

i-Tree Streets: Inventorying and Assessing Street Tree Populations

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Acknowledgements

- City of Springfield for hosting this workshop
 - ➤ Ed Casey and Alex Sherman
- Al Zelaya, Davey Tree Expert Company
- Northern Tree Service

Thank you!

The New Hork Times nytimes.com

April 18, 2007

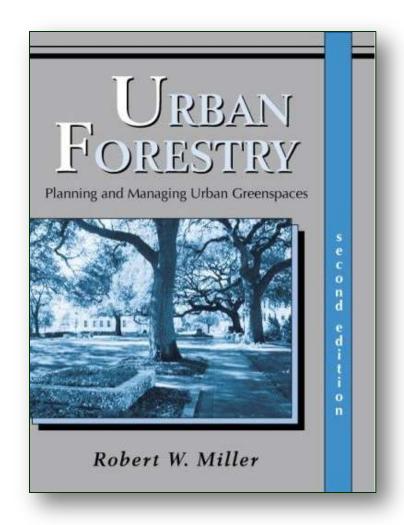
Maybe Only God Can Make a Tree, but Only People Can Put a Price on It

- Public health
- Energy conservation
- Storm water mgt.
- Pollution mitigation
- Carbon strategies
- Climate change
- Green job creation...



Improving Management Decision Making

The primary objective of a good street management plan should be to maximize public benefits from street trees and to minimize public expense in achieving these benefits"



i-Tree Streets: Information for Better Tree Management

Input:

- > Conduct new inventory
- ➤ Sample street segment inventory (3-6%)
- Or import an existing inventory data
- > Price adjustments, mgmt. costs

• Output:

> Graphs, charts, tables

Benefit:

➤ Baseline data to more effectively manage & advocate for the street tree resource

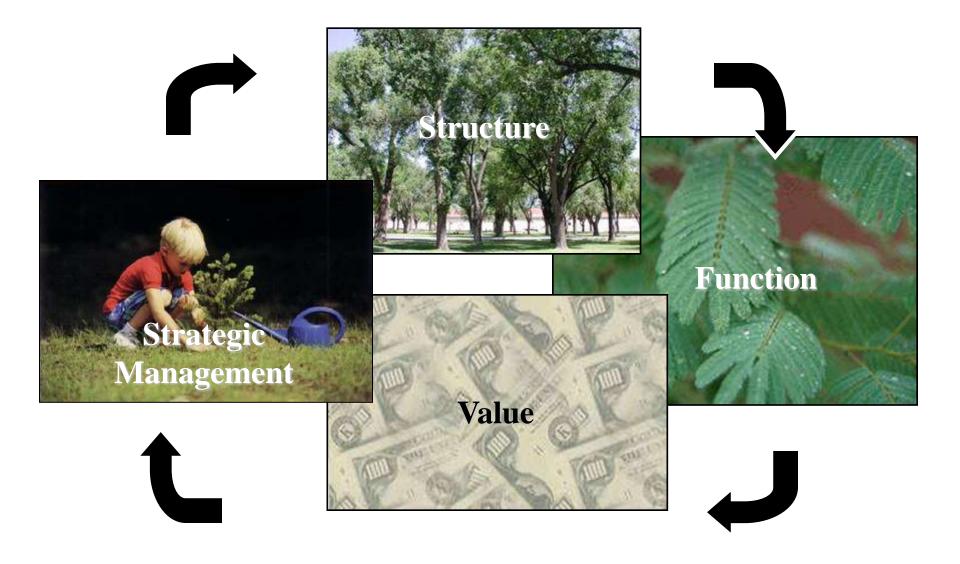


What makes Streets different?

- Street trees, not entire urban forest
- Costs, not only benefits
- Management tool, not only for advocacy
- Tree inventory-based, not GIS
- Answers the question: do the accrued benefits of street trees outweigh the cost of their management?



