

ADVANTAGES OF A STATEWIDE INVENTORY: **Top 5 Benefits**

A statewide tree inventory provides essential data that helps state and local governments make informed decisions about urban forestry management, prioritize funding, and plan for climate resilience. By tracking tree species, health, and trends across communities, states can identify risks, optimize resources, and set effective policies. This unified approach also strengthens budget requests, supports grant applications, and builds public and legislative support for urban forestry initiatives.

1



Informed Decision-Making:

A tree inventory provides essential data on tree location, condition, and species, which is crucial for effective management and planning at both state and local levels. This data-driven approach allows for better resource allocation and targeted interventions.

2



Climate-Smart Tree Selection

With climate change impacting tree health, a statewide inventory helps track species survivability, guiding the selection of climate-resilient trees for future planting initiatives.

3



Trend Identification

Statewide inventories facilitate the identification of widespread trends, such as monocultures or the impacts of climate change, enabling proactive measures to address these issues across different communities.

4



Resource Optimization

For states with limited resources, a statewide tree inventory promotes networking and information sharing among communities. This collaborative environment allows them to learn from each other's successes and failures, maximizing the impact of available resources.

5



Enhanced Community Support

A unified state application can help local communities by providing storytelling support through tree statistics and ecosystem benefits that strengthen budget requests and build buy-in from government leadership.

“A tree inventory is a crucial tool when asking the city government to spend money on trees. In most cases, one is not dealing with biologists and natural resource specialists. Charts and maps showing risk are a straightforward tool to show the urgency of the public safety problem. It also helps leadership understand the scale of funding required to mitigate the risk.”

Shannon Atencio, New Mexico Urban and Community Forestry Program

“Communities don’t exist in a bubble. A state application allows you to see trends across more than just a city. You can look at species diversity at the metropolitan scale, not just within the municipality. Climate change works across boundaries, so having tree data, in a unified format, across boundaries helps.”

Dan Buckler, Urban Forest Assessment Specialist, Wisconsin DNR



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