


# Plant trees



*This action was featured in October 2011.*

Bettering our water and air, increasing property value, fighting global warming, and making our streets safer, trees have a huge impact on our city. According to Tree Pittsburgh, for every **\$1** spent on our municipal forestry program, Pittsburgh receives **\$2.94** in benefits, paying us back over **\$2.4 million annually**.

## Join us in hugging some trees

Here are some real reasons to hug trees, courtesy of our buds at Tree Pittsburgh:

Trees make Pittsburgh even cooler.

Summer days at 90+ degrees brought us sizzling streets and overworked air conditioners. Street trees cool the city with nice leafy shade and transpired water vapor. Trees also cool the planet as they absorb and lock up carbon dioxide. **Overall, Pittsburgh's trees reduce our energy costs by over \$1.2 million and the heat-trapping gases they absorb saves taxpayers \$35,000 annually.**

Trees clean our air.

Hot weather and air pollution are an unsafe combination for our lungs. Trees can play a big part in making our air healthier. Leaves take in dust and air pollutants like ozone, carbon monoxide, and sulfur dioxide in exchange for nice clean oxygen.

Trees suck up storm water.

Pittsburgh gets a good bit of rain. Our sewers and rivers have a hard time dealing with all of that water, especially when water runs quickly over paved surfaces straight into the sewer. Trees help to slow everything down and filter storm water.

Find tree tending, mulching, and planting opportunities with these outstanding groups:

[Tree Pittsburgh](#)

[The Western PA Conservancy](#)

[Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy](#)

CO2 savings per year: **8.6 pounds**