Benefit-Based Approach



Assessing Street Tree Populations

Streets assesses:

- > Structure
- > Function
 - ✓ Energy
 - ✓ Air pollution
 - √ Stormwater *
 - ✓ Carbon
 - ✓ Aesthetic Value *
- > Value
- ➤ Management needs *
- Pest Detection*
 Module (Beta)



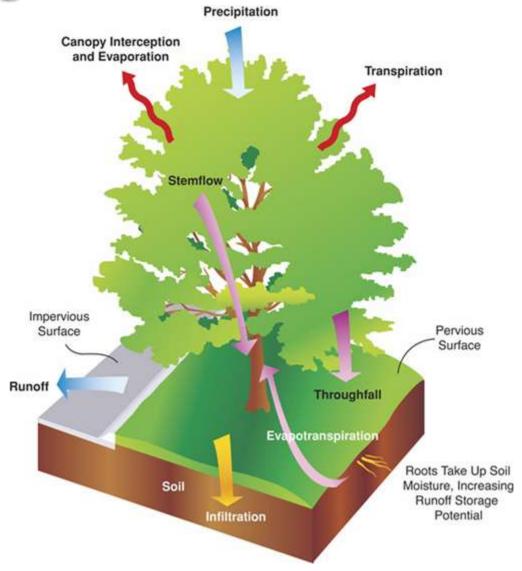
Conserving Energy



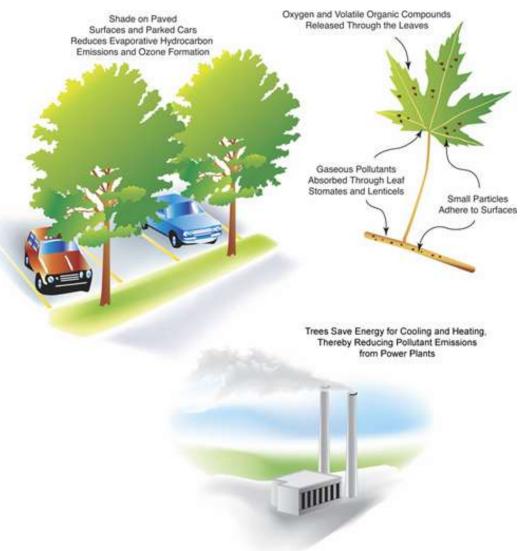
Reducing Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide



Reducing Stormwater Runoff



Improving Air Quality



Aesthetic and Other Benefits



Streets Background & Methods

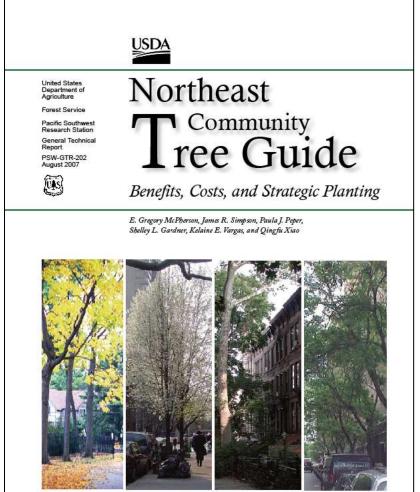
To demonstrate new ways that trees add value quality of life - to communities.

> Center for Urban Forest Research USDA Forest Service PSW Research Station

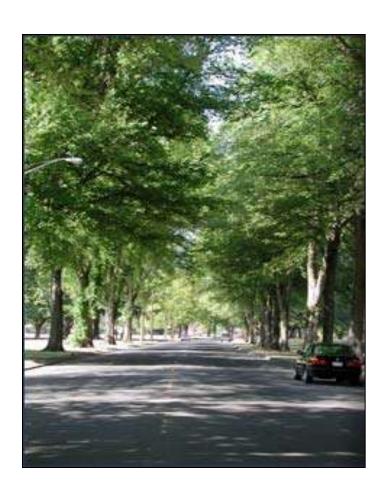


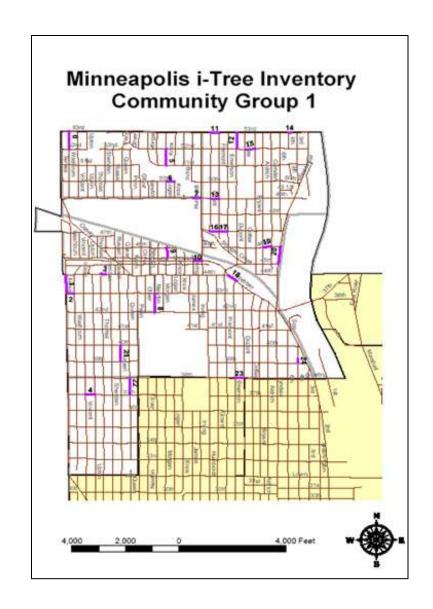
Streets Foundation: Reference City Research

Regional Tree Guide studies to develop growth models of representative street trees and their dimensions as a basis for Benefit-Cost Analysis.



