2015
at the Fayette County Extension Office
1140 Red Mile Pl., Lexington, KY 40504
1 Specific CEU for Categories 2, 3, 10, 12, 14, 18, 20

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

To Your Good Health: Trees & Nature for Well-being
Dr. Kathleen Wolf, University of Washington

Wednesday, November 17th

Location: Downtown Arts Center - 141 E Main St., Lexington, KY 40507
Reception: 5:00-6:30pm - 2nd Floor Lobby
Tree Canopy Report Card Unveiling 6:30-7:00pm - Rehearsal Room
Main Talk: "To Your Good Health: Trees & Nature for Well-being" - Dr. Kathleen Wolf 7:00-8:00pm - Rehearsal Room

• Come learn what your tree canopy cover is in your neighborhood.

Return of the Native
Can we create more habitat for native species in cities?
Dr. Margaret Carreiro, University of Louisville

Wednesday, February 17th

Location: Fayette County Extension Office 1140 Red Mile Place, Lexington, KY 40504

Reception: 6:00PM - 7:00PM
• Displays, light refreshments, and conversation
• Contact us if your organization would like a table: UKnTrees@uky.edu

Main Talk: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Next Month:
"Seeing the Urban Forest for the Trees"
• Dr. David Nowak
• Leading researcher on the benefits of urban forest management for ecosystem services
• Fayette County Extension Office Wednesday, March 2nd, 7:00PM

Seeing the Urban Forest for the Trees:
Dr. David J. Nowak, USDA Forest Service
Project Leader, Urban forest structure, functions, and values

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Wednesday, March 2nd
6:00PM - 8:00PM

Reception: 6:00PM - 6:45PM
• Displays, light refreshments, and conversation
• Contact us if your organization would like a table: UKnTrees@uky.edu

Tutorial / Demo: 6:45PM - 7:00PM
• Jenny Gulick demonstrates how citizens can utilize the Urban Tree Canopy Webviewer tool to increase tree canopy on their property and in their neighborhoods.

Main Talk: 7:00PM - 8:00PM

Coming Soon:
Film: "Trees in Trouble" - April 20, 7:00PM
Lexington Public Library, Downtown Branch
www.TreesInTrouble.com

Logos: Ornamental & Turf, UKAg, Urban Forest Initiative, UKAg ENTOMOLOGY, SSC, ISE, Urban Forest Initiative, UKAg

- Free public lectures
- Meetings with UK classes and student groups

The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Step Three: Active engagement

