COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN PREPARED FOR

The City of Egg Harbor, NJ

2025-2029

DAVEY
Resource Group

Municipal/County Information Form

Municipality	City of Egg Harbor
County	Atlantic
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Organization Name	City of Egg Harbor
Mayor/County Commissioner's Signature	
Date of Management Plan Submission	2/12/2025
Time Period Covered in Management Plan	1/1/25-12/31/29

Official Office Use Only

The above-named municipality/county has made formal application to the New Jersey Forestry Service. I am pleased to advise you that after our review, the NJ Forestry Service has concluded that this plan meets the standards set forth by the State and the NJ Community Forestry Council and is approved for the period covered.
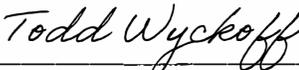
Signed _Todd Wyckoff_   2/19/2026
　　　　State Forester　　　　　Approved Date

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Acknowledgements

This Community Forest Management Plan supports the City of Egg Harbor's vision to promote and enhance community well-being through public tree conservation and improved forestry practices. It provides a framework for preserving and expanding Egg Harbor City's urban tree canopy so the environmental, economic, and social benefits it provides will continue for generations to come.

Mission Statement

To identify, evaluate, enhance, and promote Egg Harbor City's "EHC" Community Forest in order to support the well-being, safety, and quality of life for all residents—now and for future generations. This mission supports the goals of preserving and expanding the urban tree canopy while fostering the long-term health of the community forest for the benefit of all.

Liability Statement

The City of Egg Harbor recognizes the benefits that the urban forest resource brings to the community and also acknowledges our role in keeping this resource well-maintained and monitored to ensure minimal public safety risks. As trees mature, they require more care and maintenance and eventually will need to be replaced. We understand the importance of planting "the right tree in the right place," to ensure that community trees not only contribute to the environmental and economic vitality of the area but also reduce the potential hazards to public safety. However, the city abolished its official Shade Tree Committee in the mid-1990s, relinquishing responsibility for maintaining street trees. We currently have no ordinances regarding who is responsible for maintenance of street trees, but since our grants were approved and the Davey Tree Inventory identified hazardous trees, the responsibility needs to be codified in an ordinance. Our lack of one now means that our community may not be able to meet each need of our community forest immediately. Therefore, it is the intent of this plan to focus available resources toward the greatest need in a step-by-step fashion, working towards a healthy forest with commensurate reductions in risk to public safety.

EHC is in the process of establishing a Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance that will clarify the City's authority, roles, and responsibilities regarding street-tree management and maintenance. As part of this effort, related sections of the Municipal Code, including development-related references, will be reviewed and updated to ensure alignment with current goals and standards.

We also want to become more proactive in the management and care for our trees. Through inventories and hazard assessments, we will position SustainableEHC to take corrective action prior to structural tree failure and other hazardous tree related conditions. It is acknowledged that not all hazardous conditions will be predicted. Adequate maintenance and care will reduce the probability of tree failure, but unexpected events may still occur.

Following this Management Plan will demonstrate that Egg Harbor City is devoting reasonable levels of resources in a planned manner to reduce the number of tree related accidents and thereby reduce its exposure to liabilities and increase public safety.

Executive Summary

The City of Egg Harbor, NJ's Community Forest Management Plan, prepared by Davey Resource Group, Inc. (DRG), focuses on quantifying the benefits provided by the City's tree population and addressing its maintenance needs. In 2025, DRG conducted a comprehensive tree inventory of the City's public right-of-way (ROW) trees, analyzing the data to assess the structure and condition of the tree resource. An illustrated map of the inventoried sites is included in Appendix C.

DRG also used the i-Tree Eco model to estimate the economic value of the environmental benefits provided by the public tree population. Based on this analysis, DRG recommended a prioritized management program for the future care of the trees.

The 2025 tree inventory identified 3,206 trees, stumps, and vacant planting sites within the City's ROW. The City's urban forest includes 75 species, with London planetree (*Platanus × acerifolia*) being the most common, followed by tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). Of the total tree population, 31% are in the established age class. Despite threats from invasive pests such as the spotted lanternfly, Asian longhorned beetle, and spongy moth, 83% of the trees are rated in Fair condition or better, indicating overall stability in the urban forest. An observable trend in the data is the gradual decrease in the number of trees in Good condition as they progress through maturity. This trend signals a potential opportunity for the city to implement a robust maintenance program to sustain and enhance the longevity of Egg Harbor City's tree population.

The results of this tree inventory, coupled with the recently completed results of the Heat Island Assessment, will help inform the future of the urban forest in Egg Harbor City by addressing the low canopy cover in the hardest hit areas of the city first and foremost. With the help of these detailed reports about the current state of Egg Harbor City's urban canopy, we can expound upon the work we've done in the past to develop new goals for what we strive to achieve in our future community forest. Our goals, listed later in this document, reflect our desire to maintain the health of and increase the number of our community trees, involve and partner with the public and other stakeholders, and enhance the training of our forestry professionals. Ultimately, we are working towards a Tree City Designation to show our commitment to the stewardship of Egg Harbor City's precious urban forest.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH TO TREE MANAGEMENT

An effective approach to tree resource management follows a proactive and systematic program that sets clear and realistic goals, prescribes future action, and periodically measures progress. A robust urban forestry program establishes tree maintenance priorities and utilizes modern tools, such as a tree inventory accompanied by TreeKeeper® or other asset management software.

In Winter 2025, the City of Egg Harbor worked with DRG to inventory its public trees and develop this management plan. Consisting of four sections, this part of the plan deriving from the findings of the inventory considers the diversity, distribution, and condition of the inventoried tree population and provides a prioritized system for managing the City's tree resource.

- *Section 1: Egg Harbor City Background and CFMP Report Summary* covers the context and overview of this document's contents and purpose.

- *Section 2: Structure and Composition of the Public Tree Resource* summarizes the inventory data with trends representing the current state of the tree resource.

- *Section 3: Recommended Management of the Public Tree Resource* details a prioritized management program and provides an estimated budget for recommended maintenance activities over a five-year period.

- *Section 4: Future of the CFMP and Community Involvement* lays out a plan for updating the tree inventory data and presents opportunities for the community to participate in urban forestry stewardship as well as other related environmental municipal services.
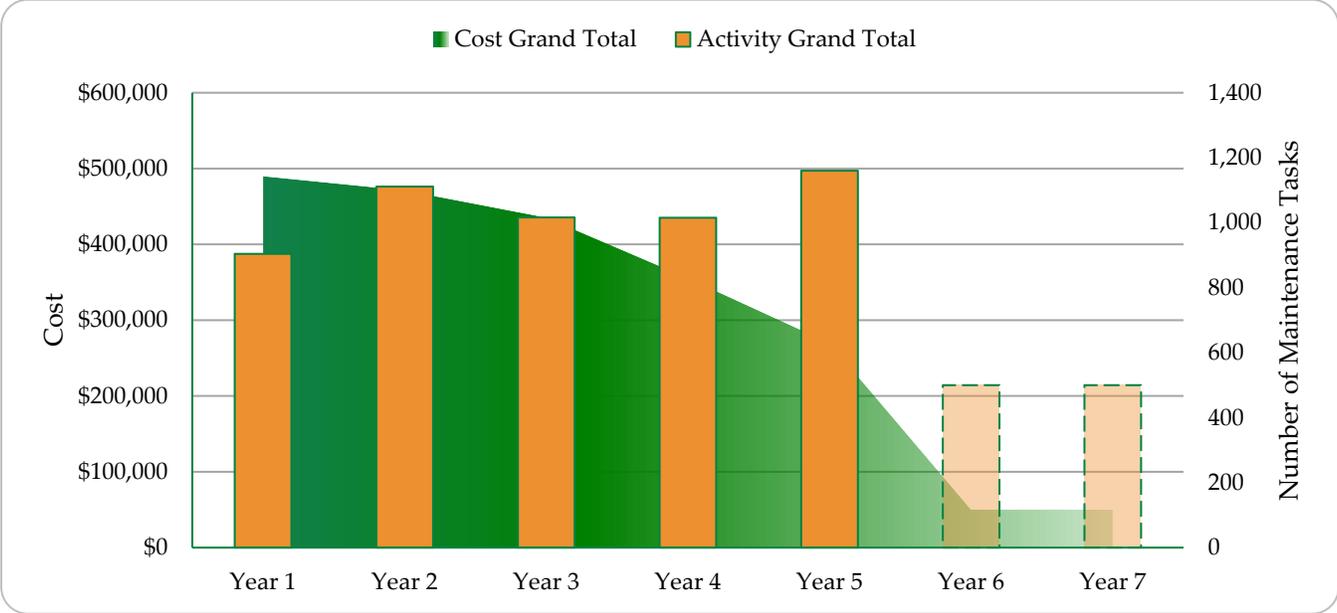
Figure 1. Budget totals for planting and maintenance, including pruning, removals, young tree training, and inspections.

Recommended Maintenance Types

Tree Removal
Trees designated for removal have defects that cannot be cost-effectively or practically corrected. Many of the trees in this category have a large percentage of dead crown.

Total = 114 trees

High Priority = 2 trees

Moderate Priority = 13 trees

Low Priority = 99 trees

Priority Pruning
Priority pruning removes defects such as dead and dying parts or broken and/or hanging branches. Pruning the defective part(s) can lower risk associated with the tree while promoting healthy growth.

Total = 52 trees

High Priority = 0 trees

Moderate Priority = 52 trees

Routine Pruning Cycle
Over time, routine pruning of Low Risk trees can minimize reactive maintenance, limit instances of elevated risk, and provide the basis for a robust risk management program.

Total = 1,841 trees

New Tree Planting
Planting new trees in areas that have poor canopy continuity or sparse canopy is important to ensure that tree benefits are distributed evenly across the city.

Total new tree plantings per year = 200 trees

Young Tree Training Cycle
Younger trees may have branch structure that can lead to potential problems as the tree ages, requiring training to ensure healthy growth. Training is generally completed from the ground with a pole pruner or pruning shear.

Total = 79 trees

Number of trees in cycle each year = approximately 16 trees

Routine Inspection & Inventory Updates
Routine inspections and inventory updates are essential to uncovering potential problems with trees and should be performed by a qualified arborist who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees.

Number in Level 1 assessment cycle every two to three years = 1,841

Community Forest Program Capacity

COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADMINISTRATION

Currently, the Shade Tree Committee operates as a subcommittee under SustainableEHC, collaborating closely with the Department of Public Works, city staff, and community volunteers to advance the City's forestry goals. The City Council has expressed full support for SustainableEHC's recommendations to establish a comprehensive street tree management program, which will be implemented in coordination with the Department of Public Works, an appointed administrator or arborist, the Tree Committee, and the SustainableEHC Green Team. Following the adoption of a Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance—as required by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)—the Shade Tree Committee will be formally restructured and recognized as an official advisory committee to the City Council, ensuring continued guidance on tree policy, planning, and long-term stewardship.

Key City Departments and Entities Supporting the City and Urban Forestry Oversight:

- *Highway Department:* Responsible for the maintenance and removal of trees on public property. Due to limited staffing and equipment, the Department often coordinates with private contractors for complex tasks.

- *Chief Financial Officer (CFO):* Manages procurement and contracts related to tree services and serves as the Program Administrator for the Shade Tree Committee.

- *City Administrator/Arborist:* Serves as the program administrator for the Shade Tree Committee.

- *City Engineer:* Oversees capital improvement projects and collaborates with the STC and Arborist on the design and management of tree planting or removal related to infrastructure projects.

- *Eyren Hafen Land Preserve Inc.:* Maintains a portion of the undeveloped rural wooded areas within the city limits, contributing to the overall ecological health of the community forest.
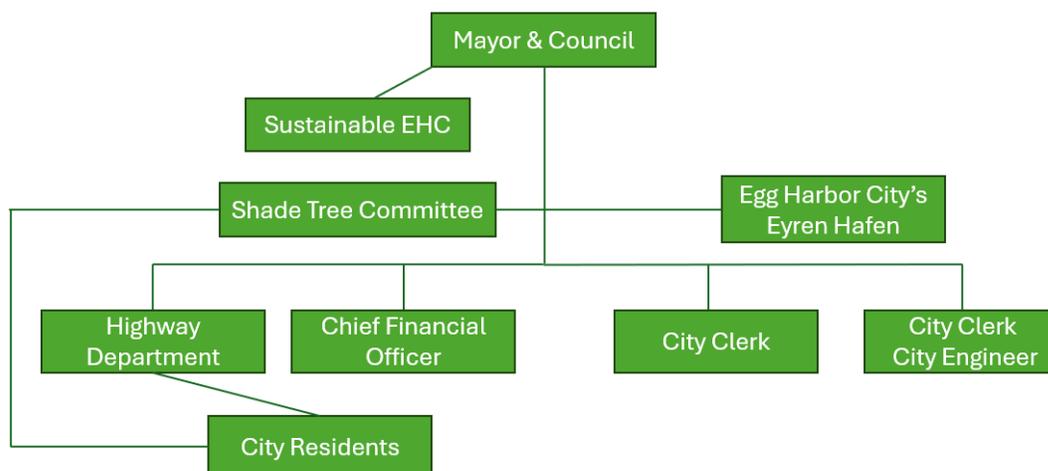
PARTNERSHIPS (NGOS, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, INTERDEPARTMENTAL)

Management of the urban forest of Egg Harbor City involves a partnership between the city' government and a number of local, state, and federal organizations and government agencies including:

- *NJ Forestry Service:* Assists Egg Harbor City with the development of their tree resources and to achieve forest related economic, environmental, and social benefits for current and future generations.

- *NJ Urban & Community Forestry Program:* Promotes and supports the local stewardship and effective management of trees and forest ecosystems in Egg Harbor City through technical assistance and financial assistance.

- *U.S. Department of Agriculture, US Forestry Service:* Provides technical and financial assistance to Egg Harbor City.

- *Hispanic Access Foundation (sub-awardee):* Provides grant management services on behlaf of U.S Forestry.

- *NJ Pinelands Commission:* Preserves, protects, and enhances the natural and cultural resources of the Pinelands National Reserve, and to encourage compatible economic and other human activities consistent with that purpose.

- The Tree Man of Egg Harbor, Egg Harbor Township as the city's tree maintenance contractor for a 3-year contract.

- D&R Landscaping: EHC's tree planting contractor for a 3-year contract.

The tree committee has already partnered and will continue to partner with other agencies regarding tree education and community outreach. The city recently partnered with DelAtlantic Soil Conservation District to perform a Heat Island Assessment that will be used to identify future planting projects. The green team has partnered with the Atlantic County Master Gardener program to provide educational seminars about trees for the general public that have been well attended. The city will also hold a major speaking engagement at Cedar Creek High School in early September with Doug Tallamy, a renowned author and professor of environmental science. The seminar is being funded through the federal grant.

TRAINING

In 1996, the New Jersey Legislature passed the Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act to reduce municipal liability related to trees on public property. To qualify for this legal protection, municipalities must maintain an approved Community Forestry Management Plan and ensure that designated volunteers receive ongoing, certified training.

Training is a key requirement of the New Jersey Community Forestry Program and a foundational element of Egg Harbor City's urban forestry strategy. The city maintains Approved Status by ensuring that core volunteers (Shade Tree Committee members) complete the annual Continuing Education Unit (CEU) requirements established by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Urban and Community Forestry Program.

City Arborist Jerome Barberio is a certified ISA Arborist with a TRAQ certification and is providing maintenance training for DPW employees. Also, any city employee, public official, volunteer, and citizen is eligible to obtain CORE certification through the NJUCF Leafing Out Education Program grant we received in 2024.

Completed and Ongoing Trainings:

- This is the 4ᵗʰ Community Forest Management Pan for EHC. The first one was completed in 2008.

- Egg Harbor City has maintained compliance with the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act (P.L. 1996, Chapter 135) by ensuring that at least two individuals—one volunteer and one municipal employee—are CORE trained, as required for plan approval.

- The city has demonstrated strong commitment by consistently attaining the required 8 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) per year during the past two planning periods, reflecting active participation in forestry-related education and training opportunities.
  - Egg Harbor City has successfully pursued CEU-accredited training through sources such as:
    - The New Jersey Shade Tree Federation
    - The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)
    - Rutgers Cooperative Extension courses and webinars
    - Support from a Consulting Forester

Recommended Training for the 2025–2029 CFMP Cycle:

To enhance the technical capacity and effectiveness of the Shade Tree Committee and Public Works personnel, the following training is recommended:

- **Re-certification of CORE Training**: Recommended every 5 years for existing members and required for new appointees.
- **Municipal Tree Risk Assessment Workshops**: Offered by the NJ Shade Tree Federation and Rutgers, these courses help participants understand hazard identification, prioritization, and documentation.
- **Rutgers Tree ID and Tree Care Short Courses:** In-person and virtual offerings focused on species identification, proper pruning, site selection, and tree health diagnostics.
- **i-Tree Eco & Canopy Tool Training** (USDA Forest Service): To better assess environmental benefits of trees and improve planning for tree planting locations.
- **NJ Urban and Community Forestry Stewardship Grant Training:** Helps STC members and municipal staff understand grant application processes, reporting requirements, and eligible activities.

Implementation and Oversight:

The CFO will continue to track CEUs and maintain training records in coordination with the City Administrator. Priority will be given to cost-effective or grant-funded programs that provide NJUCF-approved CEUs. Training should also be extended to DPW staff and contractors involved in municipal tree maintenance to ensure consistent and ANSI A300-compliant practices across all operations.

Community Overview

Egg Harbor City is located in north-central Atlantic County, New Jersey, and lies entirely within the ecologically significant New Jersey Pinelands National Reserve. The land that the city covers spans approximately 10.9 square miles, with over 50% of its land area classified as wetlands and just 10% as urbanized according to NJDEP Land Use data. Its unique geography—dominated by wooded wetlands, sandy soils, and a mix of residential, commercial, and preserved open space—creates both opportunities and challenges for establishing and maintaining a resilient urban tree canopy.

The City's tree resource reflects a history of municipal planting and natural woodland remnants, with over 3,000 trees and planting sites tracked in its street tree inventory. However, the dominance of a few species (e.g., London planetree and Norway maple), coupled with aging trees, utility conflicts, and development pressures, has led to increased canopy loss and associated issues such as stormwater runoff and localized flooding.

In response, Egg Harbor City has fostered active collaboration among local government, residents, and volunteer organizations. The Shade Tree Committee, a subcommittee of SustainableEHC, leads urban forestry efforts in partnership with the Department of Public Works, local schools, and community members. The City Council has endorsed a coordinated street tree management program, and the city continues to build momentum through public engagement, volunteer plantings, and pursuit of external funding. This shared stewardship approach underscores a growing commitment to preserving and enhancing the City's community forest for long-term environmental, aesthetic, and public health benefits.

