




Trees and Stormwater


A Guide for Local Decision Makers

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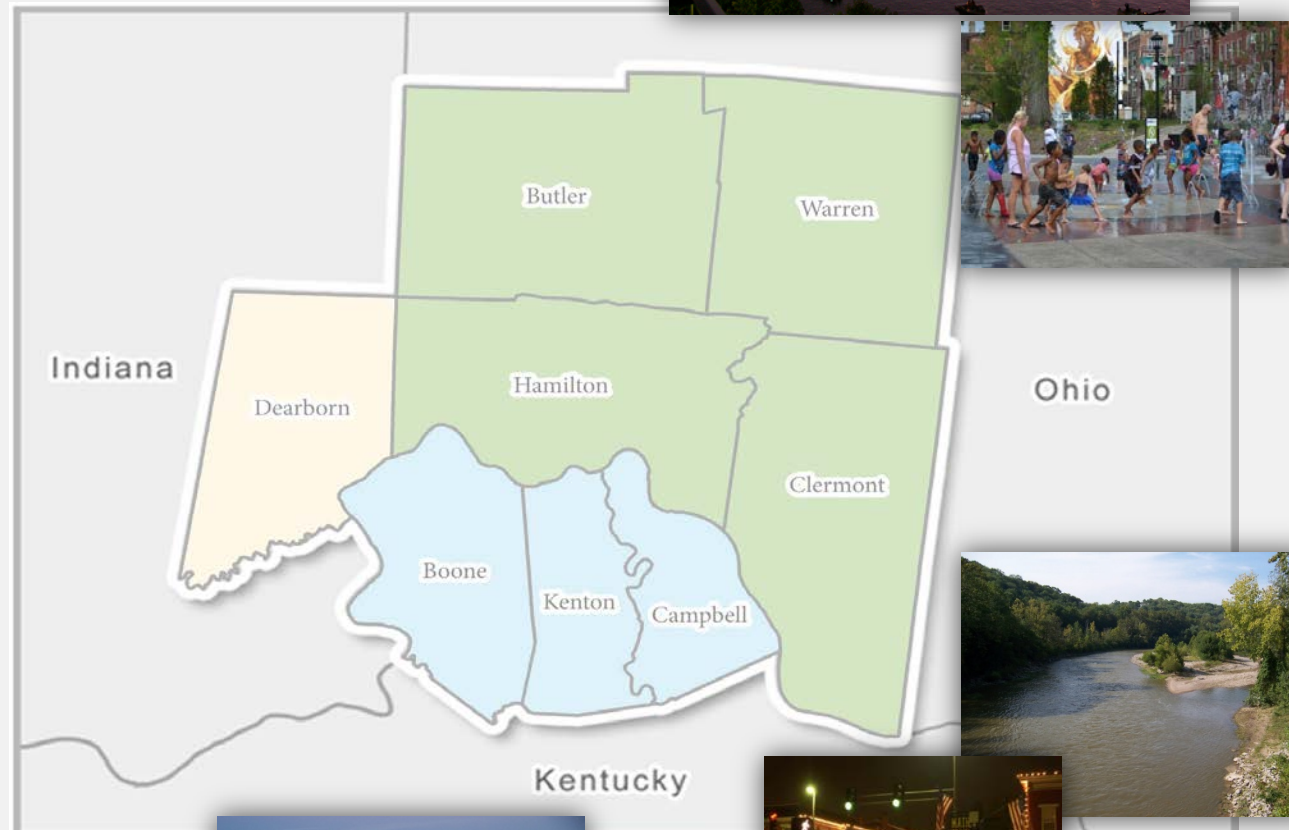
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OKI At a Glance

- 3 States
- 8 Counties
- 196 jurisdictions
- 118 member Board of Directors
- 2 Million residents
- 32 member staff