Create opportunities for hands' on interactions with trees

Mulch Madness

- UK student-led volunteers
- Hundreds of trees mulched on UK campus

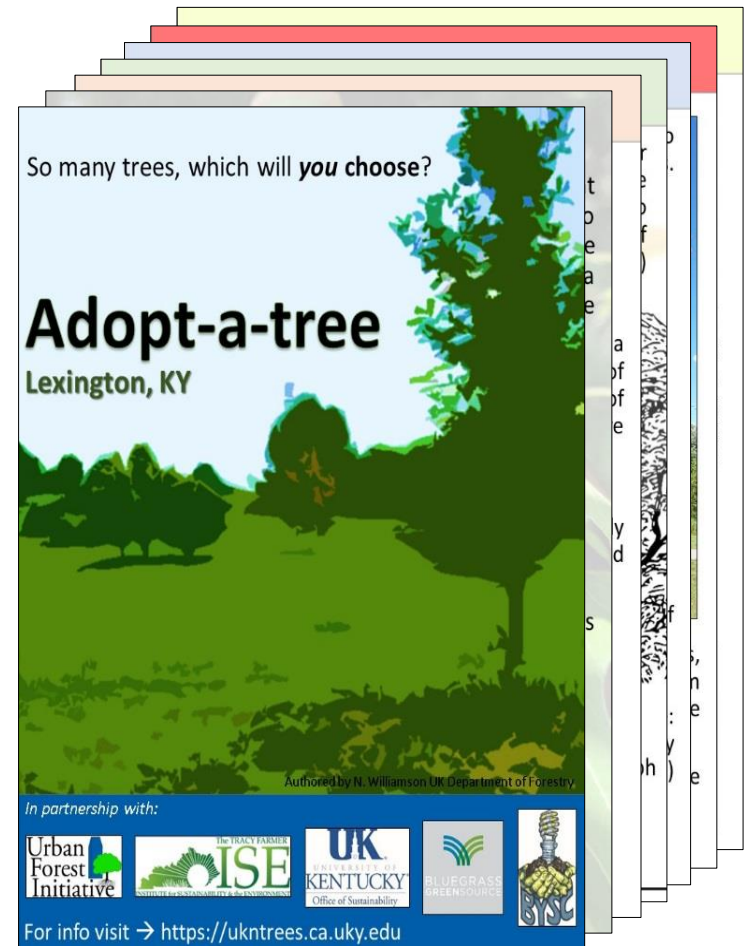
Invasives removal events

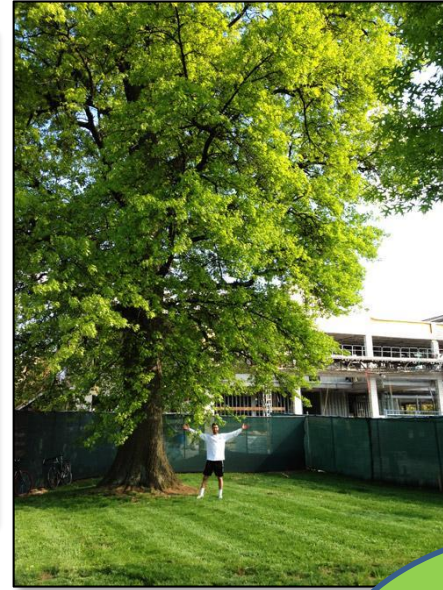


The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Adopt-a-Tree

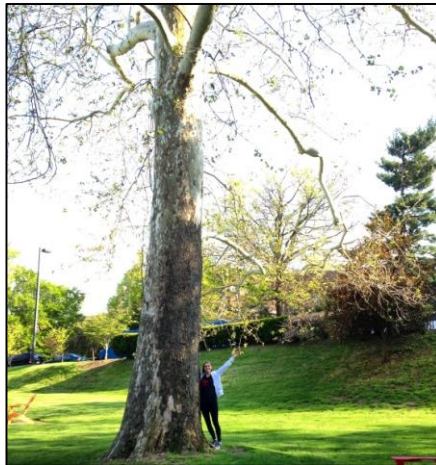
- Targeting kids-college
- Engaging in trees from multiple perspectives
- What is your favorite tree?
- Why?
- What ecosystem benefits does your tree provide?





What's your favorite tree?

Why?



Why is this your favorite tree?

*...reminds me of my favorite book,
'The Lorax' by Dr. Seuss*



*...my tree always offers me a welcome
distraction from the day's activities*

*...is important to me because I grew up in its
shade*

What ecosystem benefits does it provide?



Measure DBH



Identify species

National Tree Benefits Calculator

stormwater
interception

carbon
sequestration

energy
conservation

air pollution
removal

Ecosystem Benefits

[Home](#)

[Calculate another tree](#)

National Tree Benefit Calculator

Beta

Overall Benefits

Storm Water

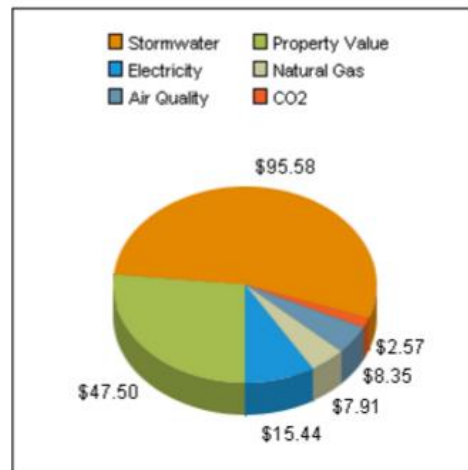
Property Value

Energy

Air Quality

CO2

About the Model



Breakdown of your tree's benefits

Click on one of the tabs above for more detail

This **45 inch Pin oak** provides overall benefits of: **\$177 every year.**

While some functional benefits of trees are well documented, others are difficult to quantify (e.g., human social and communal health). Trees' specific geography, climate, and interactions with humans and infrastructure is highly variable and makes precise calculations that much more difficult. Given these complexities, the results presented here should be considered initial approximations—a general accounting of the benefits produced by urban street-side plantings.

Benefits of trees do not account for the costs associated with trees' long-term care and maintenance.