EGG HARBOR CITY COMMUNITY MAPS
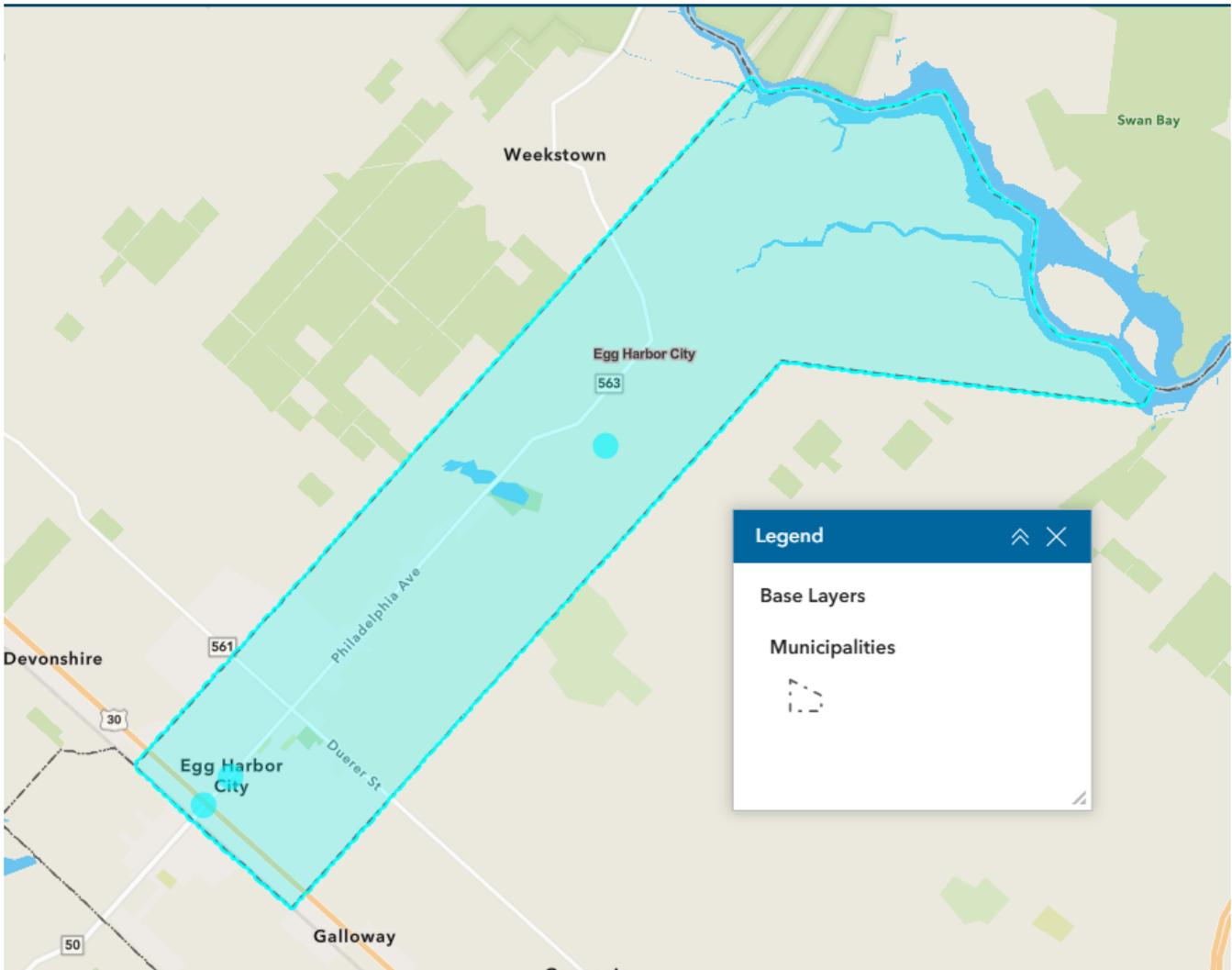
Map 1: Egg Harbor City, NJ municipal boundary, courtesy of https://njdep.maps.arcgis.com. Egg Harbor City, located in Atlantic County, NJ is home to 4,396 people as of the 2020 census, and has a land area of 10.9 square miles
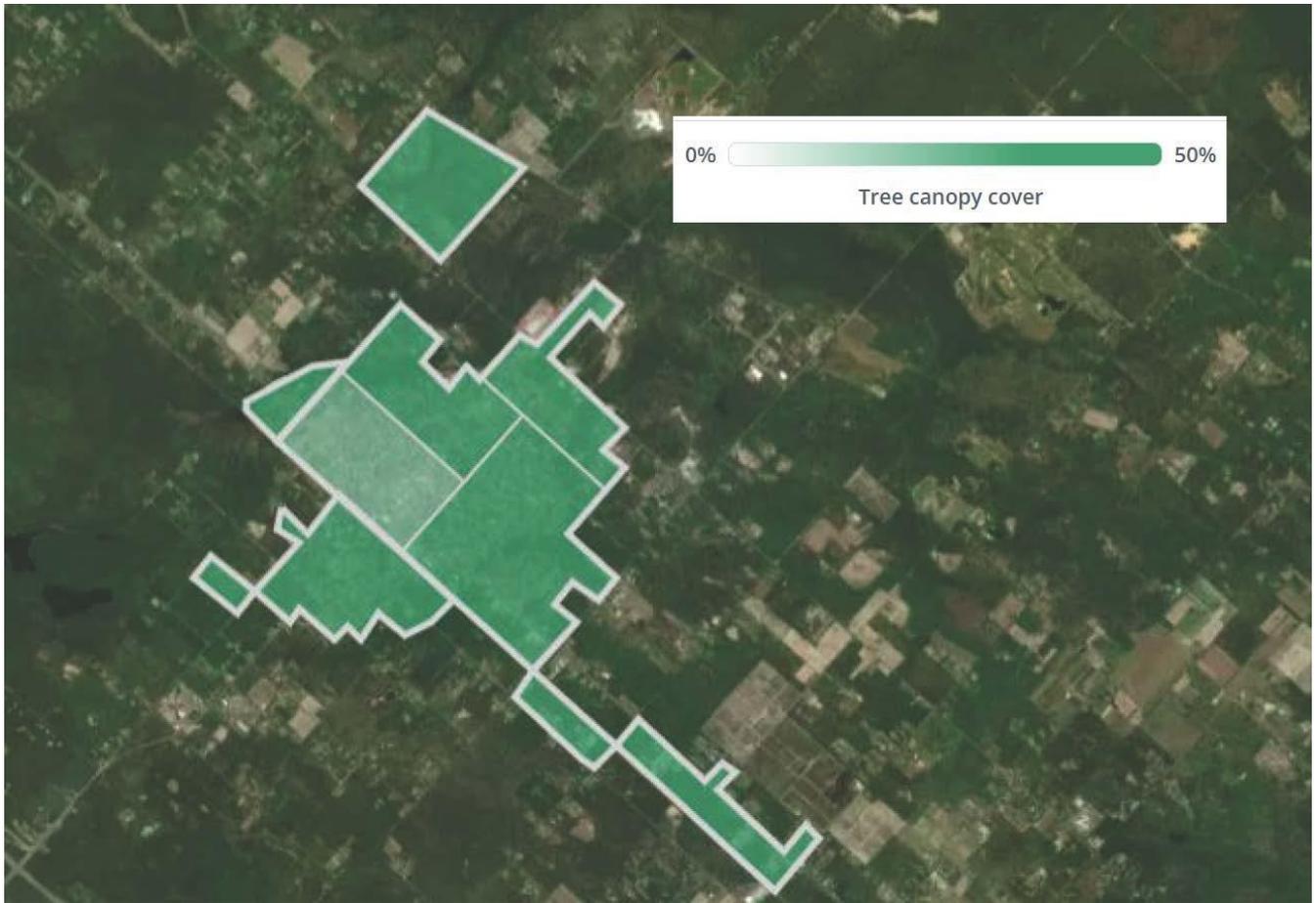
Map 2: Tree canopy cover by block group, courtesy of https://www.treeequityscore.org. Tree canopy cover by block group in Egg Harbor City ranges from a low of 24% to a high of 73%.
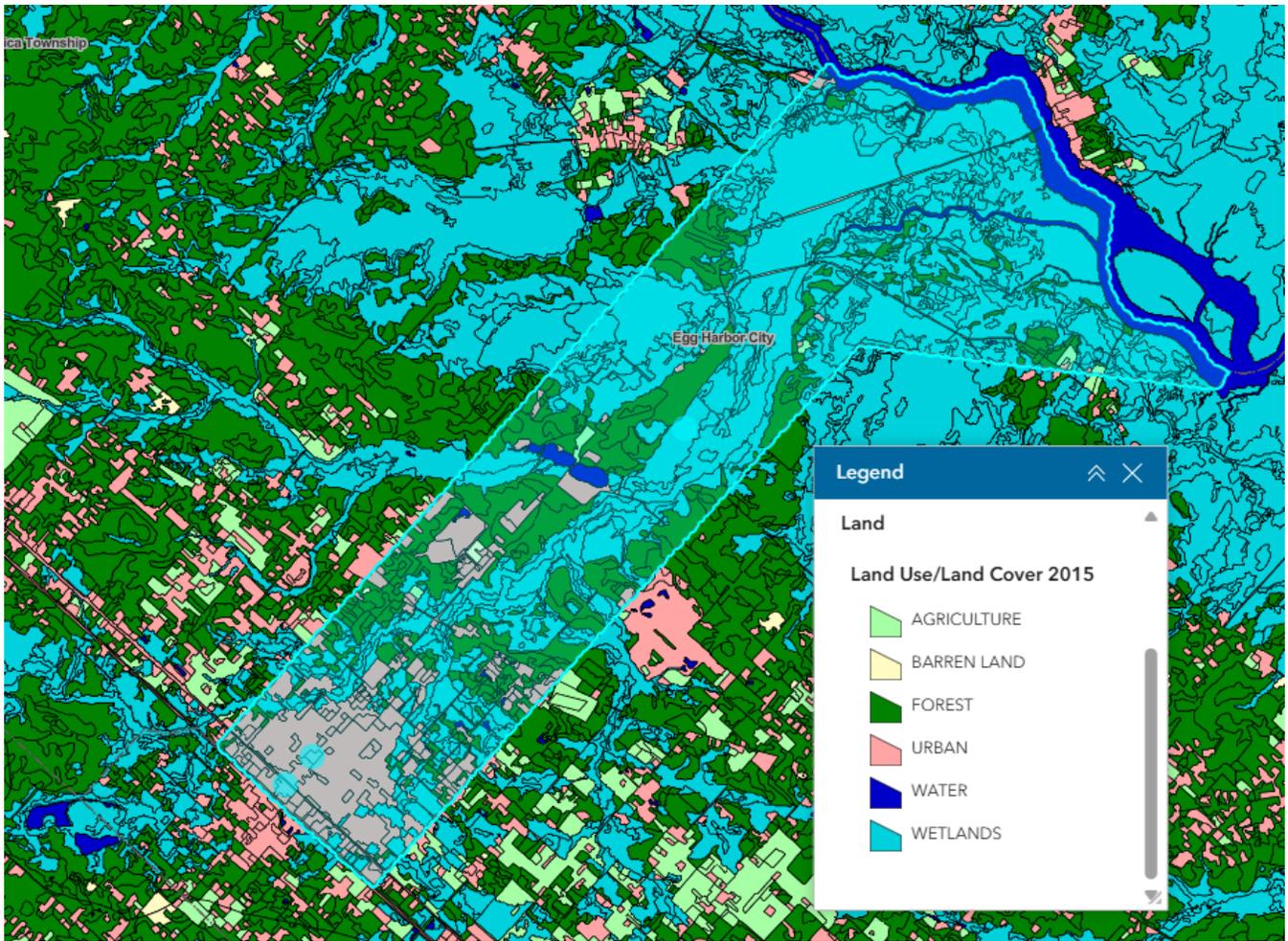
Map 3: Landcover and land use within Egg Harbor City as of 2020 (most recent available data), courtesy of https://njdep.maps.arcgis.com. The majority of land in Egg Harbor City is classified as wetlands and forest, with a large representation in the south of urban land cover. Agricultural land and barren land are uncommon.
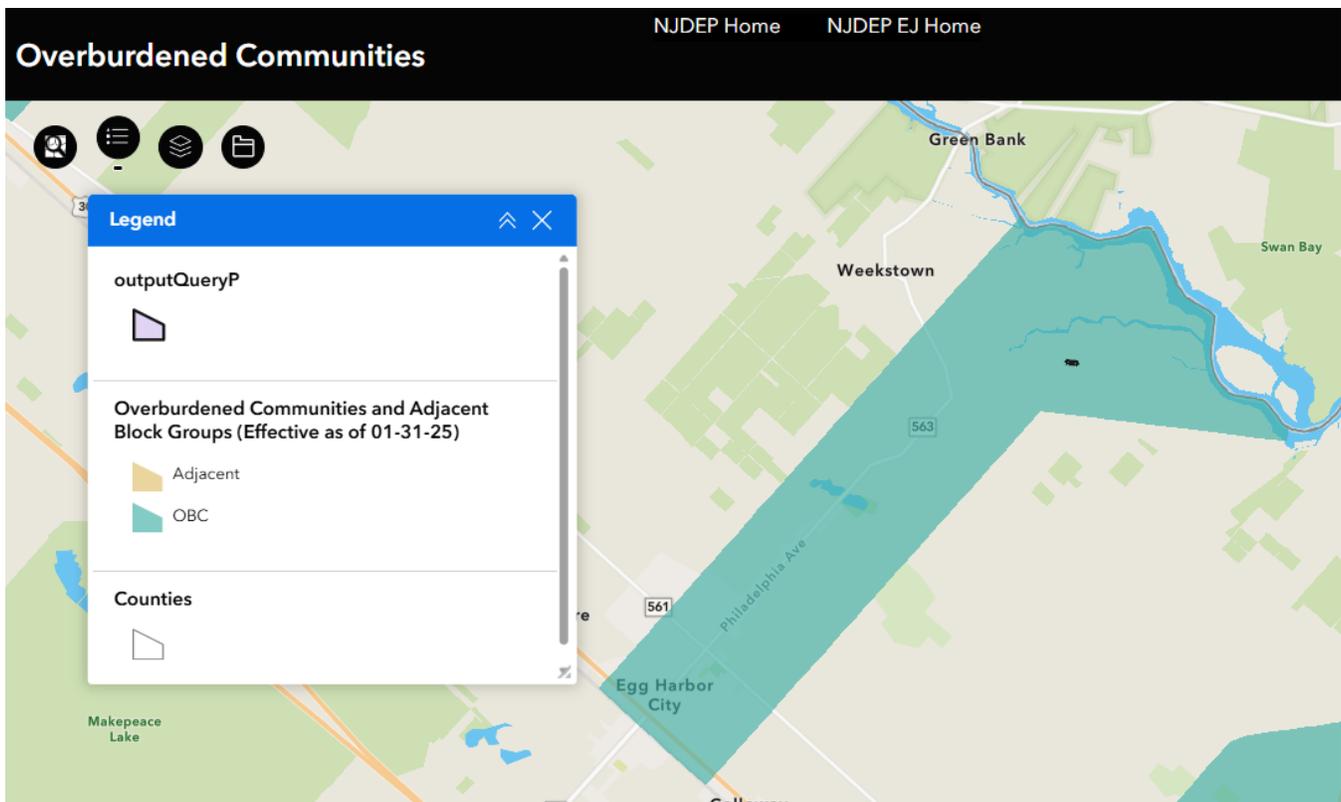
Map 4: Overburdened communities within Egg Harbor City, courtesy of https://dep.nj.gov/ej/resources.

More maps detailing the environmental and social conditions of Egg Harbor City can be found in Appendix C, at the end of the document.

EHC'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Over the past decade, Egg Harbor City has successfully secured multiple New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry (NJUCF) grants to support the restoration and enhancement of its urban tree canopy. The City's first $30,000 Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) grant was awarded following the devastating 2012 derecho storm and was used to plant 109 replacement street trees. Impressively, all trees survived the full two-year establishment and maintenance period. A second $30,000 CSIP grant, received in 2018, funded the planting of 87 additional street trees at pre-identified locations. Residents were actively engaged in the process by submitting tree requests, selecting preferred species, and committing to a two-year maintenance pledge—resulting in 100% tree survival. EHC also received a $5,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey – Atlantic City's Electric Sustainable Communities Grant to complete a forest management plan.

After nearly 30 years without a formal street tree maintenance program, the City's tree canopy had significantly declined. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of SustainableEHC's Green Team, Egg Harbor City was awarded a $1 million grant from the USDA Forest Service, funded through the Inflation Reduction Act, along with an additional $850,000 grant from the New Jersey Forest Service. Both grants require the city to implement a comprehensive urban forestry strategy, including ongoing tree planting, maintenance, inventory updates, and staff/volunteer training. These investments mark a transformative moment for the City's

community forest, enabling long-term recovery and resilience through strategic stewardship and public engagement.

EHC'S BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

At present, Egg Harbor City does not have an adopted Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance, a formally designated Shade Tree Committee, or a Tree Trust Fund to support long-term urban forestry efforts. One of the key challenges to implementing these measures has been public concern regarding property rights and the perception of increased regulation. To address this, the city should consider adopting an ordinance that clearly defines municipal responsibility for street trees, including guidelines for planting and removal. Such a policy would establish consistent standards for managing trees within the public right-of-way while clarifying roles and responsibilities for both the municipality and property owners.

OVERALL PROGRAM GOALS

Egg Harbor City is committed to restoring and enhancing its urban tree canopy through proactive, community-supported urban forestry practices. The following goals reflect the City's priorities for environmental stewardship, public safety, and community engagement, and will guide implementation of this Community Forestry Management Plan over the next five years:

1. **Improve Forest Health and Public Safety:** Proactively remove hazardous and aging trees, increase regular maintenance activities, and prioritize the planting of diverse, site-appropriate species to reduce infrastructure conflicts and long-term risk.

2. **Establish Clear Policy Framework for Tree Management:** Adopt a comprehensive Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance to guide the planting, removal, and maintenance of street trees in the public right-of-way (ROW) and update the Municipal Development Code to include modern standards for tree protection and planting in redevelopment and new construction projects.

3. **Maintain and Expand the Tree Inventory:** Keep the tree inventory current by logging all new plantings, removals, and maintenance activities. Use this data to guide planning, prioritize hazard mitigation, and inform planting strategies.

4. **Increase Overall Canopy Coverage by 10%**: Expand tree canopy coverage across public and private lands by prioritizing high-need areas, planting in gaps along major corridors, and preserving mature trees where feasible. Information provided by the Heat Island Assessment document will help inform the most vulnerable areas of the city in need of increased canopy.