The OKI Region



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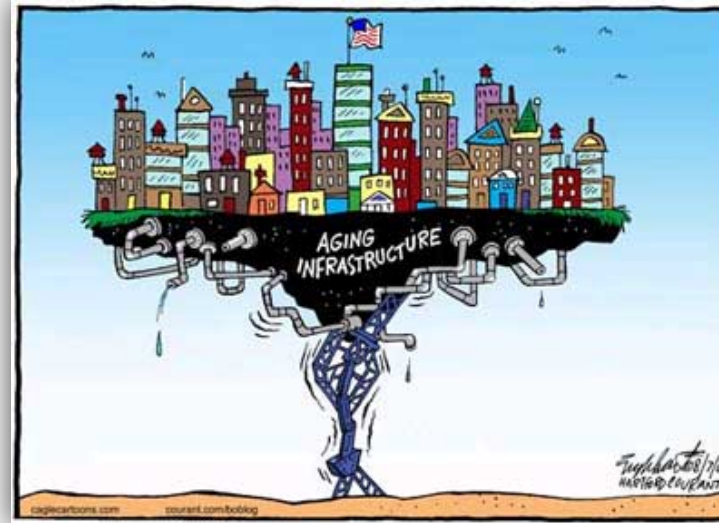
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OKI

The Need for a New Tool

Addressing Green Infrastructure and Regional Tree Canopy

- Growing need to reinvesting in decaying infrastructure
- Seizing *practical* green infrastructure opportunities that work
- Recognizing comprehensive benefits of infrastructure investment – green and gray



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Stakeholder Engagement

- Regional Advisory Committee
- National Advisory Committee
- Expert Consultations
 - Engineers
 - Urban Foresters
 - Stormwater Managers
- Webcasts, Surveys, Workshops





www.treesandstormwater.org



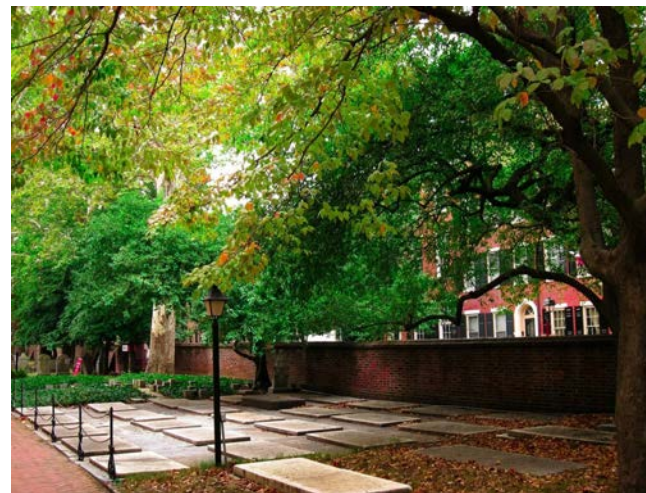
The Document Builder



Build a “Document”?

- Because you want to learn about stormwater management and trees
- Because you want someone else to learn the same thing
- Because adding trees to new development and redevelopment initiatives and save money and create healthier, more livable neighborhoods.

Think of this as both a learning and teaching tool ... and a way to stimulate policymakers