If this tree is cared for and grows to 50 inches, it will provide **\$177 in annual benefits.**



Pin oak
Quercus palustris

- Adopted trees posted on Facebook
- Stand alone activity incorporates
 - tree identification
 - math
 - science
 - writing
- “Adopt” packets downloadable

Facebook interface for the "Adopt-a-Tree Lexington" community page.

Header: Adopt-a-Tree Lexington

Post: So many trees...which will *you choose?*

Community: Adopt-a-Tree Lexington Community

Navigation: Timeline, About, Photos, Likes, More

Community Section:

- 355 people like this
- Mary Arthur and 2 other friends
- Invite friends to like this Page

ABOUT

Adopting a tree is a neat way to acknowledge a tree has somehow enhanced your quality of life. Join the community of tree-keepers around the Bluegrass!

<http://ukntrees.ca.uky.edu/>

PHOTOS

Status: Adopt-a-Tree Lexington Yesterday at 8:00am · 🌍

Nzeba, Claire, Ethan, Keke, Cameron, and Isabelle from STEAM Academy adopted this Red oak in front of William T. Young Library because it symbolizes their friendship!

Images:

- Close-up of green oak leaves.
- Pathway through a lush green park with many trees.
- Group photo of six students (Nzeba, Claire, Ethan, Keke, Cameron, and Isabelle) standing in front of a brick building (William T. Young Library).

Logos: UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY Office of Sustainability, BYSC, The Family Farmer, ICE.

The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Step Three: Active engagement

Tree-centric workshops - Collaborative projects with various entities

How healthy are your neighborhood trees?

Volunteer to learn more about keeping your trees healthy!

UK's Urban Forest Initiative is seeking volunteers interested in getting their neighborhoods involved in a brief (2 hours or less) hands-on training and survey session on tree health and care. In each session, participants will:

- Learn about urban tree benefits
- Learn to spot signs of unhealthy trees
- Assess the health of neighborhood trees
- Learn to support tree health
- Complete a survey evaluation of the program

All trainings are FREE. Participants will walk away with a "goody bag" full of tree-related items and educational materials as well as access to an interactive map of your neighborhood's street trees.

Want to learn more?
Email Grace Coy at grace.coy@uky.edu with any comments or questions

Schedule a day for the month of June — we will come to you but **dates are going fast!** Each day has options for morning, afternoon, or evening.

- Thursday, June 2nd
- Tuesday, June 7th
- Thursday, June 9th
- Tuesday, June 14th
- Thursday, June 16th
- Tuesday, June 21st
- Thursday, June 23rd
- Tuesday, June 28th
- Thursday, June 30th

To secure your spot, use the survey URL below:
tinyurl.com/treetraining

Urban Forest Initiative

Forest Health Research & Education Center

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Urban Tree Workshop: Tree Identification 101

Sept 14, 6-7pm
UK's E. S. Good Barn
1451 University Dr.

RSVP to Ellen Crocker at e.crocker@uky.edu
Register by Sept 12 and be registered to with a free tree ID book

What is that tree?

Find out at UK's Urban Forest Initiative first urban tree-focused workshop of the fall:

Tree Identification 101

This session, lead by retired Extension Forester Doug McLaren, will give you the tools to identify trees in both urban and rural settings based on common characteristics like leaf arrangement and shape.

Did you enjoy this summer's UFI tree health trainings?

This workshop is a great way to continue your urban tree education and become a better urban forest steward.

Brought to you by:

Urban Forest Initiative

Forest Health Research & Education Center

University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Cooperative Extension Service Forestry Extension

Castlewood Park Tree Festival

in partnership with the Night Market

Friday, September 2nd, 5-8 PM

Support your community & the environment!

- Healthy Trees: Mulching Service Project
- Lexington Art League's exhibition "The Less You Say" by J. Daniel Graham
- Rain garden design unveiling
- Local food vendors
- Live music
- Castlewood Park → Night Market = 5 min. walk

Contact us at ukntrees@uky.edu

Castlewood Neighborhood Association

BLUEGRASS GREENSOURCE

TOWN BRANCH TREE EXPERTS, INC.