5. **Enhance Public Education and Community Stewardship**: Engage residents through public outreach, school programs, Arbor Day celebrations, and events such as the "Largest Tree in Egg Harbor City" contest. Encourage stewardship on private properties and promote the benefits of canopy cover through SustainableEHC and the city website. Include an online request form on the city's tree management software for resident input.

6. **Build a Strong Volunteer and Partnership Network**: Expand the City's volunteer base to support planting and outreach activities, and collaborate with local organizations, schools, and businesses to increase community involvement in the care of the urban forest.

7. **Secure Sustainable Funding for Urban Forestry**: Pursue external funding through CSIP, USDA Forest Service, Sustainable Jersey, and other sources while exploring creative financing tools such as mitigation fees, sponsorships, and a Tree Trust Fund to support planting and maintenance.

8. **Support Training and Capacity Building:** Meet all eligibility requirements of the NJ Shade Tree & Community Forestry Assistance Act and promote professional development through conferences, Rutgers Extension programs, and ISA training opportunities.

9. **Pursue Tree City USA Designation**: Fulfill all criteria for Tree City USA recognition, including adopting a public tree ordinance, observing Arbor Day annually, and committing a minimum of $2 per capita annually toward urban forestry.

PLAN CONNECTIONS AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Recommendations in the CFMP will be incorporated into the city's Master Plan, which is currently under review and expected to be adopted in May 2026. The recommendations will be in place prior to accepting any redevelopment proposals from developers interested in the Egg Harbor North area, a multi-family development surrounding Cedar Creek High School. Coupled with the city's recently adopted Tree Replacement Ordinance (Ord. 20-2025) it will require developers to submit a forestry report and negotiate replacement trees at a greater level than previously required, effectively eliminating clear-cutting in forested areas for new development and to prevent creation of new heat islands.
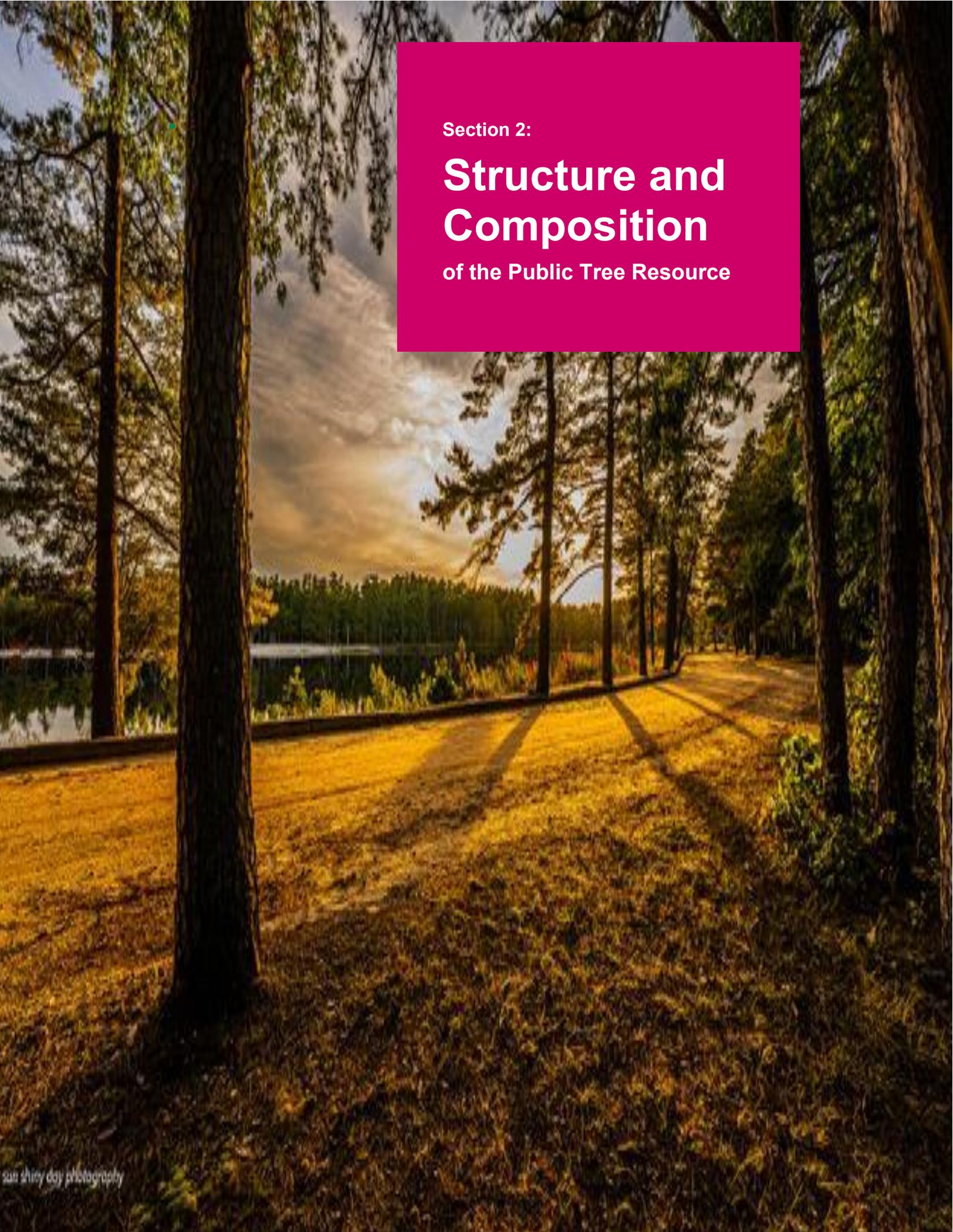
Section 2:

Structure and Composition

of the Public Tree Resource

Section 2: Structure and Composition of the Public Tree Resource

In January 2025, DRG arborists collected site data on trees, stumps, and planting sites in the City of Egg Harbor. A total of 3,206 sites were inventoried along the street ROW in Egg Harbor City, NJ. Appendix C contains an illustrated map showcasing the inventoried sites. Figure 2 breaks down the total sites inventoried by type. See Appendix A for details about DRG's methodology for collecting site data.
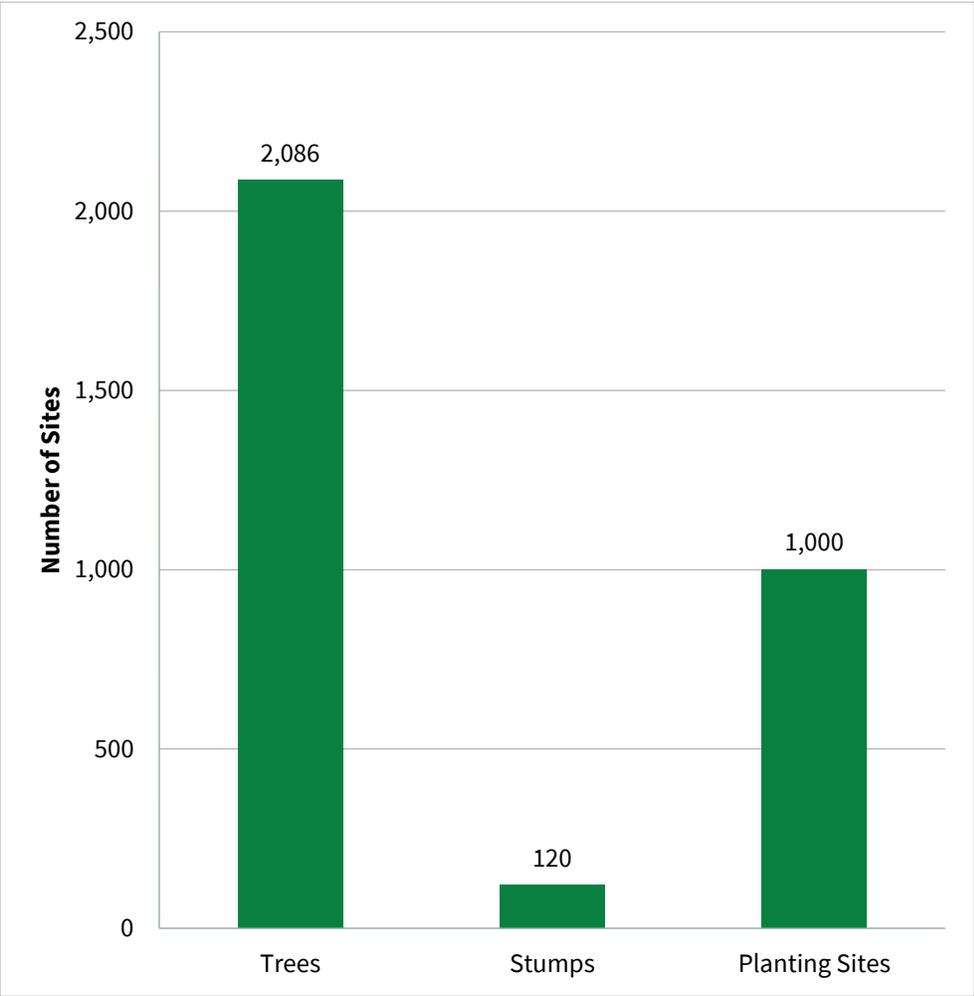
Figure 2. Number of inventoried sites by type.

SPECIES, GENUS, AND FAMILY DISTRIBUTION

The 10-20-30 rule is a common standard for tree population distribution, in which a single species should compose no more than 10% of the tree population, a single genus no more than 20%, and a single family no more than 30% (Santamour 1990). This standard was developed partially in response to tragedies such as the demise of vast swaths of American elm (*Ulmus americana*) after the introduction of Dutch elm disease to the United States (see side panel, "Resilience Through Diversity"). It provides valuable guidelines to help protect urban forests from both pests and diseases as well as from the effects of extreme weather events and climate change.

Figure 3 shows Egg Harbor City's distribution of the most abundant tree species inventoried along the street ROW and parks compared to the 10% threshold. London planetree (*Platanus × acerifolia)* is the most abundant tree species inventoried, comprising 31% of the inventoried trees, followed by tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera)* at 8%, and Norway maple (*Acer platanoides)* at 8%.
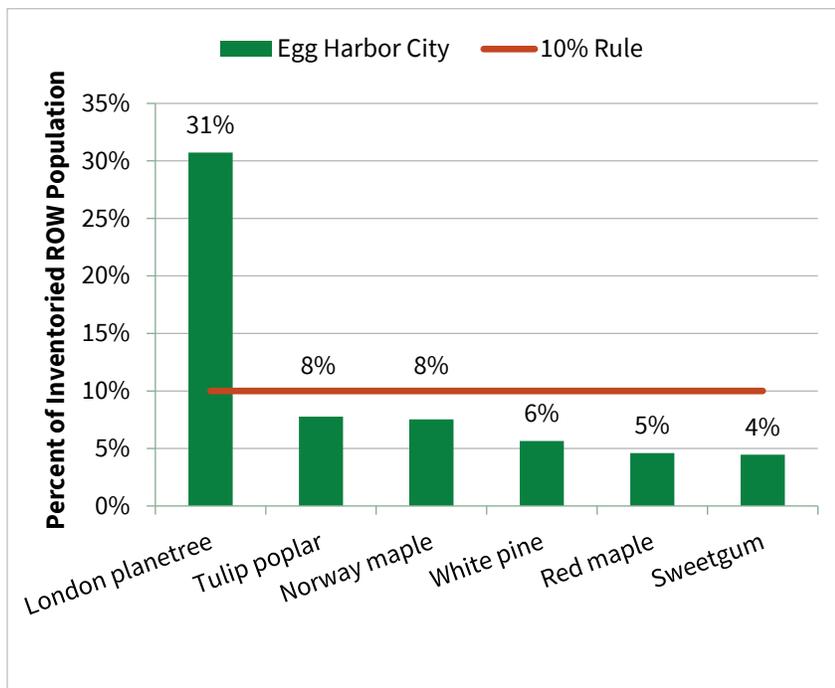
Figure 3. Species distribution of inventoried trees.

RESILIENCE THROUGH DIVERSITY

The Dutch elm disease epidemic of the 1930s provides a key historical lesson on the importance of diversity (Karnosky 1979). The disease killed millions of American elm trees, leaving behind enormous gaps in the urban canopy of many Midwestern and Northeastern communities. In the aftermath, ash trees became popular replacements and were heavily planted along city streets. History repeated itself in 2002 with the introduction of the emerald ash borer into America. This invasive beetle devastated ash tree populations across the Midwest. Other invasive pests spreading across the country threaten urban forests, so it's vital that we learn from history and plant a wider variety of tree genera to develop a resilient public tree resource.

Ash trees in an urban forest killed by emerald ash borer.

Figure 4 shows Egg Harbor City's distribution of the most abundant tree genera inventoried along the street ROW. The most abundant genera are sycamore (*Platanus),* comprising 33% of the tree population. The maple genera *(Acer)* comprises 16% of the tree population, and all other genera fall well below 10%.
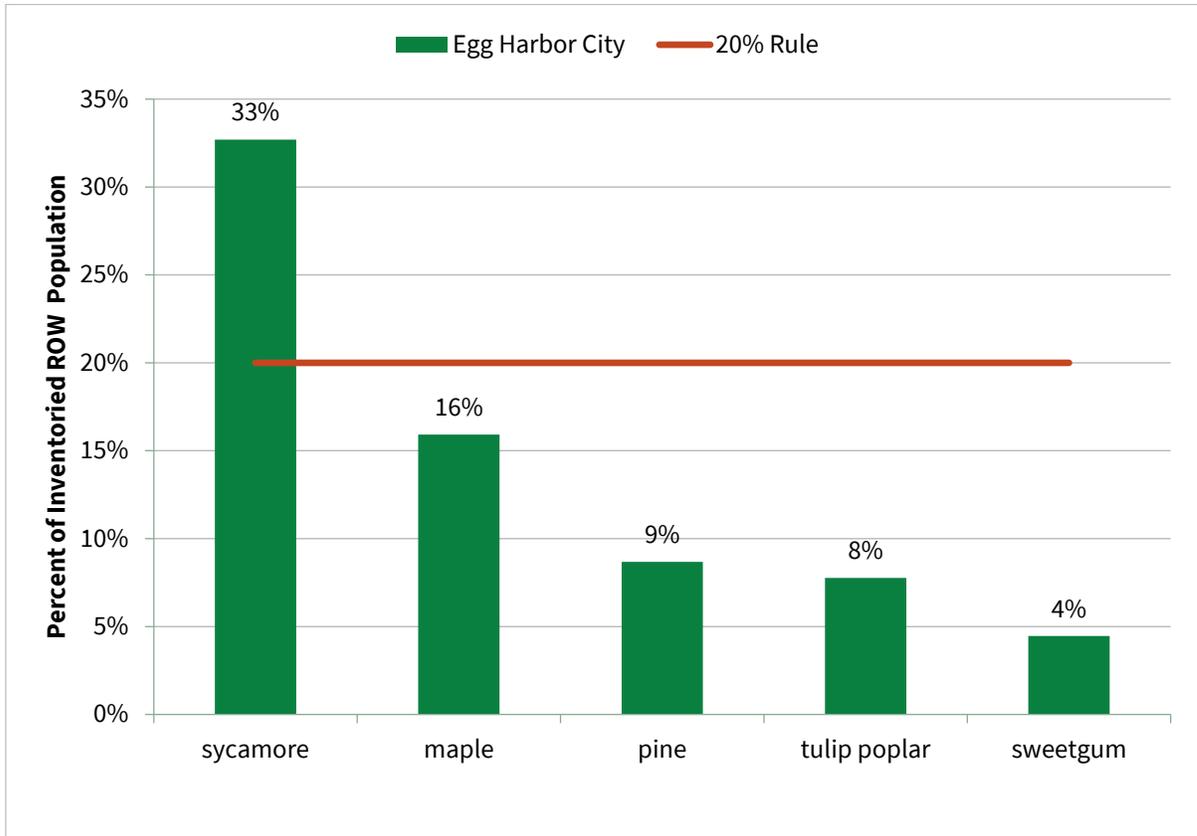
Figure 4. Genus distribution of inventoried trees.

Figure 5 shows Egg Harbor City's distribution of the most abundant tree families inventoried compared to the 30% threshold. The most abundant family is Platanaceae. Platanaceae includes London planetree and American sycamore among other species.
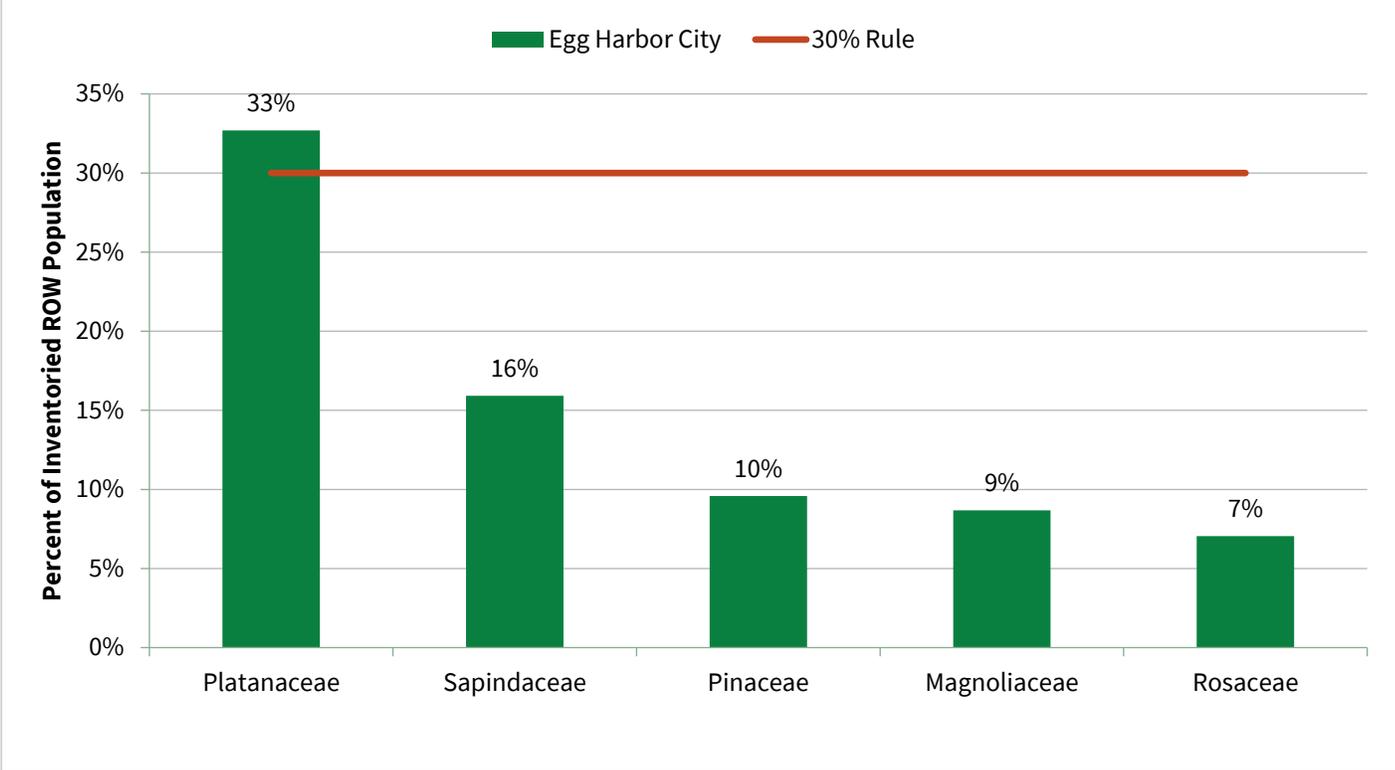
Figure 5. Family distribution of inventoried trees.