Sample Based Assessment





Street Segment Example



Research Process—Functional Analysis

- Models use structural data – (size at various ages).
- To determine magnitude of annual benefits:
 - Energy saved
 - ➤ Atmospheric CO₂ reduction
 - > Air pollutants removed
 - > Rainfall intercepted
 - > Aesthetics & other

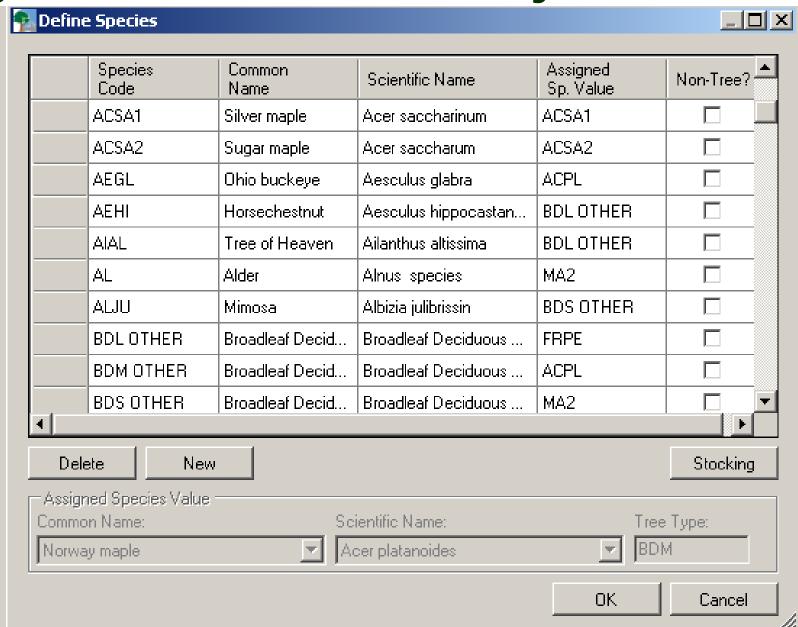


Research Process—Structural Analysis

- Data collection 25 field measurements for each tree
- 900 trees, 20 predominant regional species
 - rown dia., condition, digital photos, foliar biomass samples, etc.
- Calculate leaf area and foliar biomass
- Regression models predict growth.



Regional model with local adjustments



Sweetgum in (3) climate zones at age 40



Inland Empire

Coastal S. CA

Central Valley

What Equipment do you need to use Streets?

- Pentium or compatible 1600Mhz or faster processor
- 512 MB of RAM
- Monitor with resolution at least 800X600
- Hard drive with 500 MB free space
- Windows XP service pack 2 or higher, including Windows 7
- For PDA and external device users: Windows Mobile 5.0 – 6.5 operating system (OS 7 is not currently compatible

Updates Coming!

Summer 2012



- Compatibility for iPhone/iPad/Android
 - ➤ Use a wider variety of mobile devices to conduct your inventory electronically
- Other updates to i-Tree Software suite

Using a GIS device

- Using GPS is optional
- Can use GPS-enabled devices that run on Windows Mobile 5.0 – 6.5 or other compatible devices paired with NMEA Bluetooth or serial GPS
- Trimble Juno SB, Trimble Nomad, Pharos Traveler 525 and MWg Zinc II have been used (Others are available as well)
- Streets may operate slightly differently on different devices

How to Install i-Tree

- Go to www.itreetools.org
- Create an account
- Can download program from site or request a CD
- Follow instructions to run the itree_setup.exe file.
- Select Streets or any other components you would like to download