Seedleaf

Urban Forest Initiative

LEXINGTON ART LEAGUE

NIGHT MARKET

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)



Step Three: Active engagement

Tree Stories

- Visual histories promote engagement
 - Using trees and landscapes to demonstrate
 - cultural significance
- 

UK Campus (Arbor Day, 1915)



UK Campus (2016)



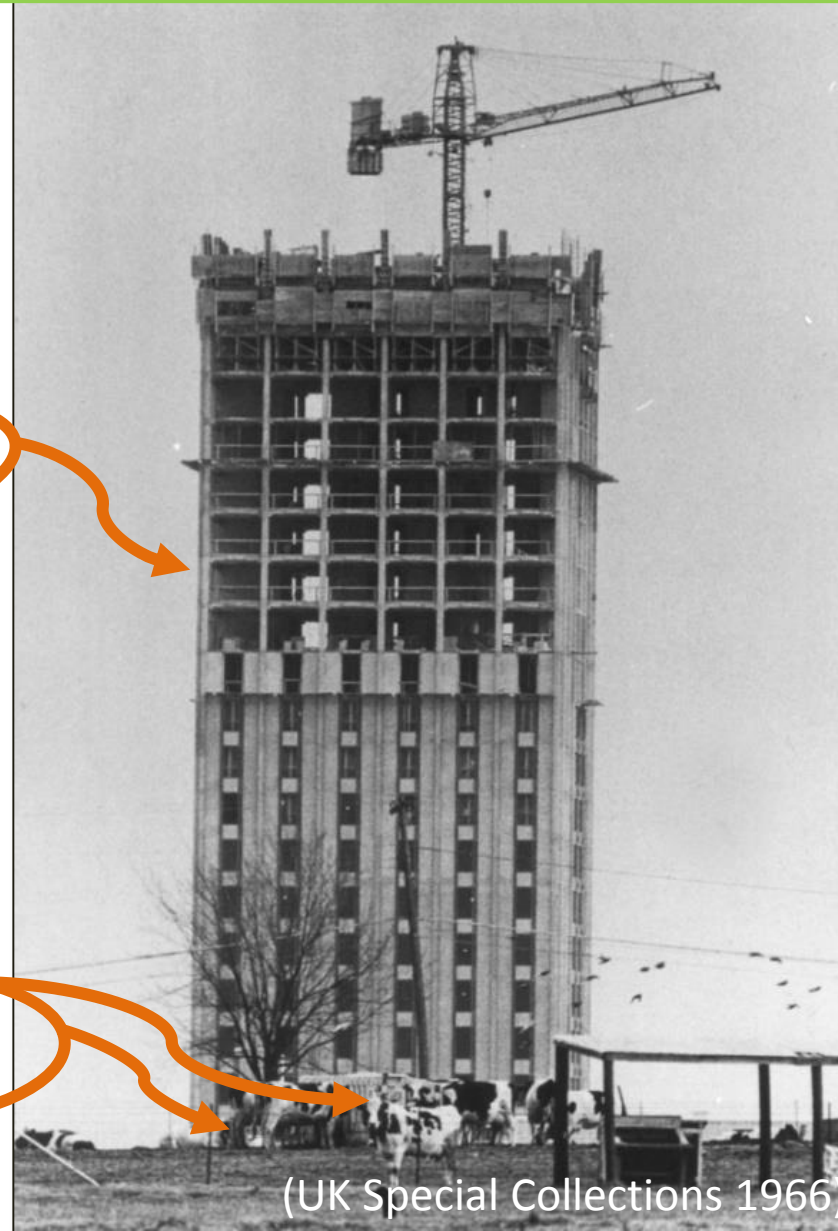
The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

Step Three: Active engagement

Tree Stories

- Visual histories
- Using trees and landscapes to highlight
 - Foresight in planning

UK's Kirwan-Blanding dorms, 1966



(UK Special Collections 1966)