SPECIES, GENUS, AND FAMILY DISTRIBUTION RECOMMENDATIONS

The species, genus, and family distribution of an urban tree population is a critical metric for evaluating the resilience of the urban forest. It gauges the forest's ability to resist and recover from disruptions caused by pests, diseases, extreme weather, and climate change (Ordóñez & Duinker 2014). For example, certain pests, like the emerald ash borer (EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*), exclusively target trees within the ash genus (*Fraxinus* spp.). Other threats, like fireblight, caused by the bacterium *Erwinia amylovora*, can affect entire plant families, such as the rose family (Rosaceae).

When an urban forest has low diversity across species, genera, or families, it becomes more vulnerable to such disruptions. The presence of large, homogeneous populations of susceptible trees increases the likelihood of widespread damage. Additionally, a forest with low diversity tends to be less resilient, meaning it may struggle to recover from pest infestations, disease outbreaks, or severe weather events. Cultivating biodiversity at the species, genus, and family levels not only reduces vulnerability but also strengthens the forest's ability to withstand and recover from disturbances, ensuring the longevity and health of the urban canopy.

In Egg Harbor City, the platanus family (Platanaceae) currently dominates the urban forest, accounting for nearly a third of the total tree population. Any overrepresentation of the species, genus, and family levels makes the urban forest more susceptible to pest and disease outbreaks that specifically target maple. To address the imbalance and reduce future risks, it is recommended that Egg Harbor City implement a temporary pause or reduction in new maple plantings along streets and public spaces until sufficient diversity is achieved, such that the Platanaceae family accounts for less than 30%. Additionally, the third most abundant species is Norway maple, which is categorized by Western New York Prism as an invasive species. By diversifying future plantings, the city can mitigate the potential for large-scale damage and promote a more balanced, resilient urban forest capable of thriving for generations to come.

CONDITION

Several factors affecting condition were considered for each tree, including root characteristics, branch structure, trunk, canopy, foliage condition, and the presence of pests. The condition of each inventoried tree was rated by an arborist as Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, or Dead. The general health of the inventoried tree population was characterized by the most prevalent condition assigned during the inventory.

In Figure 6, it is evident that a significant majority of the surveyed trees demonstrated either Good or Fair conditions, encompassing a total of 83% of the inventoried trees. Approximately 15% of the trees surveyed were classified as Poor, and 3% of the inventory was reported as Dead.

CONDITION RECOMMENDATIONS

The condition of individual trees plays a pivotal role in determining the overall health of an urban forest. Healthy trees are better equipped to resist pests, diseases, and environmental stresses, thus reducing the potential for widespread outbreaks or die-offs. They contribute to the structural integrity of the forest canopy, providing crucial habitat and forage opportunities for local wildlife. Additionally, healthy trees actively participate in critical ecosystem functions such as photosynthesis and carbon sequestration, which are essential for maintaining overall forest vitality. Conversely, the presence of diseased or stressed trees can weaken the forest's resilience, making it more susceptible to disturbances, diminishing its biodiversity and compromising its ability to provide ecological services, such as air and water purification. The condition of individual trees directly influences the health, diversity, and ecological functioning of the entire forest ecosystem.

Trees identified as being in poor condition or worse indicate that the tree's state is irreparable, rendering it impervious to any treatment or maintenance efforts. Conversely, trees in Fair condition imply that maintenance interventions can be undertaken to enhance and sustain their current state or further improve their condition. Hence, to ensure that the majority of Egg Harbor City's trees remain in Fair condition or better, it is advisable for the city to implement a proactive maintenance program.
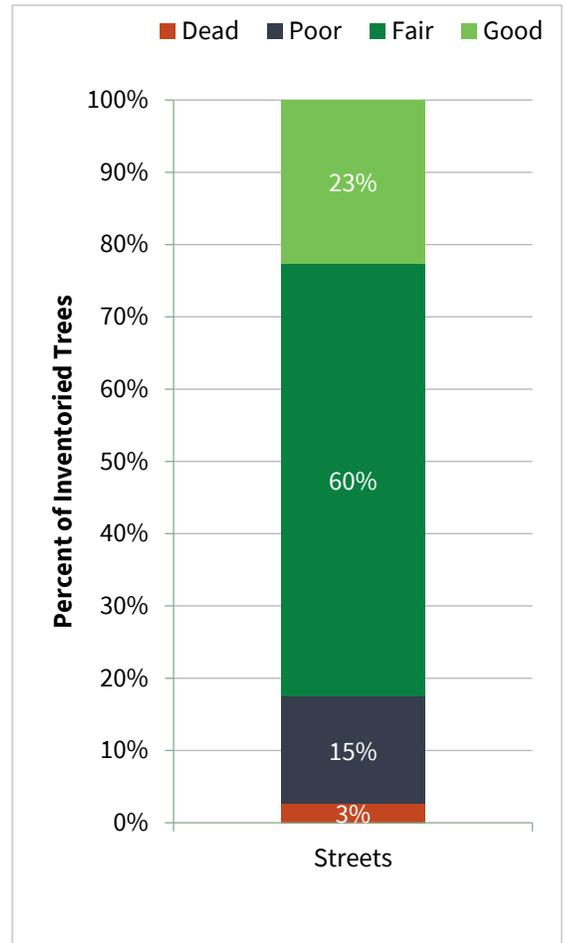

Figure 6. Condition of inventoried trees.

While the assessment of tree condition is a valuable component in managing urban forests, it should not serve as the sole determinant for prioritizing maintenance efforts. Rather, a more comprehensive approach is recommended. In particular, the utilization of tools like TreeKeeper® can effectively guide the prioritization of actions, focusing on trees rated as having Poor condition or being in a Dead state, especially when these trees are associated with an Extreme, High, or Moderate Risk classification. Younger trees exhibiting a Fair or Poor condition rating could substantially benefit from structural pruning, aligning with the guidelines established by ANSI A300 (Part 1). This approach aims to bolster their long-term health and vitality.

For mature trees that have garnered Poor condition ratings, their compromised state is often linked to visible indicators of decline and stress, which may manifest as decay, dead limbs, sparse branching, or structural deficiencies. In these cases, addressing their condition necessitates corrective pruning and intensive plant health care to rejuvenate their vigor. Continuous monitoring should be employed to track potential deterioration in their condition. As for trees falling into the Fair condition category, targeted pruning to eliminate dead or faulty limbs can foster improvement over time, ultimately elevating their overall condition with the proper care and attention.

RELATIVE AGE DISTRIBUTION

Analysis of a tree population's relative age distribution is performed by assigning age classes to the size classes of inventoried trees. Size is used as a proxy for age because of the difficulty of accurately and rapidly measuring tree age in the field. Since tree species have different lifespans and mature at different diameters, actual tree age cannot be determined from diameter size class alone, but size classifications can be extrapolated into relative age classes which can offer insight into the maintenance needs of Egg Harbor City's tree resource. The inventoried trees are grouped into the following relative age classes:

- Young trees (0–8 inches diameter at breast height (DBH)).
- Established trees (9–17 inches DBH).
- Maturing trees (18–24 inches DBH).
- Mature trees (greater than 24 inches DBH).

These size classes were chosen so that the inventoried tree resource can be compared to the ideal relative age distribution, which holds that the largest proportion of the inventoried tree population (approximately 40%) should be young trees, while the smallest proportion (approximately 10%) should be mature trees (Richards 1983).
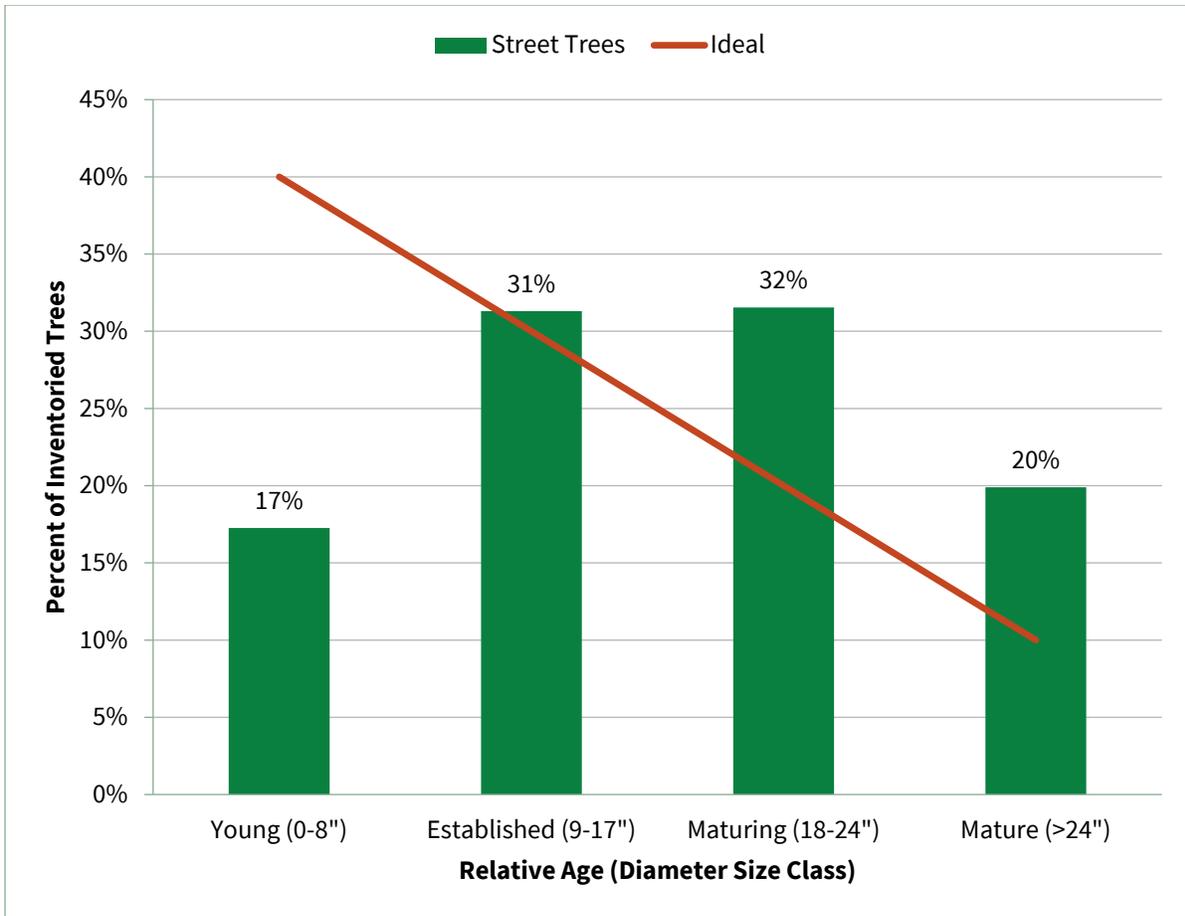
Figure 7. Relative age distribution of all inventoried trees.

Figure 7 compares Egg Harbor City's relative age distribution of the inventoried tree population to the ideal. The "ideal" is used as a general guideline, as the relative proportions of each age class can be adjusted to align with the specific goals and constraints of the city. However, a balanced and diverse age structure is generally desirable in urban forests to promote both ecological health and community benefits.

The tree resource in Egg Harbor City is comprised of more aging trees than newly planted and established trees, and there is an abundance in the number of mature trees. To plan for the eventual decline of this age class, the city should prioritize efforts in tree planting, as newly planted trees will serve as replacements for older ones as they approach senescence. The large population of the established age group (31%) is a positive indicator of the future ecosystem services provided to the city, as large shade trees provide more shade, carbon sequestration, pollutant uptake, and rainfall interception than smaller trees. Maintaining an uneven age distribution will allow the city to allocate annual maintenance costs uniformly over many years and ensure continuity in overall tree canopy coverage.
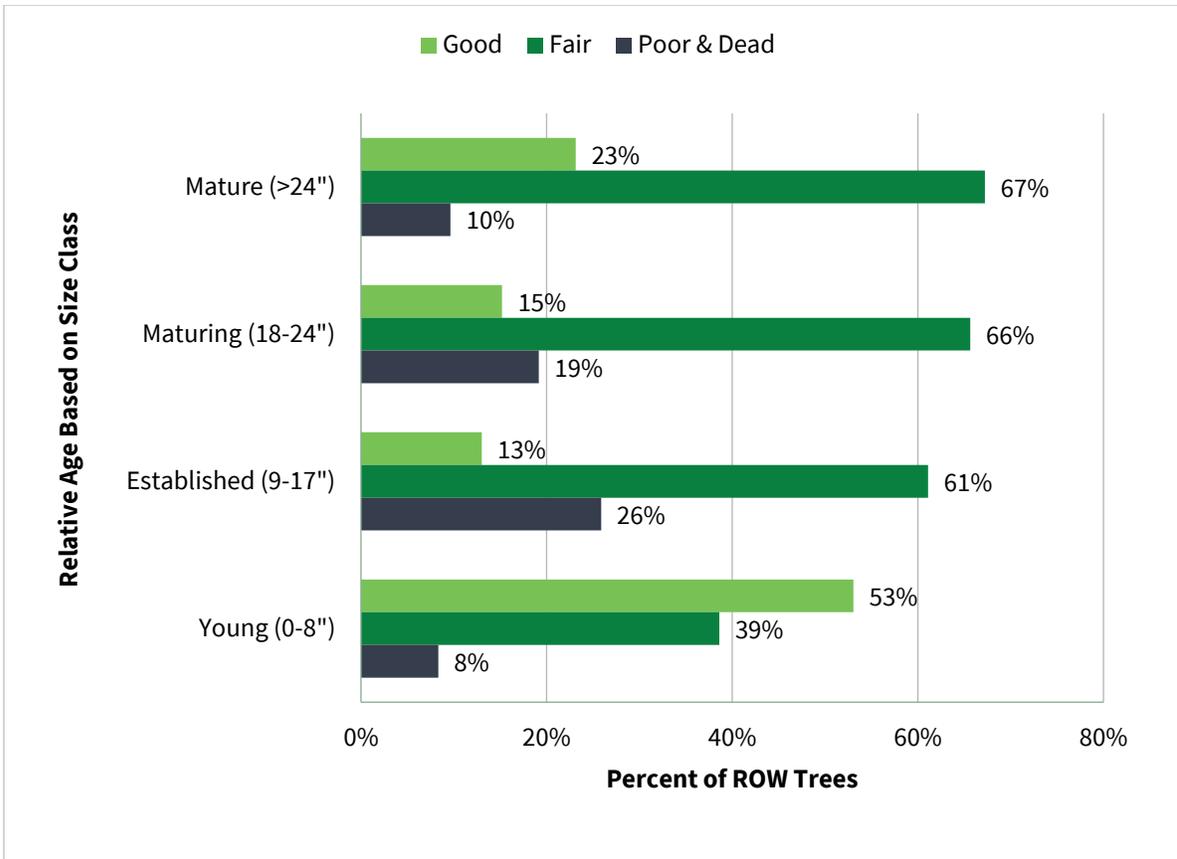
Figure 8. Condition of all inventoried trees by relative age class.

Figure 8 presents a detailed analysis of Egg Harbor City's inventoried tree population based on age distribution, offering key insights into the stability of the urban forest. The data reveals that 90% of mature trees and 81% of maturing trees are rated in Fair condition or better. This is particularly significant, as it reflects the ability of trees in the city to not only reach maturity but also remain healthy, thereby providing long-term ecological benefits such as improved air quality, stormwater management, and shade.

Similarly, 92% of young trees and 74% of established trees are also rated in Fair condition or better, reflecting a positive trend in the health and survival of recently planted trees.

RELATIVE AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

A substantial portion of the Young and Established trees within the City of Egg Harbor currently boasts a Fair condition rating or better, signifying their potential for reaching full maturity if they receive adequate care and maintenance. Equally significant is the observation that, as trees progress through their maturation cycle, a noticeable shift occurs in their condition. A diminishing number of trees fall within the Good category. Given the significant investment involved in planting new trees, providing consistent care is essential to ensure the city receives a return on this investment. Such proactive measures can significantly reduce future tree care expenses and contribute to a healthier and more resilient urban forest.

Moreover, the city should prioritize tree preservation and proactive care strategies to safeguard mature and maturing trees against unnecessary removal and to prevent them from succumbing to treatable defects. By emphasizing tree planting initiatives, the city can gradually shift its relative age distribution closer to the ideal, promoting a more balanced and sustainable urban forest ecosystem over time. This holistic approach to tree management will not only enhance the longevity and health of individual trees but also fortify the overall resilience of Egg Harbor City's urban forest.

DEFECTS

For each tree inventoried, DRG assessed conditions indicating the presence of structural defects and recorded the most significant condition. Defects were limited to the following categories:

- Branch attachment
- Broken and/or hanging branches
- Cracks
- Dead and dying parts
- Decay or cavity
- None
- Other
- Pest/Mechanical Damage
- Root problems
- Tree architecture
- Trunk condition

Table 1. Tree defect categories recorded during the inventory

Defect	Street Trees	Percent of Street Trees
Branch Attachment	130	6%
Broken and/or Hanging Branches	113	5%
Cracks	4	0%
Dead and Dying Parts	924	44%
Decay or Cavity	320	15%
None	212	10%
Other	35	2%
Pest/Mechanical Damage	5	0%
Root Problems	54	3%
Tree Architecture	167	8%
Trunk Condition	122	6%
Total	**2,086**	**100%**

Among the recorded defect categories for the inventoried trees, one stood out as the most prevalent issue: "Dead & Dying Parts" accounted for 44% of the total cases (Table 1). Within the 924 trees afflicted by "Dead & Dying Parts," a recommendation for removal was issued for 79 trees. These removal recommendations were made based on assessments that indicated the tree's inability to recover from the associated defect, necessitating their removal from the urban forest.

