



Center for Urban Forest Research

U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station

News Brief

Winter
2008

If you would like to receive our news briefs in the future, sign up [here](#).
This news brief can also be viewed online [here](#).



We've moved!

In November we took up residence in a new building with our Forest Service colleagues. You can reach us at:

Center for Urban Forest Research
PSW, USDA Forest Service
1731 Research Park Dr.
Davis, CA 95618
Phone: 530.759.1726
Fax: 530.759.1409

You're cordially invited to attend our Open House on February 27th from 3 to 7. If you can attend, please RSVP to Kelaine Vargas at kvargas@fs.fed.us by noon on February 22. Otherwise, feel free to stop by and see our new home when you're in the area!



California Urban Forestry Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocol

Work on the protocols continues! For more information on this timely project, read the [project summary](#) [PDF 77 kB]. The first draft is currently being reviewed by our Steering Committee. On March 12, we will present the draft to our Technical Advisory Committee and Stakeholders in a webcast. If you're interested in joining us for the webcast and serving on our the stakeholder committee, please contact Kelaine Vargas at kvargas@fs.fed.us.



STRATUM: New Tree Guides and New City Analyses

For those who live in the [Interior West](#) or the [Northeast](#), we have released the latest in our series of Community Tree Guides. These peer-reviewed publications provide regionally based information and quantification of the many benefits that trees provide. They offer help adapting the data to fit your city's circumstances and suggest ways to maximize benefits through strategic planting.

Our newest [municipal forest resource analysis](#) [PDF 1.2 MB] provides an indepth study of the urban forest of Honolulu. The majestic and colorful trees of Hawaii's capital city are providing residents with nearly a 300% return on investment, offering approximately \$2.98 in benefits for every \$1 spent to care for them!

Are you using STRATUM to study your city's urban forest? We would love to hear from you! Tell us about how you used STRATUM to calculate the ecosystem services your trees are providing and to better understand the structure, function, and value of your urban forest. If you have a STRATUM story, contact us at kvargas@fs.fed.us. If you would like to use STRATUM to analyze your urban forest, you can download it without cost at www.treetools.org.



San Francisco Bay Area State of the Urban Forest

We've just released [our study](#) [PDF 2.6 MB] of the urban tree canopy of the San Francisco Bay area. The report had three goals: (1) to describe the historic changes to the region's urban canopy cover and amount of impervious surface, (2) to quantify the value of ecosystem services the current forest provides, and (3) to estimate future benefits based on possible expansion of the urban forest. It's full of interesting information for Bay area residents and anyone who would like to know more about the benefits of trees. For a brief review of the main points, see our [one-page summary](#) [PDF 0.5 MB], "Past, present and future: the urban forest of the San Francisco Bay area."



Why Shade Streets? The Unexpected Benefit

We would all prefer to walk down a tree-lined street to one without trees, but did you know that the street itself prefers to run under trees? Our research comparing streets with and without trees found that shaded roads require significantly less maintenance and can save up to 60% of repaving costs over 30 years. Read our latest [research summary](#) [PDF 3.2 MB] for more information.



Awards

We're pleased to announce that Jim Simpson, CUFR's forest meteorologist, was recognized with two awards last year. This summer the Western Chapter of the International Society for Arboriculture presented Dr. Simpson with the Award for Arboricultural Research for "providing significant gains in knowledge for policy makers, urban foresters, arborists, and others concerned with maximizing benefits from urban forest landscapes." In the fall, the California Urban Forest Council presented the Durrell Maugh Founders Award to Dr. Simpson in recognition of his contribution to education. Congratulations Jim!



Engineered Soils

Dr. Qingfu Xiao, our hydrologist from UC Davis, is collaborating with scientists at Cornell University and Virginia Tech to study the impacts of different kinds of engineered soils on stormwater runoff. In the first stage of the project, Dr. Xiao compared his engineered soil ("UC Davis soil") with two other soils—Cornell soil and Carolina Stalite—in laboratory tests. You can read the results of those tests [here](#) [PDF 0.3 MB]. In the second phase, the three soils will be tested in field installations for their ability to capture pollutants and to store rainwater. You can read more about the first installation, in a parking lot on the UC Davis campus, in our [one-page summary](#) [PDF 1.5 MB].

For more information on these and other urban forestry projects, please visit our website at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/>

Links

News Brief online:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/12/psw_cufr729_winter2008NewsBrief.pdf

Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocol project summary:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/psw_cufr695_GHG_protocols_summary.pdf

Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocol website:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/protocols.shtml>

Northeast Community Tree Guide:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr202/

Interior West Community Tree Guide:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr205/

Honolulu Municipal Forest Resource Analysis:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/2/psw_cufr724_HNL_MFRA.pdf

San Francisco Bay Area State of the Urban Forest:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/2/psw_cufr719_SFBay.pdf

SF Bay Study Summary, "Past, present and future: the urban forest of the San Francisco Bay area."

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/psw_cufr725_SFCanopyCoverSumm.pdf

Why Shade Streets?:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/cufr_673_WhyShadeStreets_10-06.pdf

Pollutant Removal and Runoff Storage Testing of Three Engineered Soils

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/psw_cufr727_EngineeredSoilsPoster.pdf

Engineered Soil, Trees and Stormwater Runoff: the UC Davis Parking Lot Project

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/psw_cufr686_UCDParkingLot.pdf