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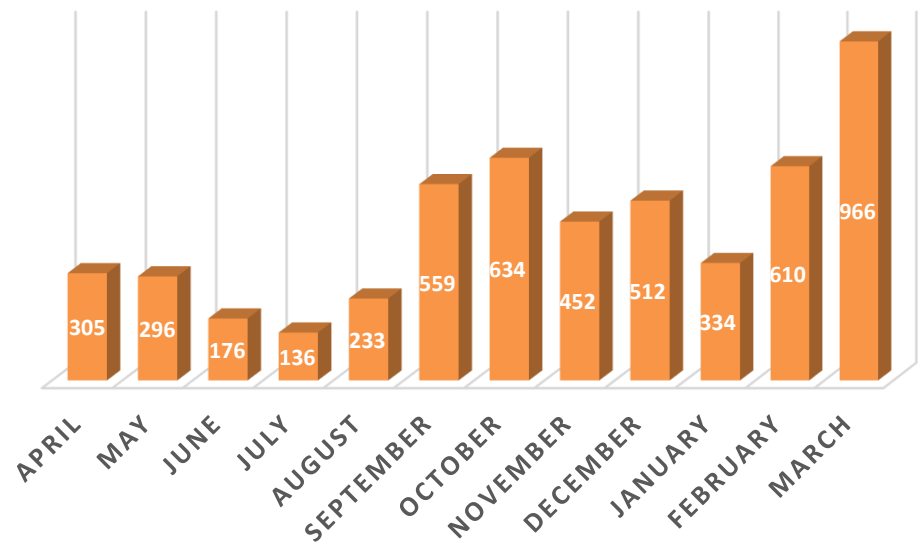
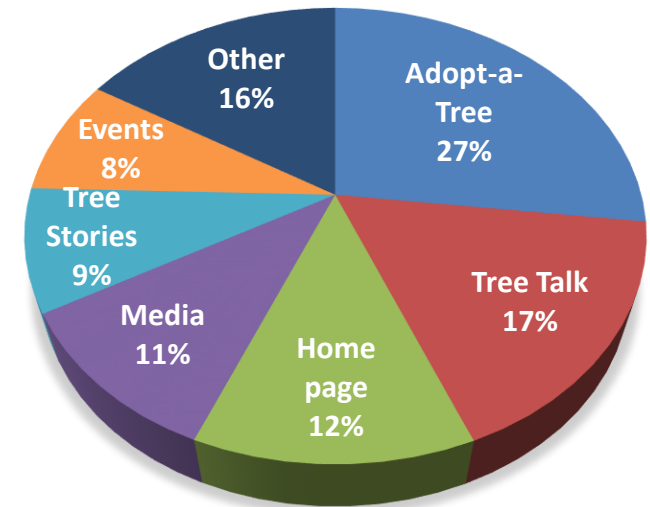


UK's Kirwan-Blanding dorms, 2015

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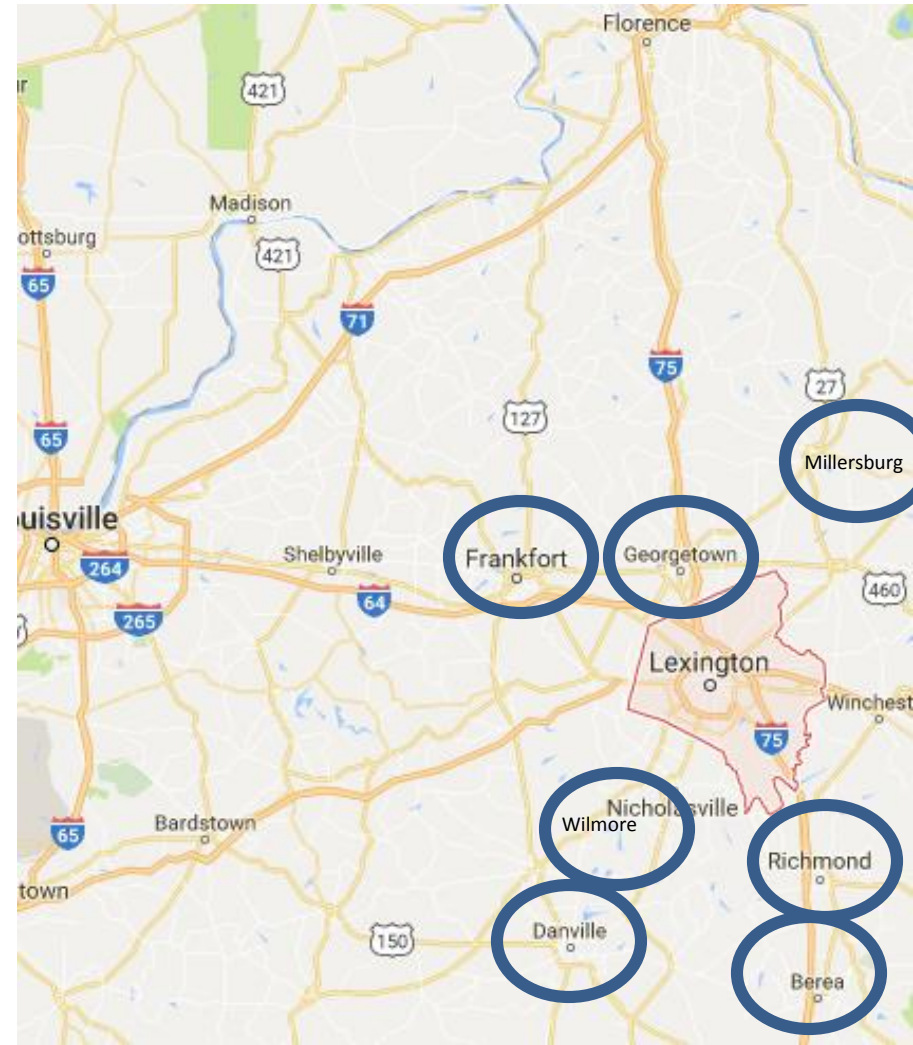
Assessment