It's worth noting that a portion of the inventoried trees, approximately 10%, did not exhibit any associated defects, signifying their relatively good health and structural integrity. This underscores the importance of proactive tree management and maintenance practices to ensure the continued well-being of these trees and to address defects in a timely manner where necessary.

DEFECT OBSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

When considering the defect recorded for each tree, there are two important qualifiers to keep in mind. First, the categories are broadly inclusive. For example, the "Dead and Dying Parts" category can include trees with just one or two smaller diameter dead limbs as well as trees found with large-diameter dead limbs or entire sections of dead canopy. Therefore, inferences on overall tree condition or risk rating cannot be derived solely from the presence or absence of a defect recorded at the time of the inventory. Second, an inventoried tree may have multiple defects; the 2025 Egg Harbor City inventory recorded only the most significant defect observed for each tree. These two qualifiers are important to keep in mind when considering urban forest management planning and the prioritization of maintenance or monitoring activities. With proper pruning, the overall health of trees in Fair condition with a defect of "Dead and Dying Parts" can be improved over time.

Recommended Management

of the Public Tree Resource

Section 3: Recommended Management of the Public Tree Resource

During the inventory, both a risk rating and a recommended maintenance activity were assigned to each tree. DRG recommends prioritizing and completing each tree's recommended maintenance activity based on the assigned risk rating. This five-year tree management program takes a multi-faceted and proactive approach to tree resource management. As part of this management cycle, EHC will implement a resident service request form within its tree management software to streamline reporting and expedite response to maintenance concerns.

PRIORITY MAINTENANCE
Extreme Risk Tree Maintenance
High Risk Tree Maintenance
Further Inspections

Moderate Risk Tree Maintenance

Routine Inspections & Inventory Updates

Routine Pruning

Young Tree Training

Low Risk Tree Maintenance

Stump Removal

Tree Planting

RISK MANAGEMENT AND RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE

Every tree, regardless of condition, has an inherent risk of whole or partial tree failure. During the inventory, DRG performed a modified Level 2 qualitative risk assessment for each tree and assigned a risk rating based on *ANSI A300* (Part 9) and the companion publication *Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment* (ISA 2011). Trees can have multiple potential modes of failure, each with its own risk rating. The potential mode of failure with the highest risk rating was recorded for each tree during the 2025 tree inventory. The specified time frame for the risk assessment was one year.

DRG strongly urges prioritizing and swiftly executing tree maintenance tasks in alignment with the risk assessments assigned to each tree during the inventory. Trees bearing Extreme or High Risk ratings demand immediate attention and should be addressed as the foremost priority. Subsequently, trees labeled with Moderate Risk ratings should be promptly attended to, with the maintenance of Low Risk trees scheduled only after the higher risk ones have undergone necessary pruning or removal. The ensuing sections delineate the crucial maintenance protocols designated for each risk rating category. Prompt attention to this matter is of utmost importance to safeguard the safety and vitality of our urban forest.

EXTREME AND HIGH PRIORITY RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE

Prioritizing the pruning or removal of trees exhibiting an elevated risk level, namely those with Extreme, High, or Moderate Risk ratings, is strongly advised and should be carried out promptly. In the overall sequence of maintenance activities, it is generally recommended to address the largest diameter trees first, as they often pose the highest risk. Once these sizable trees have been addressed, attention should be directed toward implementing recommended maintenance procedures for smaller diameter trees that also present significant risks. Timely and proactive management of High Risk trees may necessitate a substantial allocation of resources. However, executing these tasks promptly is instrumental in risk mitigation, enhancing public safety, and reducing long-term expenses.

HIGH PRIORITY PRUNING AND REMOVAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Trees categorized with Extreme or High Risk ratings, which necessitate pruning or removal, should receive immediate attention. High Risk pruning typically involves the removal of defective elements such as dead or dying limbs, broken branches, and portions with missing or decayed wood within the tree canopy. These measures are instrumental in reducing risks associated with the tree while promoting its overall health and growth. When pruning can rectify these defects and mitigate risks effectively, it is the recommended course of action.

The inventory identified 2 High Risk removals and 0 High Risk prunes. No Extreme Risk trees were identified during the inventory. The city should continue to monitor their tree resource to identify Extreme or High Risk trees as they appear.
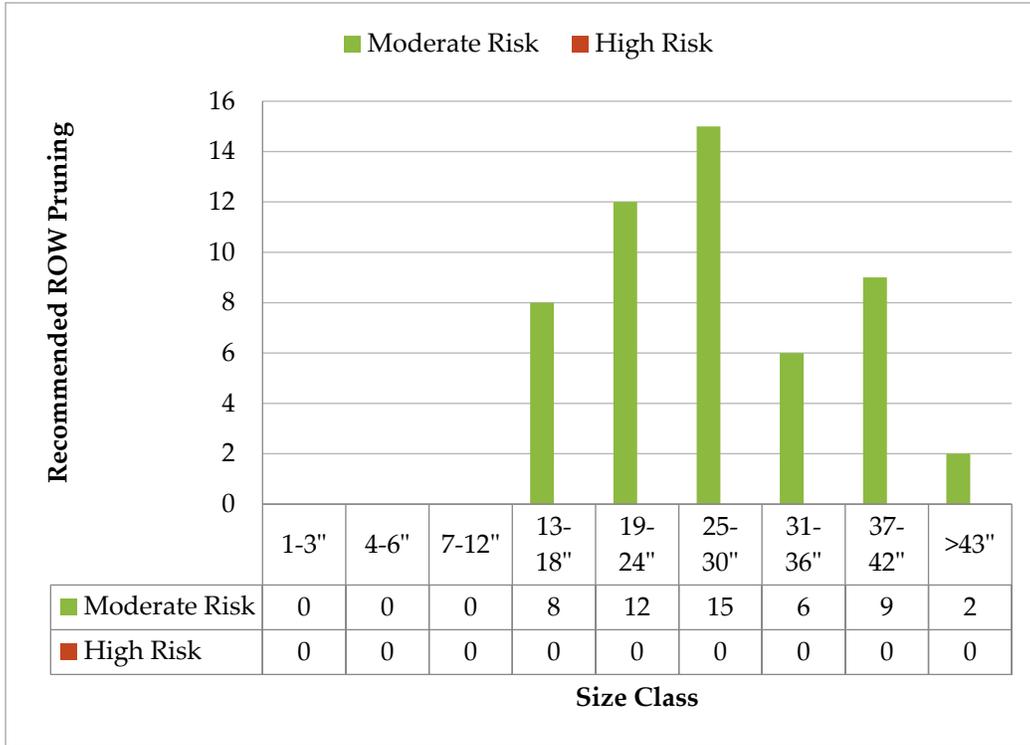
Figure 9. Recommended pruning by size class and risk rating.

	1-3"	4-6"	7-12"	13-18"	19-24"	25-30"	31-36"	37-42"	>43"
Moderate Risk	0	0	0	8	12	15	6	9	2
High Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
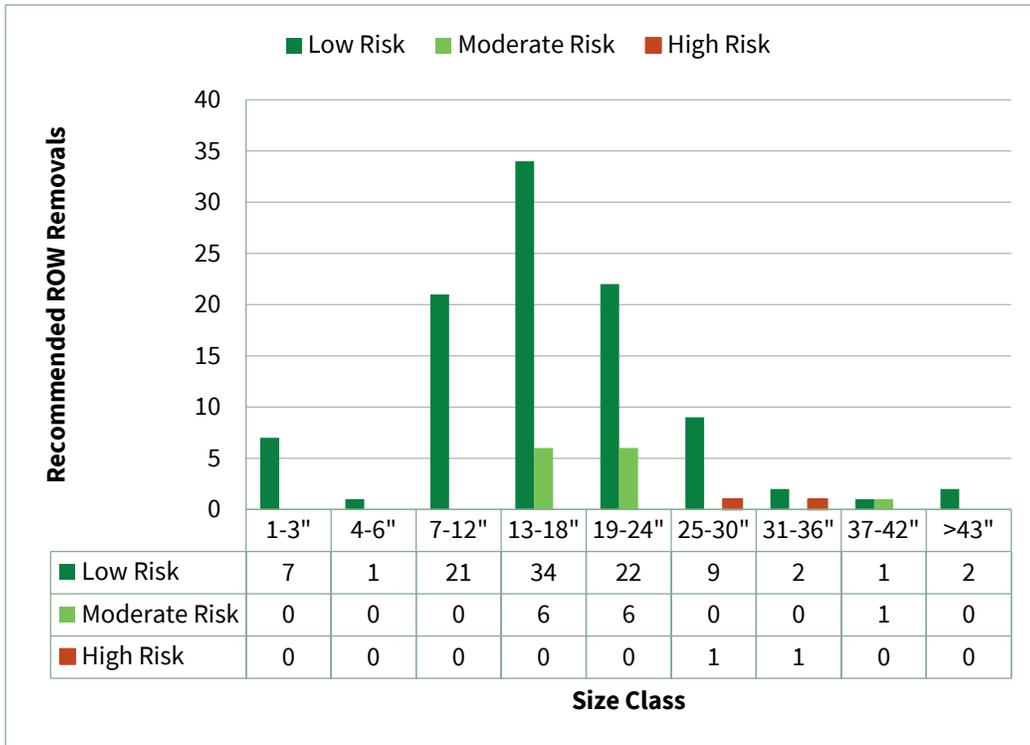
Figure 10. Recommended removals by size class and risk rating.

	1-3"	4-6"	7-12"	13-18"	19-24"	25-30"	31-36"	37-42"	>43"
Low Risk	7	1	21	34	22	9	2	1	2
Moderate Risk	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	1	0
High Risk	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

MODERATE AND LOW PRIORITY RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE

Following the priority of addressing Extreme and High Risk trees, the subsequent focus should be on the maintenance of Moderate and Low Risk trees. As only 2 High Risk trees were identified during the inventory assessment, it is recommended that a proportion of Moderate Risk trees receive attention within the first year of the five-year maintenance plan. Once the maintenance tasks for Moderate Risk trees have been completed, the city can shift its focus to Low Risk trees and transition into a proactive and routine pruning maintenance schedule. This systematic approach ensures the comprehensive care and management of the urban forest while optimizing resource allocation and long-term maintenance planning.

MODERATE RISK PRUNING AND REMOVAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The inventory identified 13 trees recommended for Moderate Risk removal and 52 trees for Moderate Risk pruning. These trees should ideally be addressed within the first two years, contingent upon budget availability.

LOW PRIORITY PRUNING RECOMMENDATIONS

There were 662 Low Risk trees recommended for pruning. Low Risk trees recommended for pruning were included in the routine pruning cycle, starting in year one of the five-year management plan.

LOW PRIORITY REMOVAL RECOMMENDATIONS

DRG identified 99 Low Risk trees recommended for removal. Low Risk removals pose little threat; these trees are generally small, dead, invasive, or poorly formed trees that need to be removed. Eliminating these trees will reduce breeding site locations for insects and diseases and will increase the aesthetic value of the area. Healthy trees growing in poor locations or undesirable species are also included in this category. If pruning cannot correct a tree's defects and/or adequately mitigate risk, then the tree should be removed. All Low Risk trees should be removed when convenient after all higher risk pruning and removals have been completed and may be performed concurrently with routine pruning.

FURTHER INSPECTION

The Further Inspection data field indicates whether a tree requires additional and/or future inspections to assess and/or monitor conditions that may cause it to become a risk to people, property, or other trees. Further inspections are beyond the scope of a standard tree inventory and can be one of the following:

- Annual Inspection (e.g., a healthy tree that has been impacted by recent construction, weather, or other damage, or which has a defect that may require further monitoring to determine whether it is a hazard).
- Advanced Risk Assessment (e.g., a tree with a defect requiring additional or specialized equipment for investigation).
- Insect/Disease Monitoring (e.g., a tree that appears to have an emerging insect or disease problem).
- No further inspection required.

In the ANSI A300 system, there are three levels of risk assessment. Each level is built on the one before it. The lowest level is designed to be a cost-effective approach to quickly identifying tree risk concerns, while the highest level is intended to provide in-depth information to make management decisions about an individual tree. These levels are:

- **Level 1:** Level 1 inspection is defined as a limited visual assessment, which is often conducted as a walk-through or windshield survey designed to identify obvious defects or specified conditions.

- **Level 2:** Level 2 inspection is defined as a basic assessment and is a detailed, 360-degree visual inspection of a tree and its surrounding site, and a synthesis of the information collected. All trees in the 2025 Egg Harbor City tree inventory were assessed to this level, provided that 360-degree access around the tree could be gained.

- **Level 3:** Level 3 inspection is an advanced assessment and is performed to provide detailed information about specific tree parts, defects, targets, or site conditions. A Level 3 inspection may use specialized tools or require the input of an expert.

FURTHER INSPECTION RECOMMENDATION

DRG arborists found 4 trees in need of advanced risk assessment, 30 trees noted for insect and disease monitoring, and 64 trees recommended for annual inspections. The trees recommended for advanced assessment should receive a Level 3 risk assessment by a Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ) arborist as soon as possible to determine whether these trees require removal, pruning, or other corrective action to reduce the risk associated with their observed defects. Advanced risk assessments may require specialized or additional equipment, such as bucket trucks, to access and assess tree defects.

Most of the trees recommended for insect and disease monitoring had decay and/or cavity listed as the primary defect. Frass was often noted at the base of the trunk. All trees recommended for insect/disease monitoring should be assessed to confirm the presence of damaging insects or diseases and should be treated, if necessary, to reduce the pest species load and improve the health of the public trees in Egg Harbor City.

Trees recommended for annual inspection should be assessed routinely to monitor their condition and look for signs of worsening defects that may merit intervention. Some of these trees will likely recover given time, and will no longer need additional monitoring, while others may require removal if their defects worsen.

EHC will conduct a full re-inventory of its trees three years after completion of this CFMP, targeted for 2028.

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS

Inspections are essential to uncovering potential problems with trees. They should be performed by a qualified arborist who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees. Arborists are knowledgeable about the needs of trees and are trained and equipped to provide proper care. Ideally, the arborist will be ISA Certified and hold the ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification credential.

ROUTINE INSPECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

To maintain the health and safety of Egg Harbor City's urban forest, it is essential that all trees undergo regular inspections and receive timely care as needed. It is recommended that tree assessments be conducted every two to three years. Additionally, inspections following major storm events are advised to quickly identify and address any potential damage or safety concerns.

To streamline the inspection process, DRG suggests implementing a Level 1 limited visual assessment, which can serve as an initial screening to identify trees requiring further attention. This preliminary evaluation can help prioritize trees for more in-depth Level 2 inspections, ensuring a focused and efficient use of resources in maintaining the health and safety of the urban forest.

Whenever a tree demands additional or new work, it should promptly be integrated into the maintenance schedule, accompanied by an adjustment of the budget to accommodate the additional workload. The implementation of advanced computer management software, such as TreeKeeper®, facilitates seamless updates, edits, and the maintenance of detailed work records. These inspections extend beyond defect identification; they also provide a valuable opportunity to detect early signs of potential pest infestations and disease outbreaks. Given the City's sizable tree population, particularly the susceptible maple (*Acer* spp.) varieties, this proactive approach to monitoring is paramount.

ROUTINE PRUNING CYCLE

The Routine Pruning cycle includes all Low Risk trees that received a "Prune" or "Discretionary Prune" maintenance recommendation. These trees pose some risk but have a smaller defect size and/or a lower probability of impacting a target. Over time, routine pruning can minimize reactive maintenance, limit instances of elevated risk, and provide the basis for a robust risk management program.

Based on Miller and Sylvester's research, DRG recommends a five-year Routine Pruning cycle to maintain the condition of the inventoried tree resource. However, not all communities are able to remain proactive with a five-year cycle based on budgetary constraints, the size of the public tree resource, or both. In these cases, extending the length of the Routine Pruning cycle is an option; however, it is in the community's best interest to not approach or exceed a 10-year pruning cycle. This is around when tree condition deteriorates significantly without regular pruning, when previously minor defects have worsened, reducing tree health and potentially increasing risk (Miller and Sylvester 1981).

ROUTINE PRUNING CYCLE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Egg Harbor City's inventory identified 1,841 trees that should be routinely pruned. DRG recommends that the Egg Harbor City establish a five-year Routine Pruning cycle and prioritize Priority Pruning before starting on Routine Pruning.

PROACTIVE PRUNING

$$Y = 76.7 + 0.196X - 0.074X^2$$
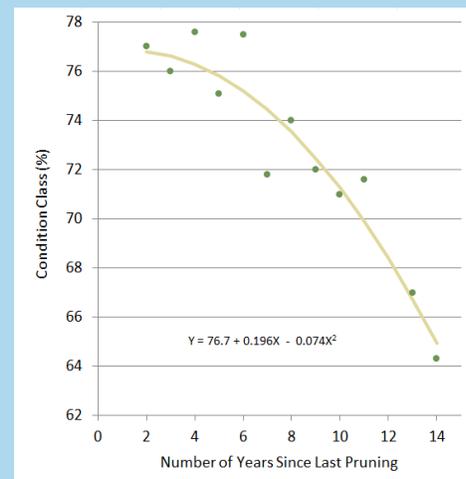
Relationship between tree condition and years since previous pruning.

(adapted from Miller and Sylvester 1981)

Miller and Sylvester studied the pruning frequency of 40,000 street trees in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Trees that had not been pruned for more than 10 years had an average condition rating 10% lower than trees that had been pruned in the previous several years. Their research suggests that a five-year pruning cycle is optimal for urban trees.

Routine pruning cycles help detect and correct most defects before they reach higher risk levels. DRG recommends that pruning cycles begin after all Extreme and High Risk tree maintenance has been completed.

DRG recommends two pruning cycles: a Young Tree Training cycle and a Routine Pruning cycle. Newly planted trees will enter the Young Tree Training cycle once they become established and will move into the Routine Pruning cycle when they reach maturity. A tree should be removed and eliminated from the Routine Pruning cycle when it outlives its usefulness.

