



# What has the TREE Fund done for you?

TREE Fund research impacts industry best practices, workforce safety and the long-term sustainability of our communities. Here's how:

## Improving Tree Growth & Survival

Best practices for growing strong, healthy landscape trees have evolved with better understanding of the impact of planting depth, root ball management, soil mixtures, and paving technology. The development of hardier, drought- and disease-resistant species offers significant environmental and economic advantages to municipalities seeking to expand and/or safeguard the health of their urban canopies and commercial arborists serving urban clients.



## Stopping Diseases & Pests while Reducing Pesticide Use

Studies of the life cycles, migration patterns and damage potential of emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, bark beetles and other pests help to support informed decision-making by municipal, commercial and consulting arborists. The evolution of effective integrated pest management programs (which take advantage of a tree's natural characteristics and surroundings to fight pests and diseases) has resulted in significant reductions in pesticide use (90-95% at some companies).



## Improving Public & Workforce Safety

The safety of those who live, work and play near trees depends on a better understanding of tree biomechanics—the study of why, where, and how trees are most likely to fail. Tree risk assessment has become more exact, incorporating findings from studies such as how pruning can affect wind loads on trees to how trees move when subjected to stressors. Public safety and electric service reliability also benefit from informed assessments of trees with potential to cause property damage, electrical outages, or wildfires.

## Quantifying the Benefits of Trees

Calculating the benefits of trees to the economy and environment makes it easier for governments and businesses to project their return on tree care investment. Studies have addressed air pollution reduction, the urban heat island effect and real estate values, to name a few.

## Connecting Youth with Nature

The TREE Fund offers arboriculture education grants to promote a love of nature and encourage environmental stewardship in the next generation. Recent recipients include the Greening of Detroit, which delivers year-round, hands-on environmental education to 5th-6th graders in Detroit's urban schools. Kansas City Rotary Youth Camp's *Canopy Access for All* program enables campers with special needs to experience the thrill of being in a tree high above the ground, helping them connect with nature and build self-esteem and confidence.



Learn more at [www.treefund.org](http://www.treefund.org)

