



Growing Tree Canopy in Brooklyn Community District 11

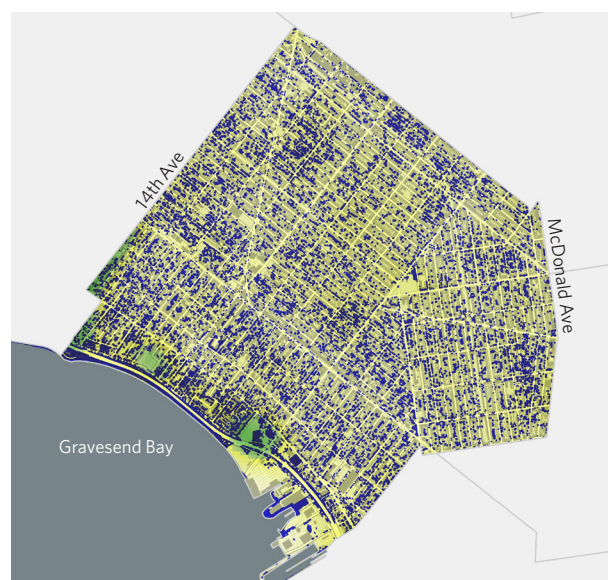
Because trees can improve all New Yorkers' quality of life

Is there space for new trees in your Community District?

Yes! There IS space for new trees!

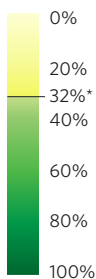
We estimated 15.8% of the land area in Brooklyn Community District 11, mostly on private property, could be home to new trees and their canopy. However, opportunities to expand canopy are not distributed equally. Many areas lacking vegetation currently have limited space for more, largely due to a history of discriminatory policies, such as redlining, which often resulted in dense development at the expense of people of color and immigrant communities. Addressing this can require major landscape changes like removing pavement to create space for new plantings. As such options are considered, it is critical that community members' wants and needs are prioritized.

Tree canopy is the
layer of tree leaves
and branches that
cover the ground from
a bird's eye view.



● Estimated opportunity
for new canopy

% vegetation in a
200 meter radius



*threshold for cooling benefits.
Find resources on this through the
QR code below.

Estimated opportunity for new canopy, based on analysis by The Nature Conservancy, overlaid with vegetation distribution data (2017), based on analysis developed with the NYC Environmental Justice Alliance as part of the Just Nature NYC partnership. Basemap derived from Esri Human Geography basemap.

Learn about tree
canopy citywide
and its benefits on
the next page

Learn more!



Community District Canopy Facts

Brooklyn Community District 11 ranks

53 of 59 Community Districts citywide

17 of 18 in Brooklyn

11.7% of land is covered by tree canopy

1.9% increase in canopy cover (2010 to 2017)

67.4% of canopy is over City-owned lands

59.0% of canopy is specifically over
sidewalks and roads

Protecting and caring for trees is critical to expanding our canopy. Most trees on City-owned land (including street trees and those in City parks) fall under the jurisdiction of NYC Parks, which has strict permit requirements for tree removal. Protection of other trees on City-owned land varies by agency. Caring for trees helps keep them healthy and increases their benefits, like absorbing stormwater and cooling us on hot days—especially important in the face of climate change.

Working Together for Our Canopy

You can support the equitable expansion of canopy by considering trees as the essential, interconnected part of the city's fabric that they are. When community wants, needs, and concerns are centered in combination with thoughtful planning and ongoing investment in the urban forest, trees and their canopy can promote thriving communities, help safeguard public health, and even contribute to local employment opportunities.

Work collectively to help ensure everyone benefits from a growing canopy:

- **Talk to your neighbors about where you want more trees**
- **Learn how to care for trees with a stewardship group**
- **Engage with your Community Board on local changes you want to see**
- **Urge your legislators to support tree-friendly policies and funding**

Why Tree Canopy in NYC?

Expanding canopy cover equitably will help all New Yorkers face climate change

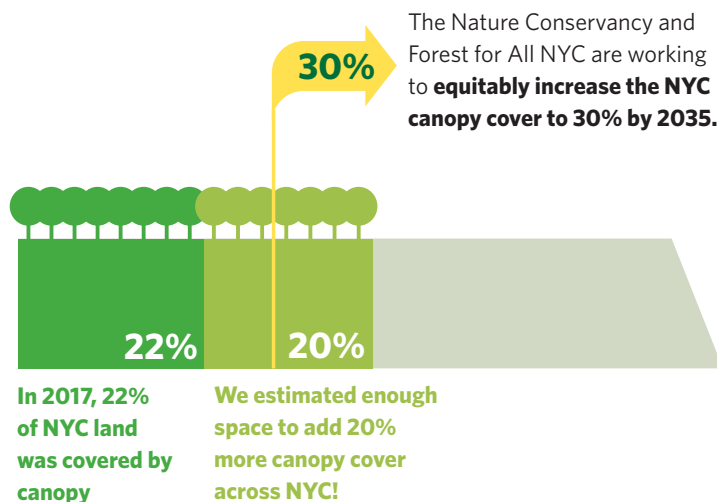
Tree Canopy: A Vital Part of the Urban Forest

Tree canopy, the layer of tree leaves and branches that cover the ground from a bird's eye view, is just one part of the *urban forest*. The NYC urban forest also includes the over 7 million individual trees across public and private property that contribute to the canopy, and the associated soil and biodiversity, people such as those who care and advocate for trees, and relevant policy and funding. **We can all be part of the urban forest.**

Canopy Benefits

Tree canopy and the broader urban forest support the city in countless ways. Keeping trees healthy and expanding canopy helps maximize the benefits, while minimizing potential risks. As storms and deadly heat waves increase with climate change, the urban forest is critical for minimizing impacts on New Yorkers. **Trees will take care of us if we take care of them!**

NYC Canopy Facts



Key settings where we can think about trees and their canopy include:

Public rights of way: streets, sidewalks, parkways, highways, and roadway medians.

Forested natural areas: complex ecosystems with unique soils, microorganisms, and various flora and fauna, in addition to the humans who live near, visit, and manage these spaces.

Landscaped areas: actively managed areas of facilities and institutions, such as public housing, schools, hospitals, cemeteries, and parks.

Private lands: one-to-three family homes with yards, multi-family properties, and commercial businesses (industrial, manufacturing, etc.).

Is a home for many types of life, like migrating animals that link us to forests around the world

Cools the air and provides shade on hot days

Helps reduce flooding and keep our harbor clean during storms

Captures air pollutants like particulate matter, dust, and smoke

Encourages people to spend time outdoors, improving health and wellbeing

Learn about tree canopy in your Community District on the next page

Learn More!