Keep in mind that as priority pruning work is completed, those trees should enter the routine pruning cycle, which will result in higher numbers of trees recommended for routine pruning in future years beyond the five-year management plan presented here. However, not every tree requires pruning every cycle, and actual costs of administering a routine pruning cycle for Egg Harbor City's trees may be lower than projected in Table 3. DRG recommends that the routine pruning cycle begins in year one of the proposed five-year program after all extreme and high risk recommended maintenance is complete.
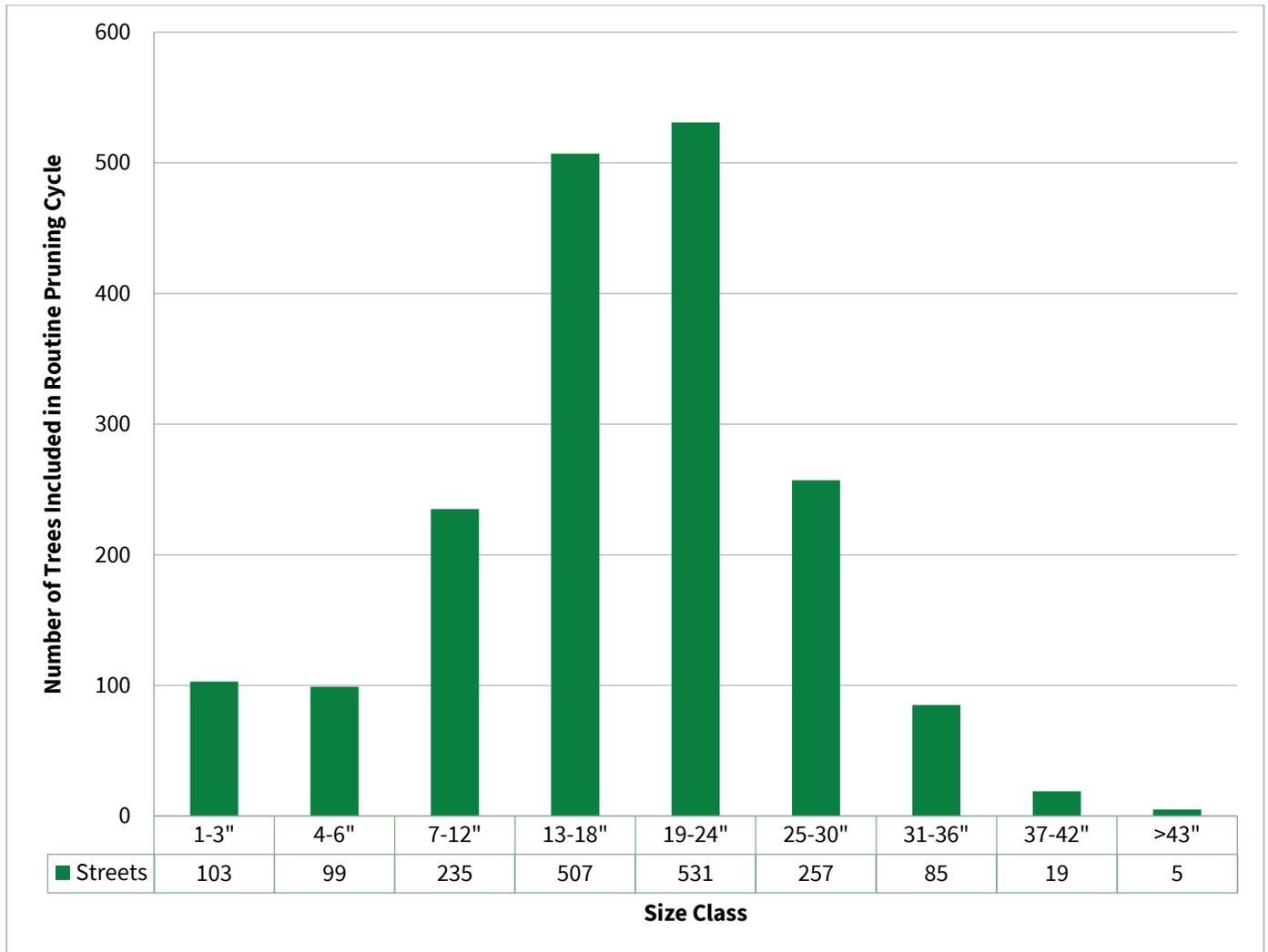

	1-3"	4-6"	7-12"	13-18"	19-24"	25-30"	31-36"	37-42"	>43"
■ Streets	103	99	235	507	531	257	85	19	5

Figure 11. Routine pruning cycle by size class.

GOALS FOR COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT

Egg Harbor City aims to set goals that will inform how to move forward with the stewardship of the community's urban forest, not only within the activities performed by the city's governmental bodies, but also involving the private sector and the community public in the activities that will lead to a healthier and more sustainable urban forest.

GOAL #1: IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Objectives:** Identify and remove hazardous trees, enhance routine tree maintenance practices, and implement strategic planting of site-appropriate, diverse species—ensuring that no single species comprises more than 10% of the overall tree population.

  - **Action Item #1:** Ensure that future planting contracts include diverse species palettes that gradually improve the City's overall tree species diversity over time.

  - **Action Item # 2**: Create a pruning schedule for young and mature trees to improve structure and visibility. This action is to be completed by the DPW.

  - **Action Item # 3**: Conduct windshield surveys immediately after large storm events to identify hazard trees. This action is to be completed by Arborist.

  - **Action Item # 4:** Conduct re-inventory every 3-5 years to identify hazard trees and maintenance needs.

GOAL #2: ESTABLISH CLEAR POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR TREE MANAGEMENT

- **Objective:** Develop and enforce a Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance and update relevant sections of the Municipal Code.

  - **Action Item #1:** Draft and adopt a Tree Removal and Replacement Ordinance that defines city and resident responsibilities for planting, removal, and maintenance for street trees in public right-of-way (ROW).

    - Review model ordinances from other NJ municipalities.

    - Draft initial concepts and goals for the ordinance, including permit requirements, replacement standards, and enforcement mechanisms.

    - STC formally recommended the development of the ordinance to the Mayor and City Council.

  - **Action Item #2:** Revise the Municipal Code to include updated street tree requirements for new development and redevelopment.

    - Review the current Municipal Code and Land Use Ordinance to determine what, if any, street tree requirements already exist for development/redevelopment.

    - Assure planting strips are incorporated in Egg Harbor North and Gateway West re-development projects and include trees on private property.

    - Define goals for the updated street tree requirements.

- Convene a working group to lead the revision process.
- Draft recommended code language.

GOAL #3: MAINTAIN AND EXPAND THE TREE INVENTORY

- **Objectives:** Update and maintain digital records of all public trees, removals, and plantings.
  - **Action Item #1:** Log all new plantings, removals, and maintenance actions into the TreeKeeper® system on a consistent basis. This work will be managed by the City's arborist.
  - **Action Item #2:** Use inventory data to prioritize pruning, replanting, and risk mitigation.
  - **Action Item #3:** Develop an inventory of the natural forested area and prepare a management plan through the Sustainable Jersey grant program.

GOAL #4: INCREASE OVERALL CANOPY COVERAGE BY 10%

- **Objectives:** Plant trees strategically in under-canopied neighborhoods and corridors.
  - **Action Item #1:** Identify and prioritize high-need planting zones based on the results of the Heat Island Assessment document.
  - **Action Item # 2**: Encourage private landowners to participate through education and incentives.
  - **Action Item # 3:** Integrate tree planting into infrastructure and streetscape projects.

GOAL #5: ENHANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

- **Objectives:** Provide educational resources and host outreach activities.
  - **Action Item # 1:** Host an annual Arbor Day celebration with tree plantings and student engagement.
  - **Action Item # 2:** Maintain tree-related content and event updates on the SustainableEHC website.
  - **Action Item # 3:** Launch public campaigns and workshops on tree care, planting, and canopy benefits. Target platforms with high visibility to young audiences.

GOAL #6: BUILD A STRONG VOLUNTEER AND PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

- **Objectives:** Increase volunteer participation and establish local partnerships.
  - **Action Item # 1:** Develop a standing volunteer tree care and planting program.
  - **Action Item # 2:** Partner with local schools, civic groups, and businesses on planting events.
  - **Action Item # 3:** Recognize volunteer contributions publicly to build engagement.

GOAL #7: SECURE SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR URBAN FORESTRY

- **Objectives:** Pursue external funding and create dedicated local funding mechanisms.

- - **Action Item # 1:** Create a Tree Trust Fund to accept donations and mitigation fees and encourage other creative forms of financing such as mitigation fees and sponsorships.
  - **Action Item # 2:** Incorporate urban forestry funding into the annual municipal budget.
  - **Action Item # 3:** Continue to apply for grants related to urban forestry on a consistent basis. Tap into established organizations such as CSIP, USDA Forest Service, Sustainable Jersey, and other programs that support urban forestry work.

GOAL #8: SUPPORT TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- **Objectives:** Maintain compliance with NJUCF training requirements.
  - **Action Item # 1:** Ensure at least one municipal employee and one volunteer complete CORE training and 8 CEUs annually.
  - **Action Item # 2:** Encourage participation in workshops from Rutgers, ISA, and NJ Shade Tree Federation by main city forest management staff.
  - **Action Item # 3:** Track CEUs and training completion as part of annual program reporting.

GOAL #9, PURSUE TREE CITY USA DESIGNATION

- **Objectives:** Meet all program requirements and apply annually.
  - **Action Item # 1:** Adopt a public tree ordinance and celebrate Arbor Day each year
  - **Action Item # 2:** Document annual spending on tree-related activities and ensure it meets or exceeds $2 per capita.
  - **Action Item # 3**: Submit the Tree City USA application to the Arbor Day Foundation with required documentation.

MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE AND BUDGET

With funding from the USDA Forestry and NJUCF Leafing Out programs, the City has begun addressing priority heat-island areas identified in the DelAtlantic Conservation District's Heat Island Assessment through targeted tree planting. Tree plantings will continue annually each fall over the next three years to further mitigate heat-island conditions outlined in the report. In addition, the City has applied for a recreation grant to install shade canopy structures over playground equipment adjacent to Charles L. Spragg Elementary School and the Key-Rec Fields.

Utilizing the 2025 tree inventory data, an annual maintenance schedule was developed to outline recommended tasks for completion over the next five years. DRG created budget projections based on industry expertise. A detailed table of estimated costs for Egg Harbor City's five-year tree management program is provided below.

This schedule serves as a guideline for implementing the recommended maintenance tasks and transitioning from reactive to proactive tree care. Given budgetary constraints, the city should prioritize high- and moderate-priority tree removals and pruning during Years 1 and 2. Proactive tasks, such as routine pruning, tree training, and planting, should be deferred until the city secures the necessary funds to undertake these activities. If

additional funds are available after completing priority tasks in Years 1 and 2, proactive maintenance can begin earlier.

The recommended budget for the first three years, focusing on high- and moderate-priority items, is as follows:

Year 1: $489,910

Year 2: $471,170

Year 3: $435,320

The budget table below includes the total costs for all priority and proactive maintenance tasks, providing the city with a comprehensive assessment of the investment required to implement various aspects of an urban forestry program. The yearly totals represent funding goals the city should strive to meet through grants and annual forestry budgets. By following this flexible schedule, the city can address urgent needs while working towards a sustainable, proactive tree care program over the next five years.

Table 2. Estimated budget for recommended five-year tree resource management program

Activity Cost			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Five-Year Cost
Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	
High Priority Removals	1-3"	$250		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	4-6"	$400		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	7-12"	$750		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	13-18"	$1,500		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	19-24"	$1,900		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	25-30"	$2,500	1	$2,500		$0		$0		$0		$0	$2,500
	31-36"	$3,800	1	$3,800		$0		$0		$0		$0	$3,800
	37-42"	$4,400		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	>43"	$5,500		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
Activity Total(s)			**2**	**$6,300**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$6,300**
Moderate Priority Removals	1-3"	$250	0	$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	4-6"	$400	0	$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	7-12"	$750	0	$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	13-18"	$1,500	6	$9,000		$0		$0		$0		$0	$9,000
	19-24"	$1,900	6	$11,400		$0		$0		$0		$0	$11,400
	25-30"	$2,500	0	$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	31-36"	$3,800	0	$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	37-42"	$4,400	1	$4,400		$0		$0		$0		$0	$4,400
	>43"	$5,500	0	$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
Activity Total(s)			**13**	**$24,800**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$24,800**
Low Priority Removals	1-3"	$250	7	$1,750		$0		$0		$0		$0	$1,750
	4-6"	$400	1	$400		$0		$0		$0		$0	$400
	7-12"	$750	21	$15,750		$0		$0		$0		$0	$15,750
	13-18"	$1,500	34	$51,000		$0		$0		$0		$0	$51,000
	19-24"	$1,900	22	$41,800		$0		$0		$0		$0	$41,800
	25-30"	$2,500	9	$22,500		$0		$0		$0		$0	$22,500
	31-36"	$3,800	2	$7,600		$0		$0		$0		$0	$7,600
	37-42"	$4,400	1	$4,400		$0		$0		$0		$0	$4,400
	>43"	$5,500	2	$11,000		$0		$0		$0		$0	$11,000
Activity Total(s)			**99**	**$156,200**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$156,200**

Activity Cost			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Five-Year Cost
Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	
Stump Removals	1-3"	$75		$0	4	$300		$0		$0		$0	$300
	4-6"	$100		$0	9	$900		$0		$0		$0	$900
	7-12"	$125		$0	29	$3,625		$0		$0		$0	$3,625
	13-18"	$175		$0	35	$6,125		$0		$0		$0	$6,125
	19-24"	$200		$0	18	$3,600		$0		$0		$0	$3,600
	25-30"	$225		$0	20	$4,500		$0		$0		$0	$4,500
	31-36"	$275		$0	4	$1,100		$0		$0		$0	$1,100
	37-42"	$300		$0	0	$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	>43"	$350		$0	1	$350		$0		$0		$0	$350
Activity Total(s)			**0**	**$0**	**120**	**$20,500**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$20,500**
High Priority Pruning	1-3"	$75		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	4-6"	$150		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	7-12"	$350		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	13-18"	$650		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	19-24"	$850		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	25-30"	$1,000		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	31-36"	$1,200		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	37-42"	$1,500		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	>43"	$1,800		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
Activity Total(s)			**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$0**
Moderate Priority Pruning	1-3"	$75		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	4-6"	$150		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	7-12"	$350		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	13-18"	$650	8	$5,200		$0		$0		$0		$0	$5,200
	19-24"	$850	12	$10,200		$0		$0		$0		$0	$10,200
	25-30"	$1,000	15	$15,000		$0		$0		$0		$0	$15,000
	31-36"	$1,200	6	$7,200		$0		$0		$0		$0	$7,200
	37-42"	$1,500	9	$13,500		$0		$0		$0		$0	$13,500
	>43"	$1,800	2	$3,600		$0		$0		$0		$0	$3,600
Activity Total(s)			**52**	**$54,700**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$54,700**
Routine Inspection	Drive-by Assessment	$1		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	Walk-by Assessment	$5		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
Activity Total(s)			**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$0**

Activity Cost			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Five-Year Cost
Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	Count	Cost	
Young Tree Training (3-year Cycle)	1-3"	$20	8	$160	16	$320	16	$320	15	$300	16	$320	$1,420
	4-6"	$30	7	$210		$0		$0		$0		$0	$210
	6"<	$40	1	$40		$0		$0		$0		$0	$40
Activity Total(s)			**16**	**$410**	**16**	**$320**	**16**	**$320**	**15**	**$300**	**16**	**$320**	**$1,670**
Routine Pruning (5-year Cycle)	1-3"	$75		$0		$0		$0		$0	103	$7,725	$7,725
	4-6"	$150		$0		$0		$0		$0	99	$14,850	$14,850
	7-12"	$350		$0		$0		$0		$0	235	$82,250	$82,250
	13-18"	$650		$0		$0		$0	400	$260,000	107	$69,550	$329,550
	19-24"	$850		$0	131	$111,350	400	$340,000		$0		$0	$451,350
	25-30"	$1,000	13	$13,000	244	$244,000		$0		$0		$0	$257,000
	31-36"	$1,200	85	$102,000		$0		$0		$0		$0	$102,000
	37-42"	$1,500	19	$28,500		$0		$0		$0		$0	$28,500
	>43"	$1,800	5	$9,000		$0		$0		$0		$0	$9,000
Activity Total(s)			**122**	**$152,500**	**375**	**$355,350**	**400**	**$340,000**	**400**	**$260,000**	**544**	**$174,375**	**$1,282,225**
Replacement Tree Planting and Maintenance	Purchasing	$250		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	Planting & Watering	$200		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	Mulching	$25		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
Activity Total(s)			**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$0**
New Tree Planting and Maintenance	Purchasing	$250	200	$50,000	200	$50,000	200	$50,000	200	$50,000	200	$50,000	$250,000
	Planting & Watering	$200	200	$40,000	200	$40,000	200	$40,000	200	$40,000	200	$40,000	$200,000
	Mulching	$25	200	$5,000	200	$5,000	200	$5,000	200	$5,000	200	$5,000	$25,000
Activity Total(s)			**600**	**$95,000**	**600**	**$95,000**	**600**	**$95,000**	**600**	**$95,000**	**600**	**$95,000**	**$475,000**
Natural Mortality (1%)	Tree Removal	$1,500		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	Stump Removal	$175		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
	Replacement Tree	$475		$0		$0		$0		$0		$0	$0
Activity Total(s)			**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**0**	**$0**	**$0**
Activity Grand Total			**904**		**1,111**		**1,016**		**1,015**		**1,160**		**5,206**
Cost Grand Total				**$489,910**		**$471,170**		**$435,320**		**$355,300**		**$269,695**	**$2,021,395**

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

During the second half of 2025, the City completed priority tree removals and stump grinding and continued implementation of the City's tree replacement program. In addition, the City hosted a community-based speaker event in September, which was well received by local residents.

Throughout the spring and summer months, more than 120 hazardous trees were removed, with the most dangerous trees prioritized to address public safety concerns. The City also completed an extensive pruning program that improved the health, structure, and vitality of hundreds of trees across the community.

The community-based speaker event drew strong public interest, with more than 125 attendees. Participants had the opportunity to engage with and learn from Doug Tallamy, a nationally recognized arborist who works with communities across the country to promote healthy urban forests.

The city intends to schedule quarterly meetings to review progress, address community-driven concerns, refine tree species selections, and evaluate opportunities for invasive species removal in select locations, as funding allows.

Tree removals, stump removals, planting activities, training, and community outreach will remain ongoing efforts. In addition, the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Conference will return to Cherry Hill in 2026, providing an opportunity for CORE-level training for municipal staff and community volunteers.

STATEMENT OF EGG HARBOR CITY'S TREE BUDGET

Egg Harbor City currently allocates $10,000 annually for tree-related maintenance, which primarily supports fall leaf collection and the removal of brush and branches from public terraces. In addition to local funding, the city has significantly expanded its urban forestry capacity through several competitive state and federal grants, which support tree care, planting, planning, and community engagement:

- A $1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, awarded through the Inflation Reduction Act, supports comprehensive urban forestry maintenance, including tree removals, pruning, planting, and public outreach.

- An $850,000 "Leafing Out" Maintenance Grant from the New Jersey Urban & Community Forestry (NJUCF) program supports planning, maintenance, and planting activities through June 2028. Although the grant was fully funded for 2025, disbursement has been temporarily delayed due to a Presidential Executive Order, with future funding contingent on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Congressional approval.

