

BENEFITS OF THE URBAN FOREST
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SAFER

Social, Aesthetic, Functional, Economic, Recreational Benefits of the Urban Forest

Social

- Parks and landscaped areas provide opportunity for mental and spiritual rejuvenation.
- Patients recover more quickly in hospital beds overlooking wooded landscapes.
- Office parks with landscaping have more productive workers.
- A recent study shows that girls exposed to green landscapes at home score higher on tests of concentration and self discipline.

Aesthetic

- Trees provide beautiful scenery, color, flowers, shade, filtered light, wildlife, enhancement to architectural elements.

Functional

- The urban forest provides shade/light reflection, and deflection, sound absorption, heat reduction, erosion control, wind control, heat reduction, wildlife habitat, particulate matter absorption, storm water mitigation, energy conservation, carbon sequestration, absorption of pollutants from groundwater and air (phyto remediation).

Economic

- The urban forest/wooded landscapes.
- Increase property values by up to 15%.
- Reduce energy consumption by the cooling effect.
- Due to storm water retention, reduce the requirement of having storm water retention ponds .

Recreational

- Parks and forest preserves provide desirable places for out doors activities –camping, jogging, hiking, picnicking, nature study, bird watching.

References:

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