Adds Value to Any Project

The Value of Green Infrastructure

A Guide to Recognizing Its Economic,
Environmental and Social Benefits



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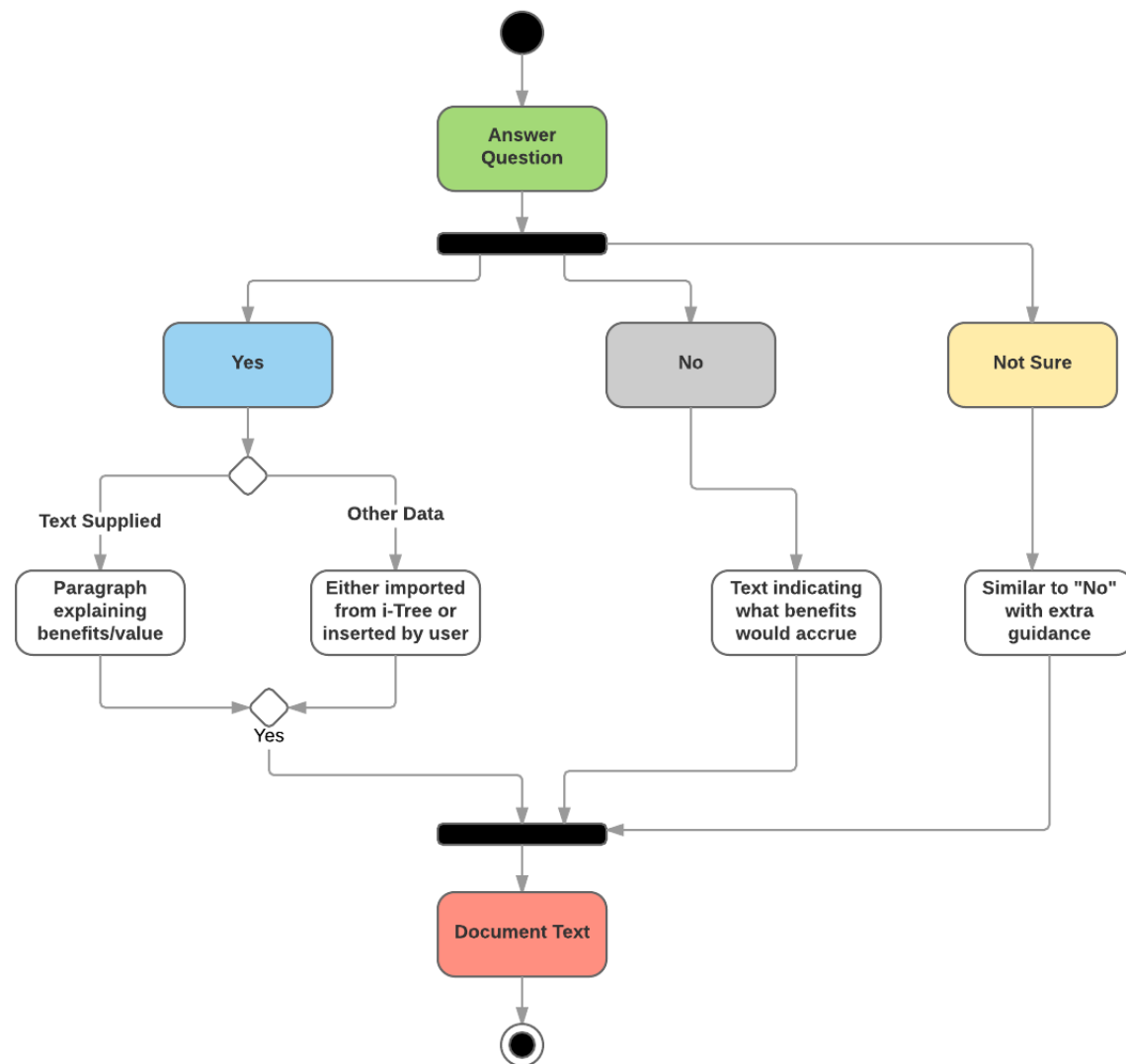
So What is It?

A detailed questionnaire which enables you to characterize your community, and how it manages its trees.

Our current urban tree canopy covers this % of our community:	Type Here:
I can't locate these figures and/or to my knowledge, they don't exist:	■
Does your community maintain an inventory of street-side and road-side trees:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
Has a comprehensive plan ["comp" plan] been adopted for your community?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
If yes, are there specific provisions that deal with <u>your</u> community's water resources?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
If there <u>are</u> provisions that deal with water resources, do they call for use of green infrastructure to help implement the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
Is your community part of a regional planning organization?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure



How Does it Work?