- Web site usage strong
- General public (hundreds) attending seminar series
- Student engagement (hundreds)
- One full time employee
- Interns
- Expanding to surrounding communities



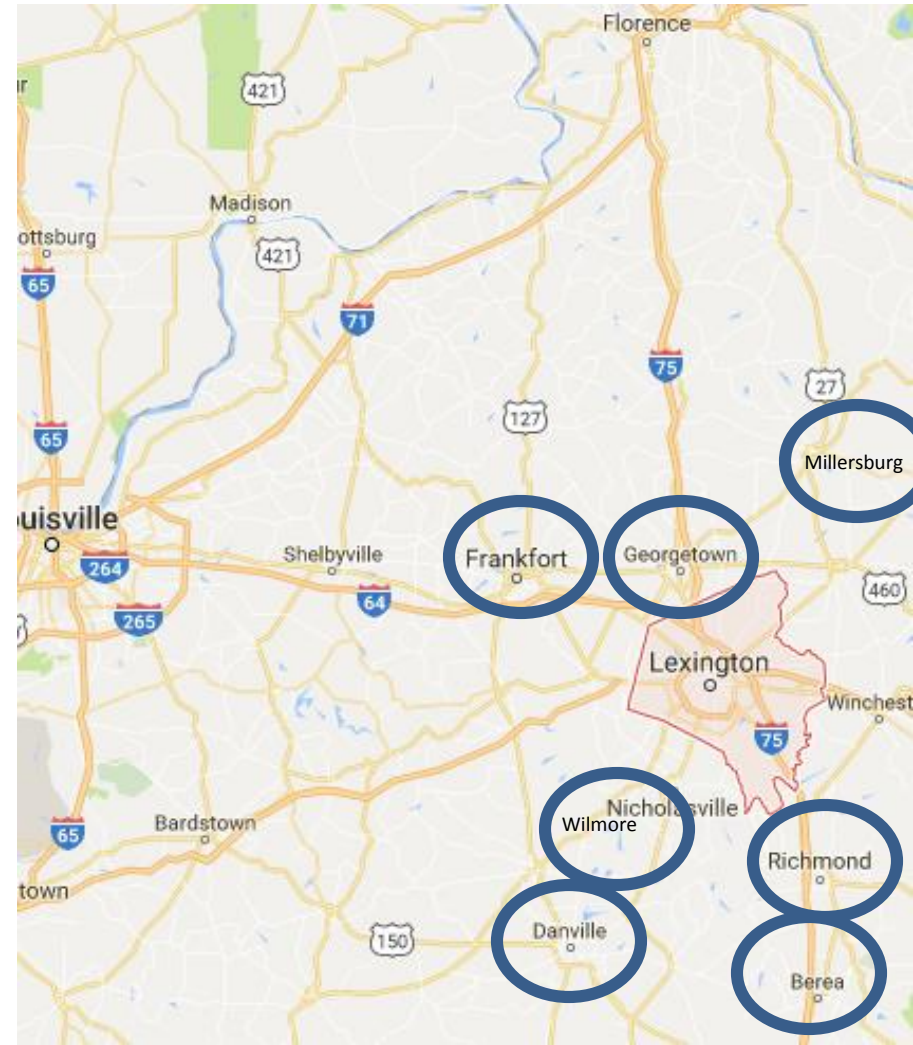
The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

- UFI activities in surrounding communities
 - Identifying partners
 - Increase public awareness
 - Active engagement



The Urban Forest Initiative (UFI)

- UFI activities in surrounding communities
 - Barriers to success are unique to each
 - Success in unexpected places
 - Visions for the future
 - Health
 - The Arts



Benefits of our urban forests