GENERAL INFORMATION ON TREE INVENTORIES

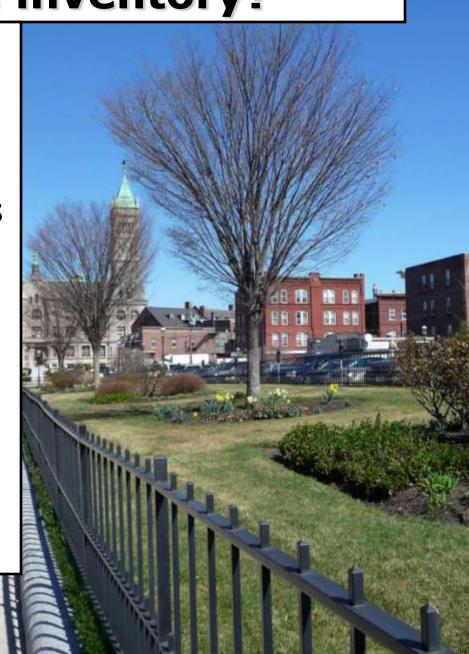
Conducting an Inventory—General Steps



- Define inventory
- Prepare inventory for external device (or paper)
- Conduct inventory in the field
- Import data into i-Tree Streets and analyze data
- Quality check data from the field

Why conduct a tree inventory?

- Justify and leverage funds
- Highlight benefits to public & decision makers
- Plan, prioritize, and budget
- Increase work efficiency
- Benchmark progress
- Build partnerships



Inventory—first steps

- Consider how the inventory will be used
 - ➤ For management?
 - ➤ For planning?
 - ➤ For a specific project
- What is the scope of the inventory?
 - ➤ Complete, partial, sample
- Who will use it?
- Who will manage it?
 - ➤ Keep it updated
 - ➤ How often?

Inventories—Collection Methods

Electronic

- Standardize data collection
- ➤ Quick
- > No need to re-enter data
- > Fewer mistakes
- Equipment costs may be high

Paper

- > Lower equipment cost
- Easy to accommodate surveyors with lowtechnology
- Need to enter information manually



What Information to Collect?

- Tree information
 - >Tree ID, Species, DBH, size, location
- Site information
 - ➤ What type of site? Cutout, lawn, etc.
 - >Land use—residential, commercial, etc.
- Global Information System (GIS) information—addresses or GPS
- Maintenance
 - ➤ Needs, tasks
- Pest information

How to Collect

Hire professional

> Grants may be available

Trained Volunteers

State Urban & Community Forestry Program office may assist with training

Tree Stewards

State Urban & Community Forestry Program office may assist with training



Trained Volunteer Data Collection



City of 60,000 20,000 Trees

3-5% Sample = 600-1,000 trees 4 min / tree = ~50 hrs

4 teams of 3 →
Two 6-hr days + 1 day
training

Typical Resources Needed for Inventory

- Transportation
- Detailed street segment maps
- Project leader (create maps, manage/coordinate volunteers, data upload, quality control)
- Expertise:
 - ✓ Minimal
 - √6-8 hrs training is adequate
 - √Tree ID knowledge desired
- Equipment:
 - ✓DBH tape (tree diameter) or equivalent (e.g., Biltmore stick)
 - ✓ PDAs, Clipboard, GPS, etc.

Using volunteers

- Create a field guide for inventory-takers to use in the field
- Explain data fields
 - ➤ Identify terms with text and pictures
- Standardize assessment



GPS or non-GPS Inventory

- Location information
 - ➤ Can use GPS (Global Positioning System)
 - ✓ External bluetooth GPS unit
 - ✓Internal GPS
 - ➤ Can use addresses
- You may find that you don't need the specific tree point, but that the address will suffice
- In Streets, you can input GPS information or use addresses only