- A $12,000 "Leafing Out" Education Grant from NJUCF, also active through 2028, provides funding for training City staff, Shade Tree Committee members, and community volunteers, enhancing the City's technical capacity and compliance with state training requirements.

These grant awards reflect the City's growing commitment to professional urban forest management and its proactive pursuit of external funding to support long-term canopy growth and community engagement

Statement of 5-year Tree Budget	CFMP Budget	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Administration	Municipal Salaries	15,000.00	2,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
	Fringe	5,000.00	666.67	6,666.67	6,666.67	-
	Indirect Costs					
	Volunteer Contribution	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Other-Tree Inventory	50,000.00				
UCF Stewardship	Planting	135,000.00	180,000.00	55,000.00	55,000.00	-
	Pruning	25,000.00	185,000.00	185,000.00	210,000.00	10,000.00
	Removal	100,000.00	180,000.00	180,000.00	205,000.00	-
	Insect/Disease Management					
	Stump Removal					
	Other - Supplies		10,000.00			
Education and Outreach	Training and Education (Municipal Employees)	1,562.50	1,562.50	1,562.50	1,562.50	150.00
	Training and Education (Volunteer)	1,562.50	1,562.50	1,562.50	1,562.50	150.00
	Public Outreach					
	Other					
Total		338,125.00	565,791.67	454,791.67	504,791.67	15,300.00

EQUIPMENT

As the city does not possess the equipment required for major tree management, an external company is contracted for extensive tree work. Once the city arborist assesses a tree and determines it needs removal or pruning, it is added to a list. When a sufficient number of trees accumulate on this list, a licensed tree company, contracted by Egg Harbor City's Shade Tree Commission, is brought in to perform the necessary work on multiple trees. The city maintains a three-year contract with a licensed tree expert company to perform this work. EHC is also developing an internal equipment needs list to pursue grant funding, with the goal of eventually performing routine tree maintenance in-house.

The DPW currently has all the necessary equipment for emergency cleanups, low-branch trimming, and leaf collection. The goal is to purchase a bucket truck within five years through the city's capital equipment program to enable DPW to continue tree maintenance when the city's current tree maintenance contract expires at the end of the grant period. The city is also interested in continuing with the TreeKeeper software to help organize and manage work orders.

Future of the CFMP

and Community Involvement

This Standard Inventory Analysis and Management Plan provides management priorities for the next five years, and it is important to update the tree inventory using TreeKeeper® as work is completed, so the software can provide updated species distribution and benefit estimates. This empowers Egg Harbor City to self-assess progress over time and set goals to strive toward by following the adaptive management cycle. Below are ways of implementing the steps of this cycle.
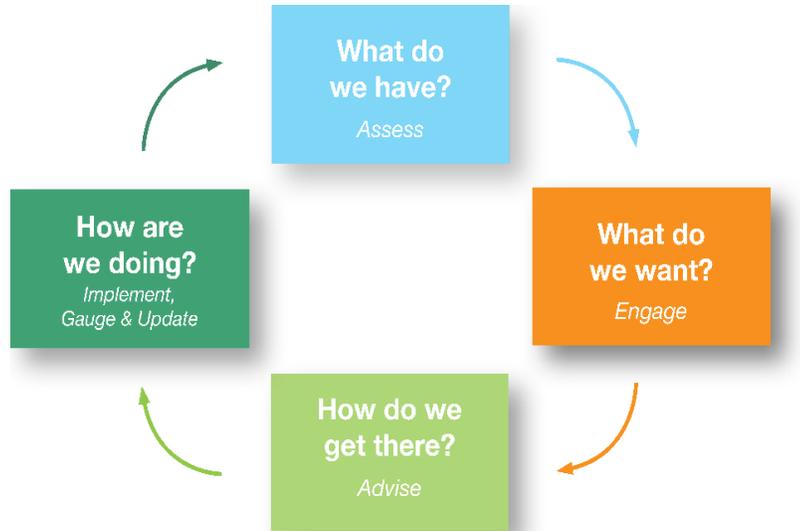
- Prepare planting plans well enough in advance to schedule and complete stump removal in the designated area, and to select species best suited to the available sites.

- Annually comparing the number of trees planted to the number of trees removed and the number of vacant planting sites remaining, then adjusting future planting plans accordingly.

- Annually comparing the species distribution of the inventoried tree resource with the previous year after completing planting plans to monitor recommended changes in abundance.

- Schedule and assign high-priority tree work so it can be completed as soon as possible instead of reactively addressing new lower priority work requests as they are received.

- Include data collection such as measuring DBH and assessing condition into standard procedure for tree work and routine inspections, so changes over time can be monitored.

PLAN CONNECTIONS AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The city is currently in the process of updating the Master Plan. The CFMP and FMP will be incorporated into the Master Plan review. The Master Plan requires the review and approval of the NJ Pinelands Commission, which governs land use in the NJ Pinelands National Reserve. EHC is considered a Pinelands Town.

COORDINATION WITH THE MASTER PLAN

The city is currently updating its Master Plan through a reexamination report, into which recommendations from the CFMP will be incorporated. Key priorities include adopting a tree replacement ordinance and revising the City Code to ensure consistent references to trees—covering street trees, replacements, clear-cutting, and related provisions. Because Egg Harbor City is designated as a Pinelands Town, the updated Master Plan will require review and approval by the New Jersey Pinelands Commission, which oversees land use within the Pinelands National Reserve.

Community Engagement and Well-Being

Building on efforts initiated under the previous Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP), the Shade Tree Committee (STC), in cooperation with SustainableEHC, has continued to coordinate and implement a range of public education initiatives. The STC developed and circulated information addressing forest health issues and highlighted key accomplishments of the Committee, SustainableEHC, and the city—such as the successful completion of a Tree Planting Grant. Events including the annual Arbor Day Ceremonial Tree Planting, accompanied by a Mayor and Council Resolution, as well as other educational activities, have been regularly publicized on the Egg Harbor City website (http://www.sustainableehc.org/).

Through ongoing collaboration with the SustainableEHC Green Team, these outreach initiatives have expanded to engage residents in meaningful ways. Notable efforts include:

- Publishing the updated Community Forest Management Plan on the Egg Harbor City website to keep the community informed and involved.
- Hosting the annual Arbor Day celebration, featuring hands-on activities and educational presentations for residents of all ages.
- Distributing free 1.5-inch caliper trees to residents for planting on their properties, with 30 trees distributed to date. EHC's goal is to perform a survey on survival rates of the planted trees.
- Partnering with the Atlantic County Master Gardeners to provide basic tree care training and support for new tree stewards.
- Leveraging grant funding from the *Leafing Out Education Program* to provide CORE training to residents interested in tree planting, care, and stewardship.
- Recording and posting tree seminars and educational talks on YouTube, ensuring educational resources remain accessible to the broader community year-round.
- Posting CFMP to EggHarborCity.org and SustainableEHC.org websites.

These efforts reflect a broader goal of fostering a culture of environmental responsibility and community-led urban forest stewardship in Egg Harbor City. By building on the strong foundation of public education and outreach established in previous CFMPs, the city continues to grow its community forest program. Increased resident involvement and support have been key drivers of the program's success and will remain central to its continued growth.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CSIP) MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Egg Harbor City maintains a strong and collaborative relationship with the New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry (NJ UCF) Program and plans to continue pursuing tree planting and maintenance grants to support the City's urban forestry goals.

In addition, the city is exploring the opportunity to apply for grant funding to develop a Forestry Management Plan. This plan would address the management and long-term sustainability of forested areas within city limits. Key concerns driving this effort include:

- Climate change impacts, such as shifting species ranges and increased storm intensity.

- The spread of invasive species that threaten native forest health.

- Wildfire risk, particularly during extended dry periods.

- Saltwater intrusion into low-lying Atlantic white cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*) stands, which poses a long-term threat to this sensitive ecosystem and identify ghost forest locations.

Egg Harbor City's urban forestry initiatives align with several Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP) Elements, including:

- Wildfire Protection – Addressing risks through fuel reduction, vegetation management, and public education.

- Tree Recycling – Supporting sustainable practices through leaf and brush collection and repurposing.

- Sidewalk Maintenance – Coordinating tree planting and maintenance with sidewalk repair and accessibility improvements.

- Stormwater Management – Recognizing the role of trees and forested areas in reducing runoff, erosion, and flooding.

- Other Initiatives – Including education, community engagement, and integration of green infrastructure principles into municipal planning.

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Appendix A: Data Collection and Site Location Methods

DATA COLLECTION METHODS

DRG collects tree inventory data using their proprietary GIS software, called Rover, loaded onto pen-based field computers. At each site, the following data fields were collected:

*	Address	*	Park Name
*	Comments	*	Primary Maintenance Recommendations
*	Condition	*	Relative Location
*	Date of Inventory	*	Risk Assessment Complete
*	Defect	*	Risk Rating
*	Further Inspection	*	Size*
*	Multi-stem Tree	*	X and Y Coordinates
*	Overhead Utilities		

The knowledge, experience, and professional judgment of DRG's arborists ensure the high quality of inventory data.

EQUIPMENT AND BASE MAPS

Inventory arborists use FZ-G1 Panasonic Toughpad® units with internal GPS receivers. Geographic information system (GIS) map layers are loaded onto these units to help locate sites during the inventory. This table lists these base map layers, along with each layer's source and format information.

Data Source	Data Year	Projection
Shapefile Avineon, Inc.	2020	NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Michigan Central, International Feet
Aerial Imagery Avineon, Inc.	2016	NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane Michigan Central, International Feet

STREET ROW SITE LOCATION

Individual street ROW sites were located using a methodology that identifies sites by *address number*, *street name, side*, and *on street*. This methodology was used to help ensure consistent assignment of location.

ADDRESS NUMBER AND STREET NAME

Where there was no GIS parcel addressing data available for sites located adjacent to a vacant lot, or adjacent to an occupied lot without a posted address number, the arborist used their best judgment to assign an address number based on nearby addresses. An "X" was then added to the number in the database to indicate that it was assigned, for example, "37X Choice Avenue."

Sites in medians were assigned an address number by the arborist in Rover using parcel and streets geographical data. Each segment was numbered with an assigned address that was interpolated from addresses facing that median and addressed on that same street as the median. If there were multiple medians between cross streets, each segment was assigned its own address. The *street name* assigned to a site was determined by street centerline information.

SIDE VALUE

Each site was assigned a *side value*, including *front*, *side*, *median*, or *rear* based on the site's location in relation to the lot's street frontage. The *front* is the side facing the address street. *Side* is either side of the lot that is between the front and rear. *Median* indicates a median or island surrounded by pavement. The *rear* is the side of the lot opposite of the address street.

PARK AND PUBLIC SPACE SITE LOCATION

Park and/or public space site locations were collected using the same methodology as street ROW sites; however, nearly all of them have the "Assigned Address" field set to 'X' and have the "Park Name" data field filled.

SITE LOCATION EXAMPLE

These two tree sites are on Taft St, but have E Mac Arthur St addresses.

These four tree sites are on Davis St, however, the tree on the left has a different address than the three on the right.

Corner Lot A

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
Side: ``````Side
On Street: ``````Taft St.

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
Side: ``````Side
On Street: ``````Taft St.

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
Side: ``````Side
On Street: ``````Taft St.

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
Side: ``````Front
On Street: ``````Hoover St.

Corner Lot B

Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.
Side: Side
On Street: Davis St.

Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.
Side: Front
On Street: E Mac Arthur St.

Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.
Side: Front
On Street: E Mac Arthur St.

Appendix B: List of Genera for the Given Family

| Family	Genera
Fagaceae	*Quercus* (oak), *Fagus* (beech), *Castanea* (chestnut), *Castanopsis*, *Lithocarpus* (stone oak), *Chrysolepis* (chinquapin), *Trigonobalanus*, *Notholithocarpus*
Sapindaceae	*Acer* (maple), *Aesculus* (horse chestnut, buckeye), *Sapindus* (soapberry), *Dodonaea*, *Paullinia*, *Serjania*, *Cardiospermum*, *Dimocarpus*, *Litchi* (lychee), *Nephelium* (rambutan), *Schleichera*, *Koelreuteria* (golden rain tree)
Altingiaceae	*Liquidambar* (sweetgum), *Altingia*
Rosaceae	*Rosa* (rose), *Rubus* (blackberry, raspberry), *Malus* (apple), *Prunus* (cherry, plum, almond, peach, apricot), *Pyrus* (pear), *Fragaria* (strawberry), Cotoneaster, *Crataegus* (hawthorn), *Sorbus* (rowan, mountain ash), *Spiraea*, *Amelanchier* (serviceberry), *Aronia* (chokeberry)
Pinaceae	*Pinus* (pine), *Picea* (spruce), *Abies* (fir), *Larix* (larch), *Tsuga* (hemlock), *Pseudotsuga* (Douglas-fir), *Cedrus* (cedar), *Keteleeria*, *Nothotsuga*, *Cathaya*