The Answers

Why It's Important to Know Your Canopy Cover. Trees have long been deemed an essential part of the urban landscape. At the end of the 19th century, advocates praised the cooling, calming effect of trees and noted that their interlocked canopy created healthier neighborhoods. By the late 20th century and into the 21st we learned how to measure and quantify these benefits and more, and to assess their monetary value to the community.

If No or Not Sure, ADD: Because we need to know where to start – and more important, what we stand to gain – we should develop at least a rough estimate of both the extent of our tree canopy and the services it provides to our residents.

Street Tree Inventory. A street tree inventory enables us to plan periodic inspections, check for pests and disease, remove hazardous trees and reduce liability.

If No or Not Sure, ADD: Without one, we're stuck in a reactive mode, fixing problems as they're reported – often spending more to accomplish less.



The Answers

A Comprehensive Plan Will Help Us Make Better Decisions. The comprehensive plan – sometimes called a general plan or master plan – is the foundation policy document for local governments. They’re called “comprehensive” because they address many different community concerns – from land use and transportation to school boundaries and public health. These kinds of plans help guide specific policy decisions for a decade or more, and define the relationship between the built and natural environments.

If Yes, ADD: Urban forestry touches many different aspects of our community and our residents’ lives; in fact, good, or better urban forestry programs will help us meet many of our most important environmental, economic, public health objectives. Our community’s comprehensive plan gives full consideration to the benefits of urban forestry.

If No or Not Sure, ADD: Urban forestry touches many different aspects of our community and our residents’ lives; in fact, good, or better urban forestry programs will help us meet many of our most important environmental, economic, public health objectives. As we develop or refine our comprehensive plan, we should assure that planners fully understand how urban forestry initiatives can help accomplish their goals.



Save, Share, Produce

Trees & Stormwater (beta)

KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY ▾IMPLEMENT ▾MONITOR AND MAINTAIN ▾RESOURCE LIBRARYDOCUMENT BUILDER

Q

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Trees and Stormwater

The Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) and its team of national partners are developing a guide for local



Know Your Community

Implement

Search

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Excerpts from a “Built Document



Region:

Great Lakes

This region is characterized by cold winters and warm to hot humid summers. Heavy precipitation can fall anytime of the year but occurs most often in the spring and summer. Snow is common in the winter with heavy accumulations in the northern portions of the region especially the narrow bands on the eastern south eastern shores of the great lakes. This region is home to the world's largest supply of liquid fresh water. Precipitation range 30 – 50 inches annually.

Urban Forestry in Your Community

With our urban forestry master plan, we can identify the benefits we get from trees, and make certain that these benefits are equitably distributed. Developing an urban forestry master plan can assure we maximize the benefits from our urban forests, expand them to areas that need more trees, and focus our resources – now and in the future – on sustaining our forests, not reacting to threats.

An urban forestry master plan would help identify opportunities to assure healthy trees on both public and private lands, and assure that the community [including the owners] accrue all the benefits these trees deliver – energy savings, stormwater management, cleaner air, and others.

- Covers all sections
- Text correlated to answers from questionnaire
- Can be edited off-line
- Images, maps, charts and tables can be added
- Exportable



What's Covered

Urban Forestry in Your Community

- Planning
- Maintenance needs, including long-term
- Staff, training and credentials
- Tree Canopy assessment
- Risk management

The Value of Urban Forestry

- Stormwater flow and pollutant reduction
- Co-benefits that multiply the value of urban trees

Characteristics of Your Urban Forests

- Current tree canopy percentage
- Street tree inventory
- Relationship to other municipal and regional plans
- Use of green infrastructure practices

Stormwater Ordinances

- Public and private property
- Extent of mandated green infrastructure practices
- Familiarity of staff, contractors and other stakeholders with ordinances
- Involvement by urban forestry staff in developing ordinances

Make Trees Part of Your Plan



They Make ALL the Difference



For More Information...

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Council of Governments

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