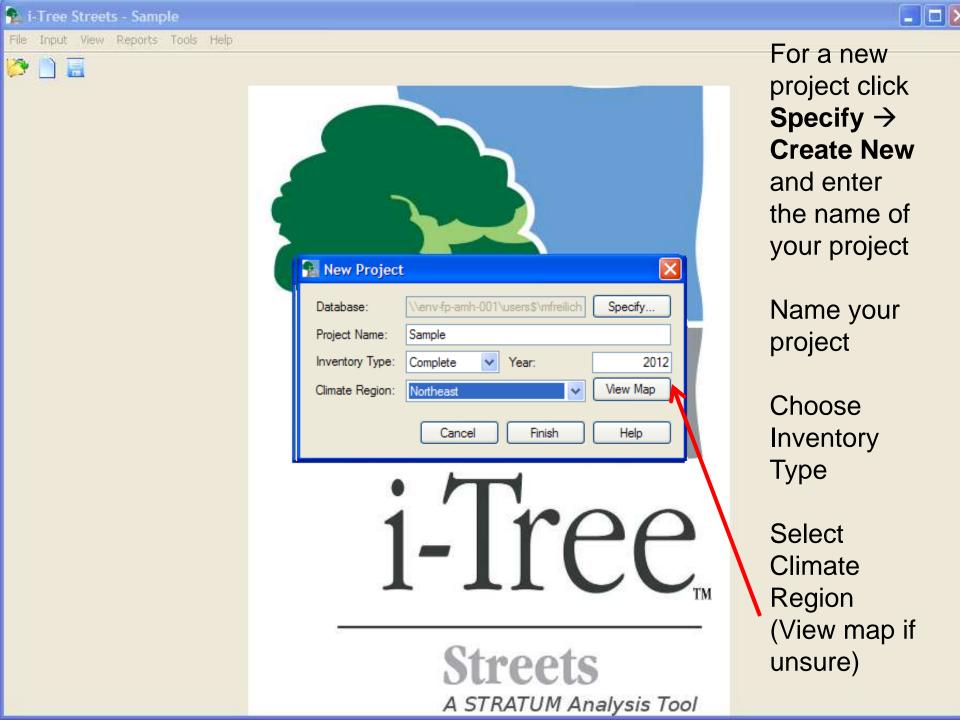


HOW TO SET UP YOUR INVENTORY ON DESKTOP

Streets User Manual

- Covers the steps for completing your inventory in four phases
- Pages 6-21 can help you set up the fields for your inventory
- Streets has a pre-loaded sample project
 File → Open → Sample Project that you can work with to familiarize yourself with Streets

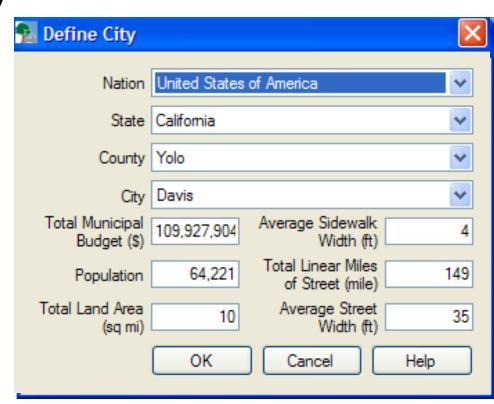




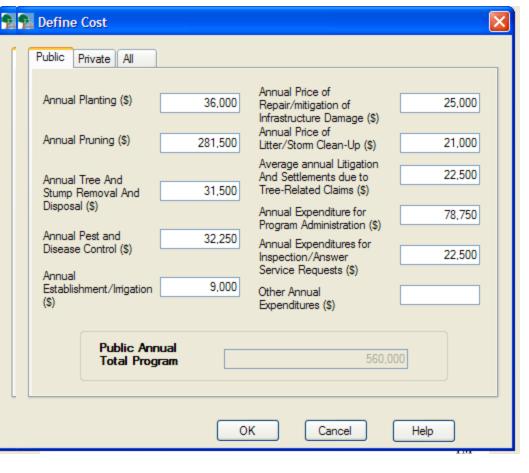
Climate Map i-Tree Streets Climate Zones Perconsa Longview Missoula Bismarck Duluth Montpelle Portland Green Ba Springfield Syracuse Hartford Providence **Coo**y • Rochester Minneapolis Buffalo. Stour Falls Milwatikée New Haven Manison ROCKHOW flew York Satt like of Fort Collins DES MOINES Pittsburgh Indianapolis Wayne Berkeley Philadelphia Columbus Baltimore Lincoln • Modesto Francisco Presno Between St. Louis Louisville Cincinnati Anneas Try Colorado Evansville Lexingto Wichita Bakersfield Greenstong unram Rajolah Springfield Knewille Oxnand Santa CO Claremont Glendale Nashville Oklahema Tulsa Chattanecoa Charlotte Memphis Bunteville Albuquerque Entre Rock San Diego • Charleston Atlanta Phippos Birmingham. Ballas Tuesai Mentechery Columbus Jackson Savannah El aniso Spreveport **J**acksonville Mooth **Passhassee** Reference Cities Austin Houston Baton Rocigle New Orleans Othredo Climate Zones San Antonio Tampa Inland Empire North Corpus Christi Fort Lauderdale Miami Interior West Tropical Temperate Interior West Central Florida Pacific Northwest Coastal Plain Honolulu Inland Valleys South Anchorage Southwest Desert Northeast uneau San Juan Southern California Coast Lower Midwest Northern California Coast Midwest