# Appendix C: Maps of Community and Inventoried Sites
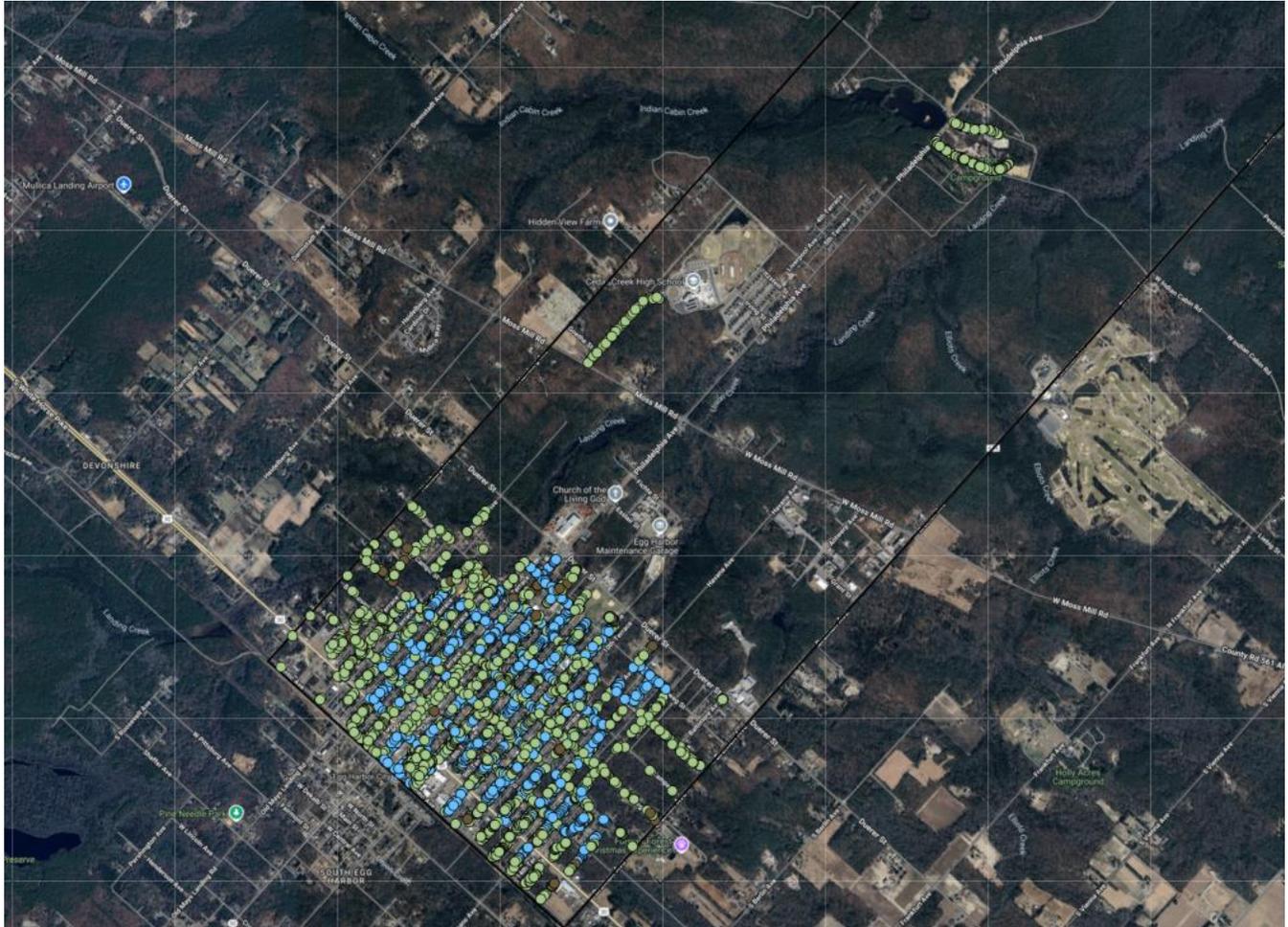
**Map 5: Inventoried sites in Egg Harbor City, NJ pulled from TreeKeeper®. https://eggharborcitynj.treekeepersoftware.com/**
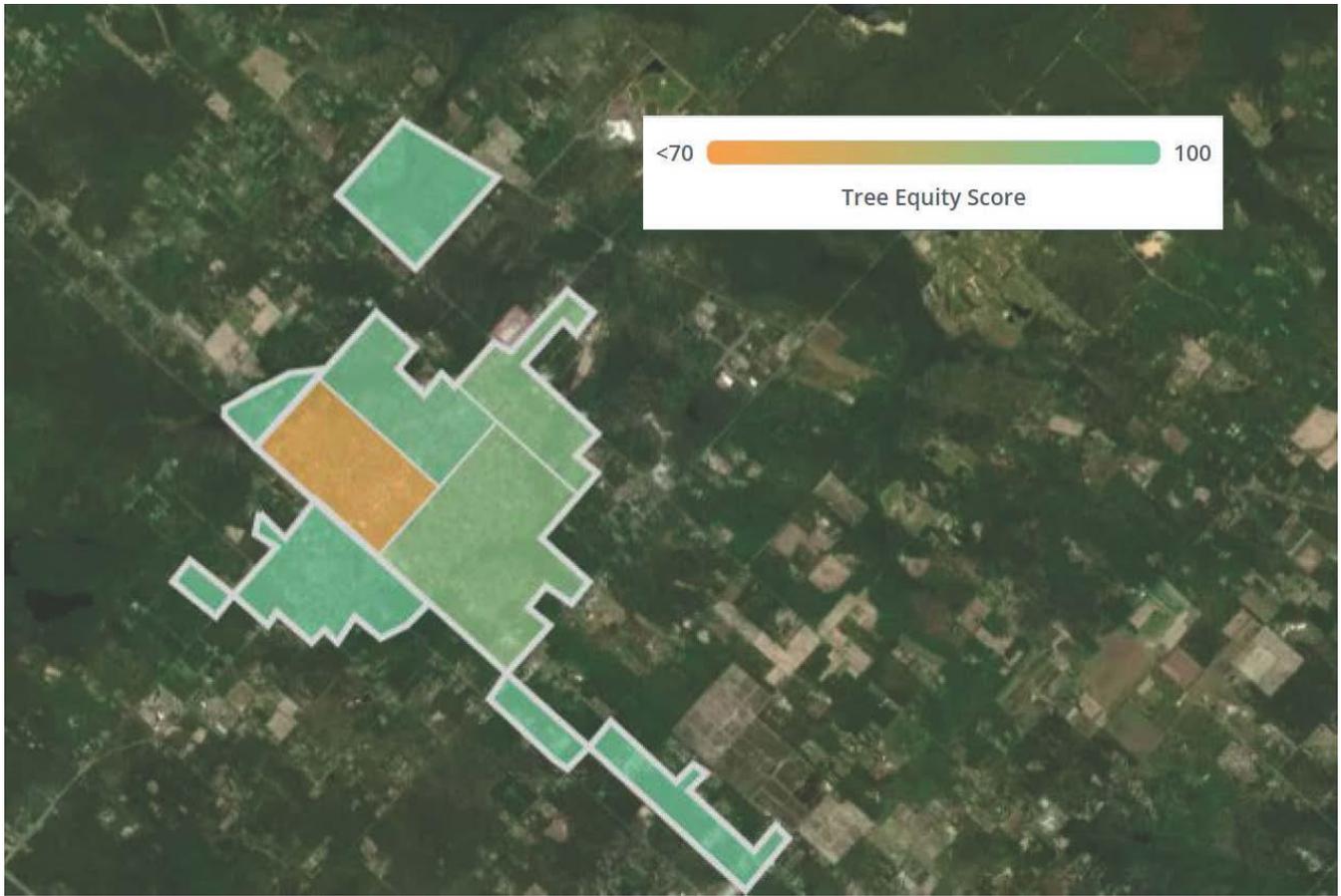
Map 6: Tree equity score for block groups within Egg Harbor City, courtesy of https://www.treeequityscore.org. Tree equity scores in Egg Harbor City block groups range from a low of 75 to a high of 100. Tree equity scores are based on tree canopy cover, climate, demographic, and socioeconomic data and range from 0 to 100. Lower scores indicate higher priority areas for additional tree planting, while scores near 100 indicate that canopy cover goals as defined by American Forests have been met.
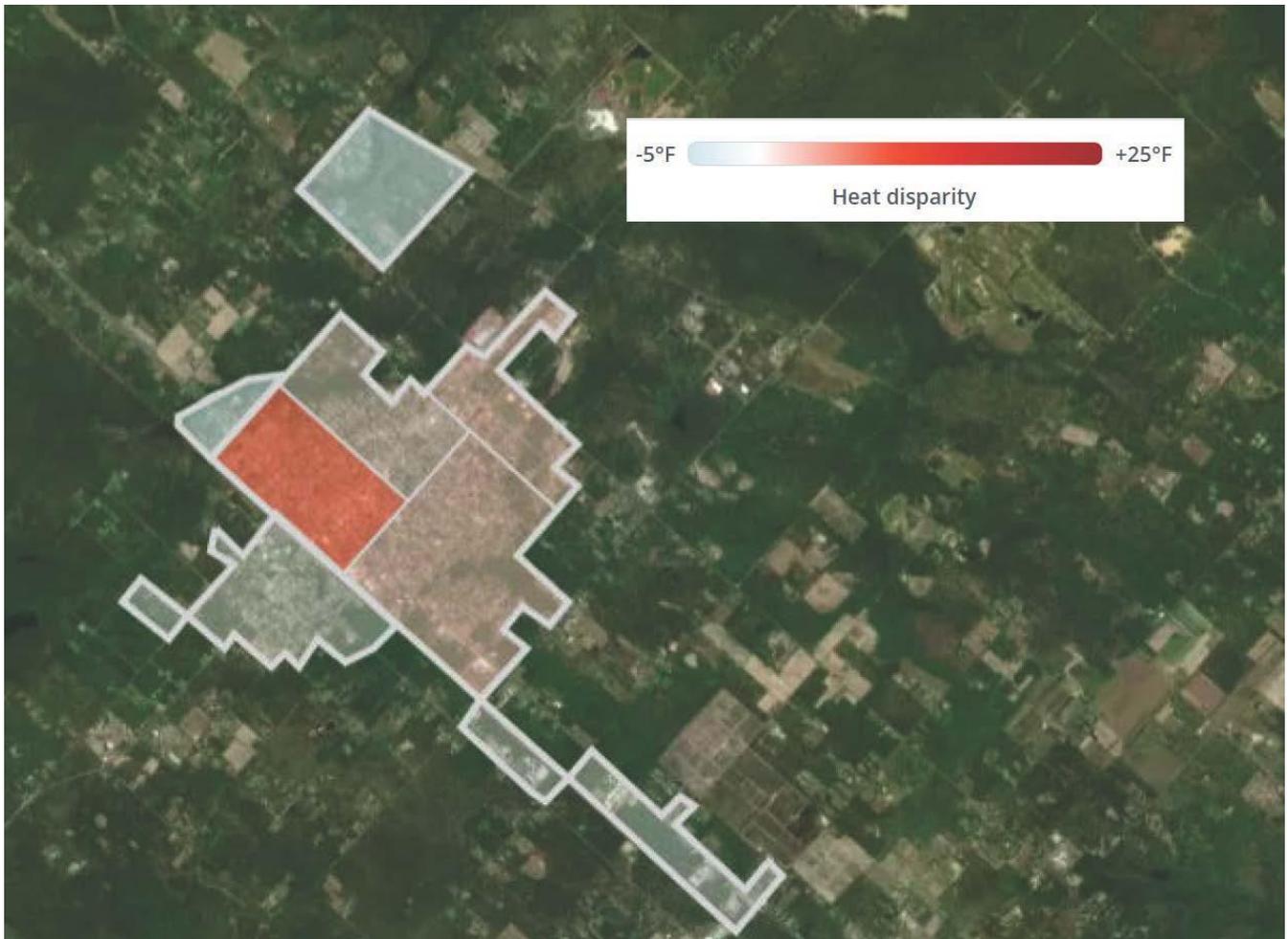
Map 7: Heat disparity in Egg Harbor City, courtesy of https://www.treeequityscore.org. Heat disparity in Egg Harbor City closely aligns with canopy cover. The areas with the greatest positive heat disparity occur in the central block groups within the town - the areas which also have the lowest canopy coverage. Cooler-than-average areas occur where tree canopy cover is highest around the boundaries of the town (Map 6). Heat disparity was calculated by American Forests as the difference between local extreme high surface temperatures in 2022 and the urban average surface temperature. Positive values indicate an area that was hotter than average, while negative values indicate an area that was cooler than average.
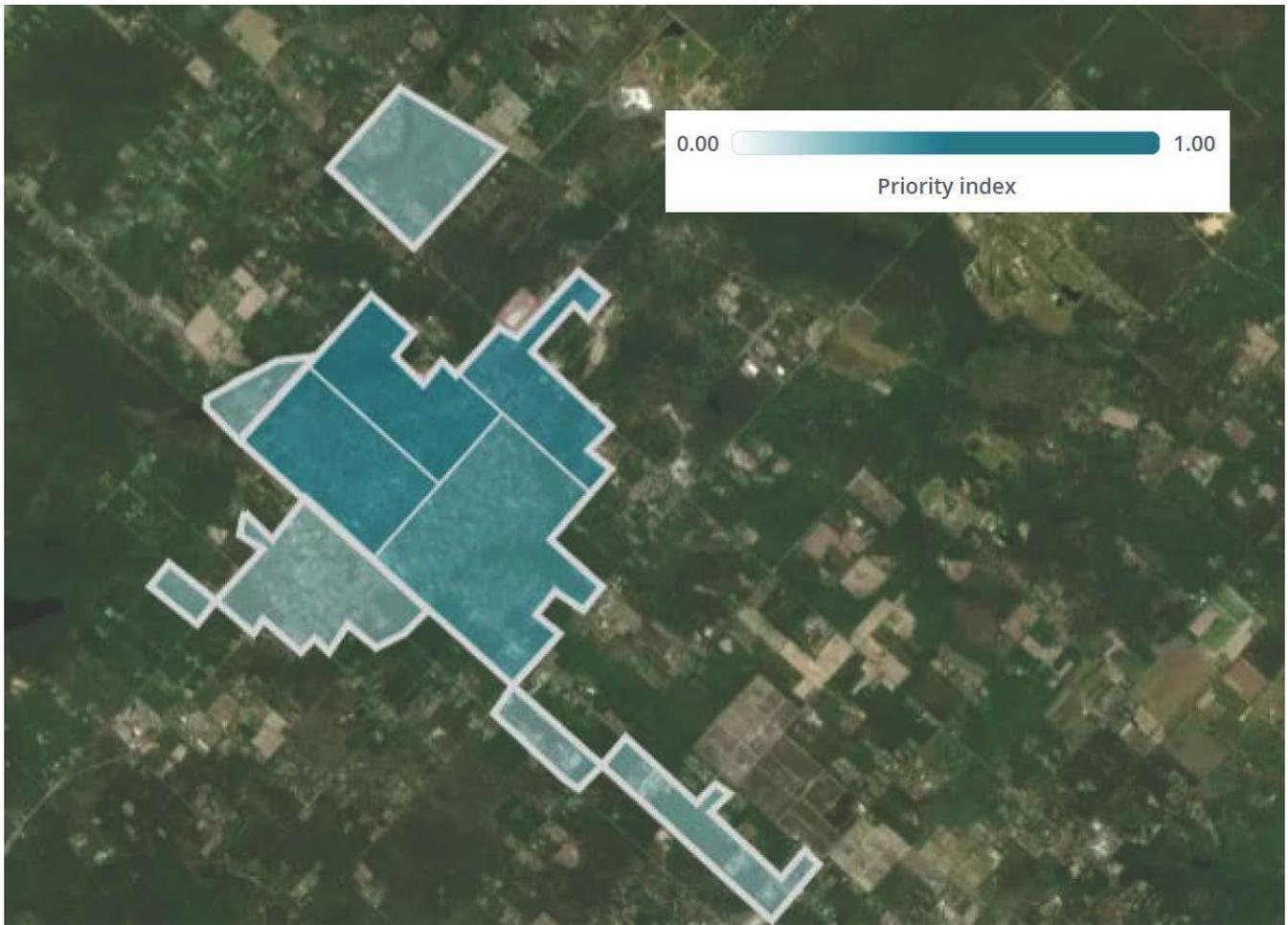
Map 8: Priority index in Egg Harbor City, courtesy of https://www.treeequityscore.org. The American Forests priority index is made up of equally weighted climate, health, and socioeconomic characteristics that are integrated into the tree equity score. A higher priority index indicates greater potential for residents to be disproportionately affected by extreme heat, pollution, and other environmental hazards which could be reduced with the benefits of trees. The priority index ranges from 0 to 1, where 1 is the highest priority. Priority index values in Egg Harbor City range from 0.23 to 0.52.
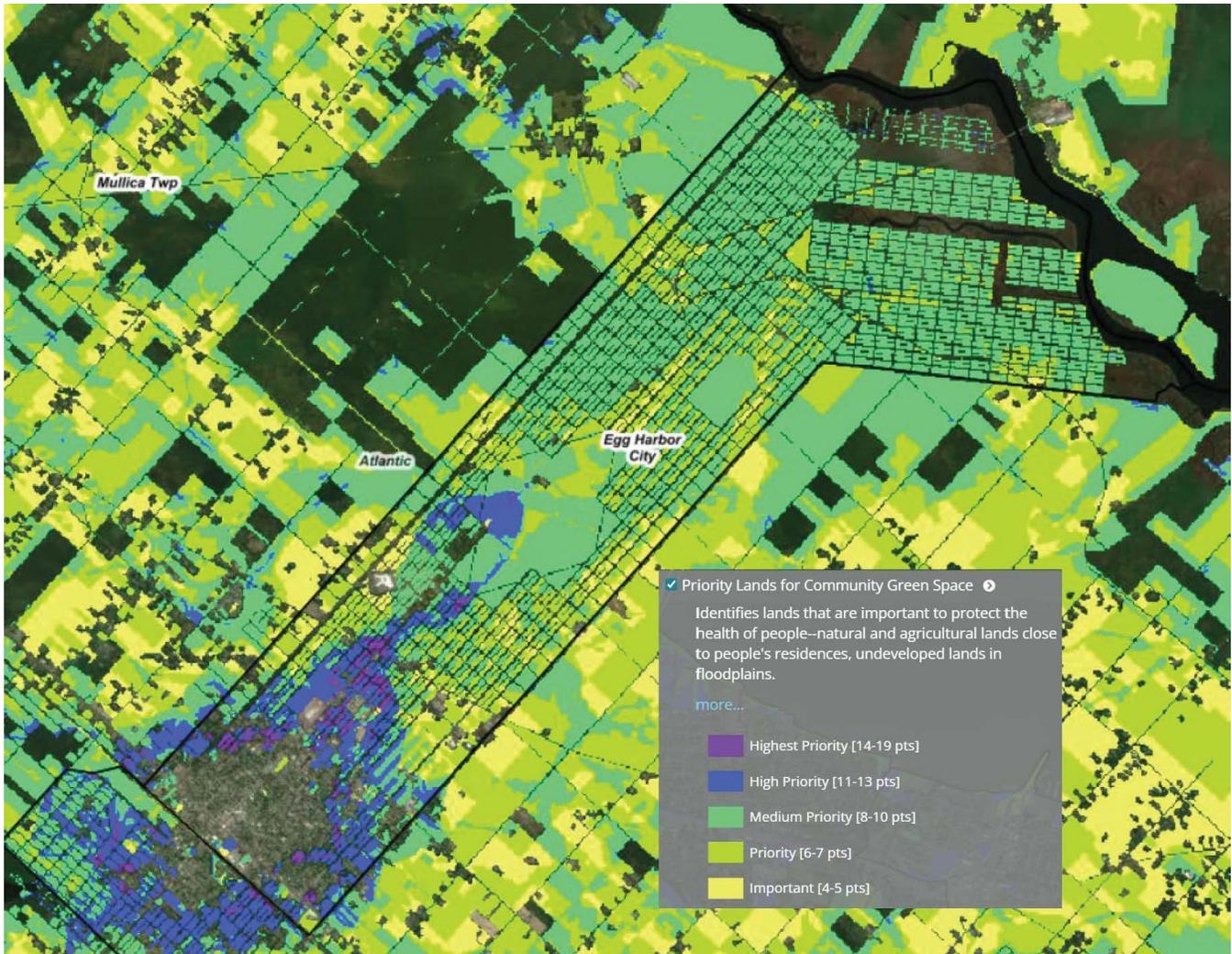
Map 9: Priority greenspaces for improvement and preservation in Egg Harbor City, courtesy of https://www.nj-map.com.The NJ Map Atlas from Rowan University includes a map of priority lands for community green space. These lands were defined as areas which are important to protect the health of people, including natural and agricultural lands in close proximity to residences as well as undeveloped lands in floodplains. The priority index takes into account the suitability of land for preservation, the availability of other nearby green spaces, the potential for the land to mitigate flooding, and connectivity to existing green spaces to identify lands ranging from important for conservation to highest priority for conservation.

Appendix D: Percent of Poor Condition Trees by Species
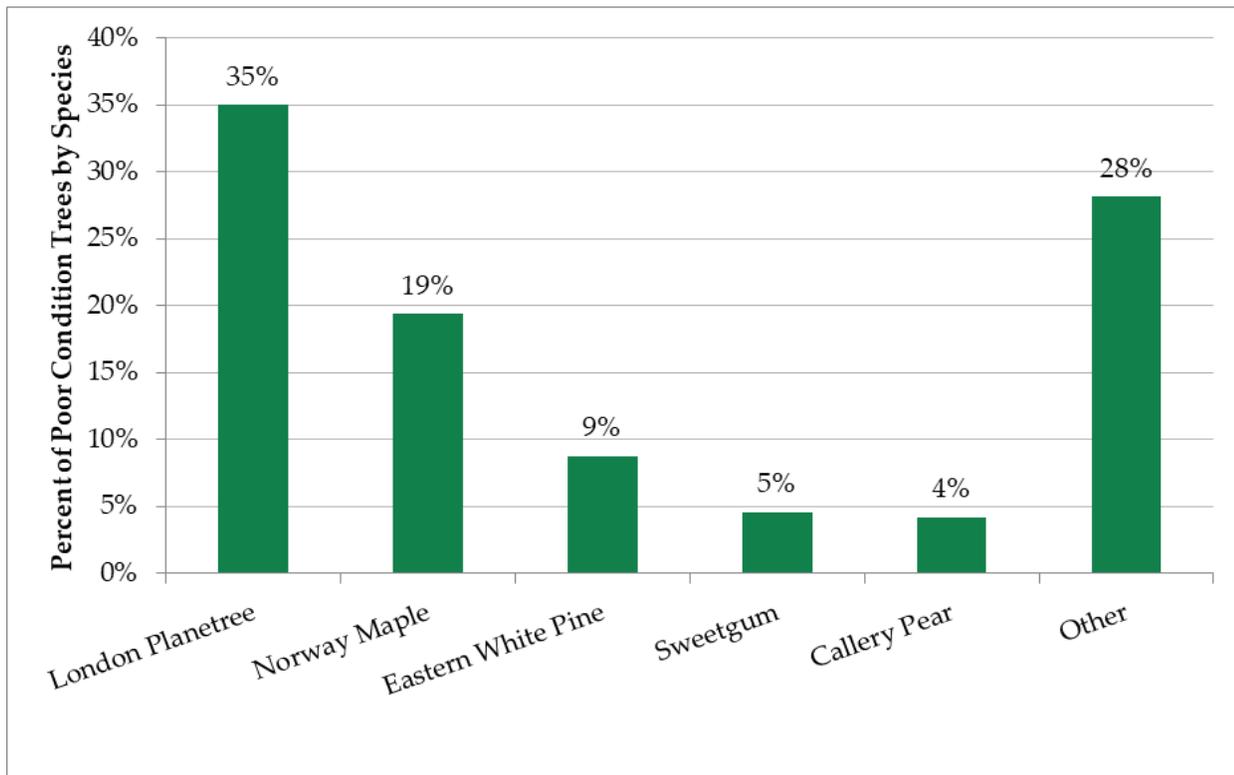
The chart shows the proportion of trees found to be in poor condition, broken down by species. London planetree represents the largest share at 35%, followed by Norway maple at 19%. Eastern white pine accounts for 9% of poor-condition trees, while sweetgum and Callery pear represent smaller proportions at 5% and 4%, respectively. The remaining species collectively make up 28% of trees in poor condition. Overall, the data suggest that London planetree and Norway maple are the primary contributors (54%) to poor-condition trees in the community.