

DCRC25-153 Tree Canopy Goals

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Landscaping, Screening, Buffering and Fences – DDC Subsection 7.7.2 Intent

A. **The intent of these regulations is to achieve and maintain an average minimum of 30 percent tree canopy coverage citywide** from preserved trees and newly planted trees, and to promote a multi-aged urban forest. Specifically, to achieve the city's goal of a city-wide average tree canopy cover of at least 30 percent, **the following goals are established for specific areas of the city based upon the unique ecoregions** present in different areas of the city:

1. For areas **east of the Interstate 35/Interstate 35-W corridor**, where the Cross Timbers ecoregions is more prevalent, the minimum canopy goal shall be **40 percent coverage**.
2. For areas **west of the Interstate 35/Interstate 35-W corridor**, where the Grand Prairie ecoregion is more prevalent, the minimum canopy goal shall be **20 percent coverage**.

B. **These regulations are intended to promote the functional distribution of that canopy throughout various land uses** as development occurs **through a combination of planting and retention goals** and requirements for tree canopy cover.



A safe and healthy urban forest

- Goal 1: Efficiently manage the community tree resource.
- Goal 2: Promote tree health and good structure.
- Goal 3: Mitigate and reduce risk of wildfire.

Primary Objectives:

- Improve understanding of the structure and composition of Denton's community tree resource.
- Following completion of a tree inventory, develop pruning and maintenance cycles.
- Continue to use planting funds successfully.
- Explore the feasibility of the City taking responsibility for the maintenance of community trees in neighborhoods.
- Revise policies and standards for pruning young trees to promote healthy growth and structure.
- Ensure community trees are maintained according to industry standards to promote tree health, longevity, and also public safety.
- Contribute to a fire safe community.




Sustain environmental benefits

- Goal 4: Recognize trees as green infrastructure.
- Goal 5: Promote tree preservation and protection.
- Goal 6: Develop a City-wide planting plan.
- Goal 7: Adopt Plant Health Care (PHC) policies.

Primary Objectives:

- Minimize the encroachment of other utilities.
- Develop maintenance and design strategies for mitigating conflict with otherwise healthy trees.
- Ensure design standards adequately consider trees.
- Revise and amend the Code of Ordinances to promote the protection of community trees.
- Continue to contribute mitigation fees to the Tree Fund.
- Mitigate the impacts of development on native post oak stands.
- Educate the community about their role in maintaining a safe urban forest.
- Achieve 40% canopy cover by 2040.
- Promote species diversity in the urban forest.
- Encourage equitable distribution of tree canopy across the City.
- Set emphasis on planting the right tree in the right place.
- Encourage the expansion of the urban forest through tree plantings on private property.
- Support stormwater management through the strategic growth of canopy.
- Monitor invasive species.



Engage the community to ensure the future of the urban forest

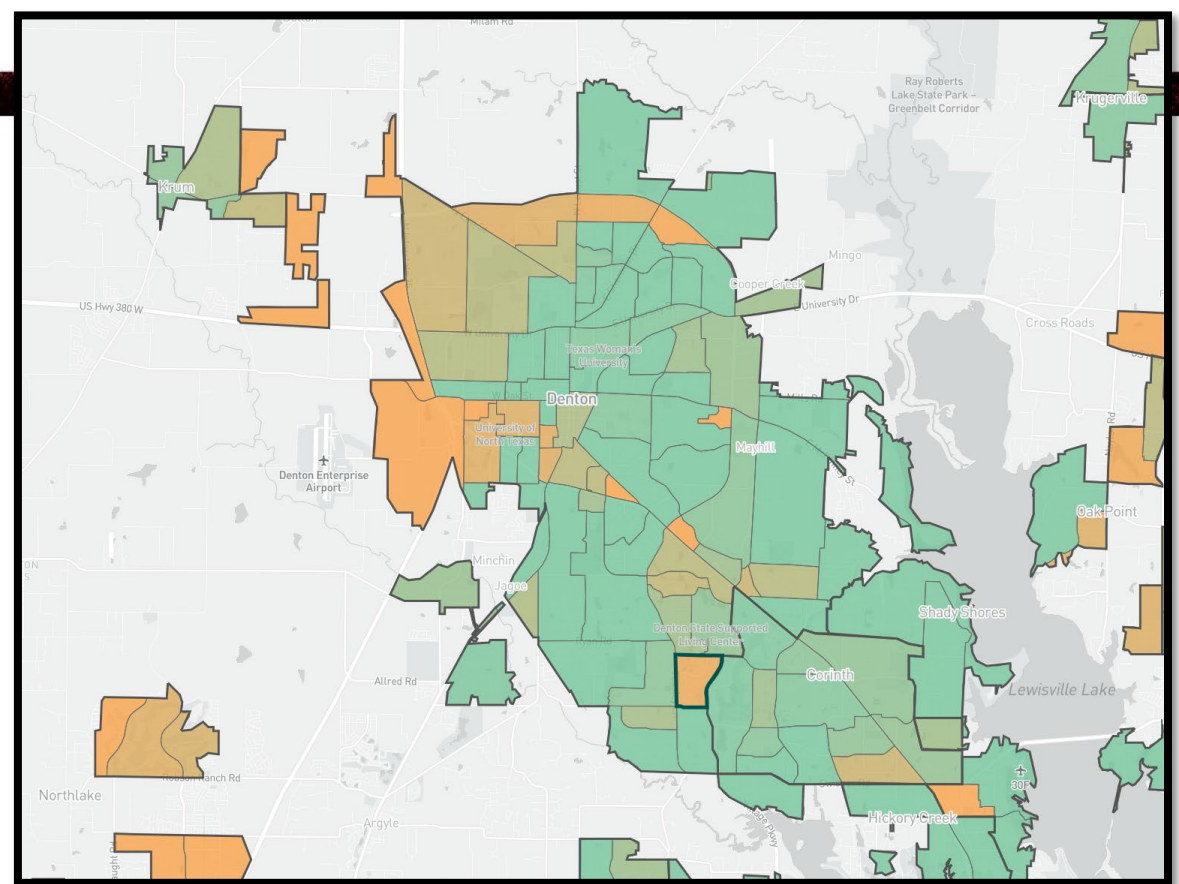
- Goal 8: Support community engagement and stewardship of the urban forest.
- Goal 9: Celebrate the importance of urban trees.

Primary Objectives:

- Develop and maintain a web page for the Urban Forestry Division on the City website.
- Interact with community members through a variety of outlets.
- Maintain Tree City USA.

Tree Equity Scores

Tree Equity Score measures how well the critical benefits of urban tree canopy are reaching those who need them most. The score establishes an equity-first standard to guide investment in communities.



Tree Equity Score combines information from a variety of sources to create a single measure from 0 to 100. The lower the score, the greater the need for investment.



TREE CANOPY



BUILDING DENSITY



INCOME & EMPLOYMENT



RACE



SURFACE TEMPERATURE



HEALTH



LANGUAGE



AGE

Landscaping, Screening, Buffering and Fences – DDC Subsection 7.7.2 Intent

A. The intent of these regulations is to help support the City's tree canopy goals as outlined in the Urban Forest Master plan through ~~achieve and maintain an average minimum of 30 percent tree canopy coverage citywide from~~ preserved trees and newly planted trees, and to promote a multi-aged urban forest. ~~Specifically, to achieve the city's goal of a city-wide average tree canopy cover of at least 30 percent, the following goals are established for specific areas of the city based upon the unique ecoregions present in different areas of the city:~~

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Questions?