Define City

- Must enter Nation, State, County, City
- Can enter other information later
- ↑ Simply go back to Input→City
 Information



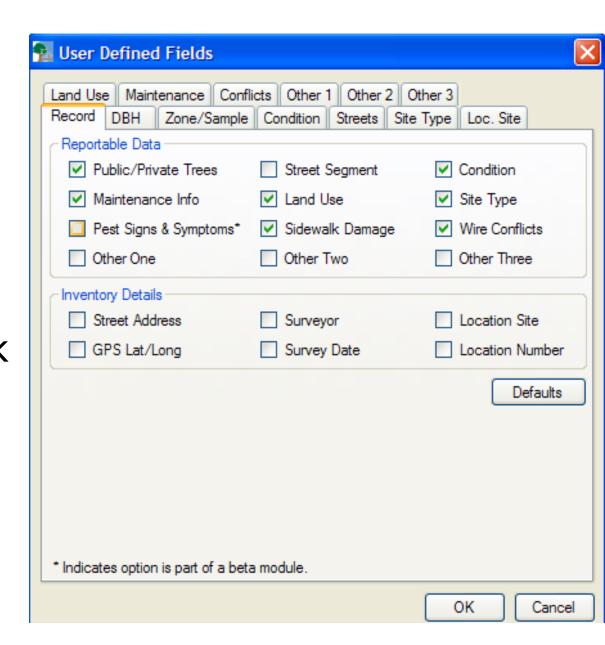
Define Cost



- Can enter this information now or return to it later
- ↑ Input→Annual
 Costs

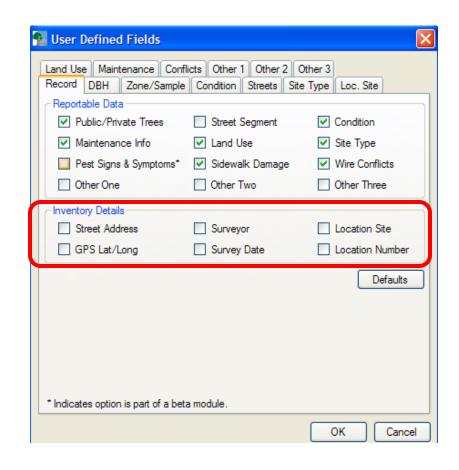
Data Fields

- Customize fields for your inventory for your external device
- Under Records, check boxes for fields you want to include
- Some are checked by default



Inventory Details

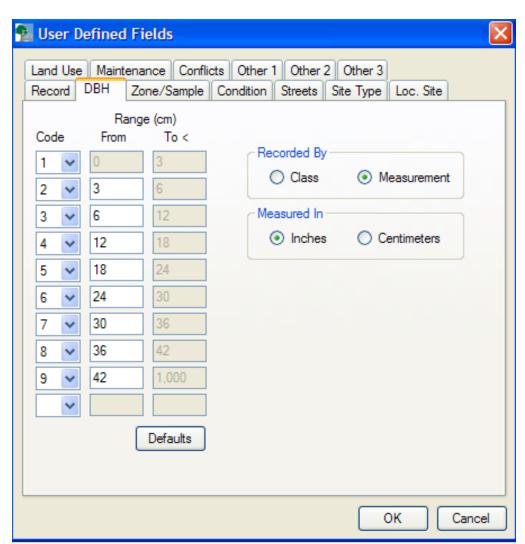
- Location info: Street address or GPS
- Can require login for surveyor and date
- Location site—more specific location information (right, left, front...)
- Location number can distinguish between multiple trees at the same address



If you ever want to return to default values after you have made changes, simply hit the **Defaults** button

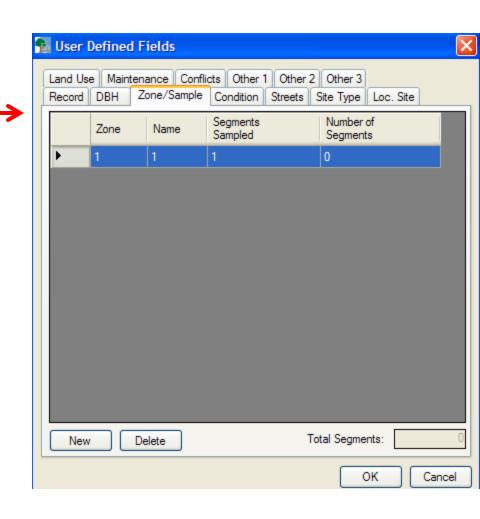
Reportable Data--DBH

- DBH—record by class or specific measurement
- Inches or centimeters

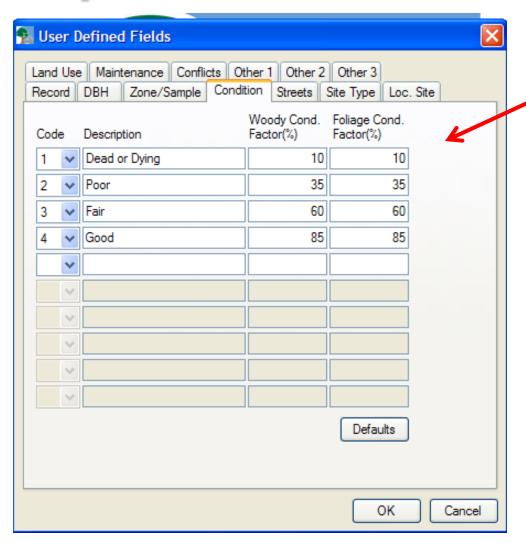


Reportable Data—Zone/Sample

- If you are doing a complete inventory, this field will look like this
- You can enter neighborhoods into the Name field under Zone/Sample
- Otherwise, you will enter information for your sample inventory
- (We will not cover sample inventories here)



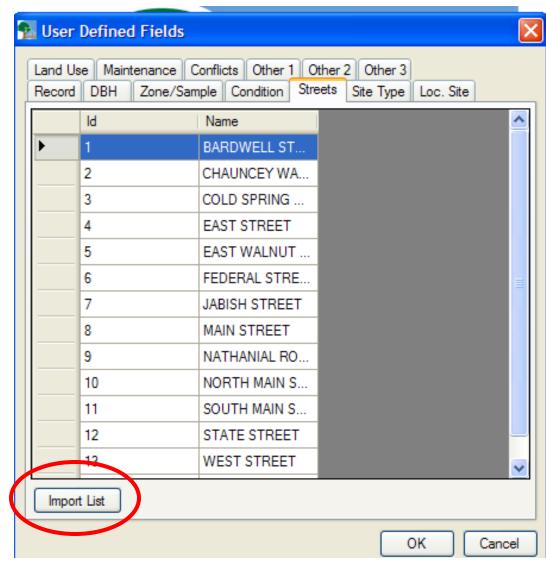
Reportable Data—Condition



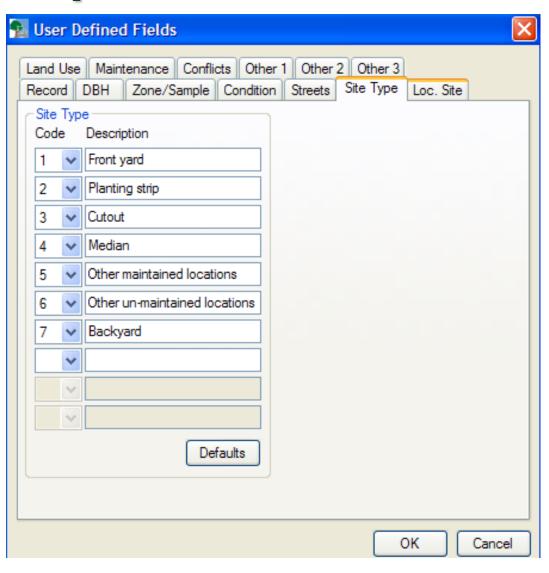
- Can use the defaults
- Or customize
- The numbers represent the Replacement Factor Percent, a number used in calculating the replacement value of trees

Reportable Data—Streets

- Import list of streets in .txt file from Microsoft Excel
- P Be sure to alphabetize your list before you import



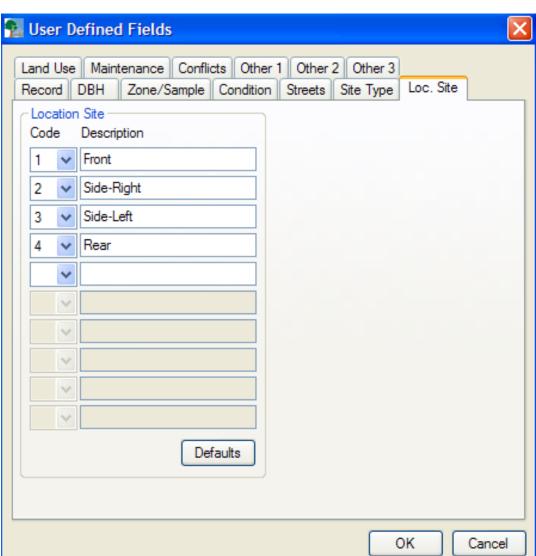
Reportable Data—Site Type



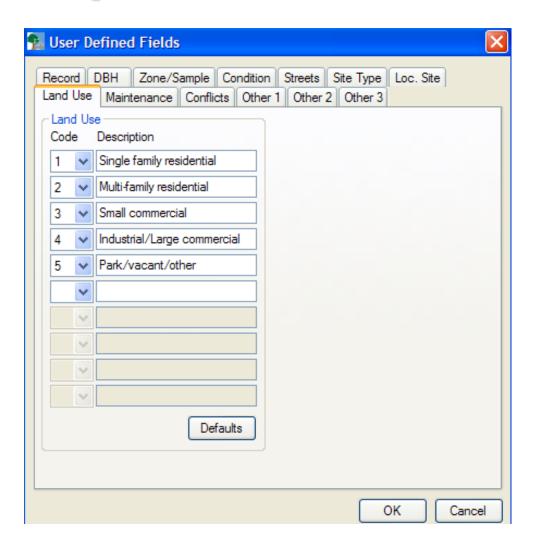
- Default list available
- The immediate area where the tree is planted
- Modify to include other areas...raised planter, lawn, etc.

Reportable Data—Loc. Site

- Specific location descriptors
- Optional



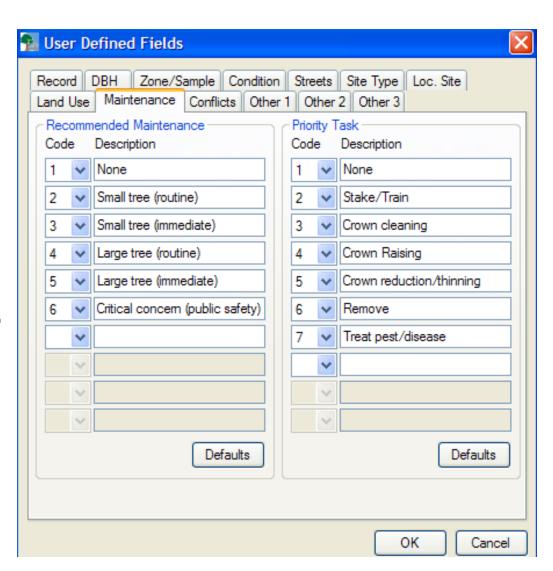
Reportable Data—Land Use



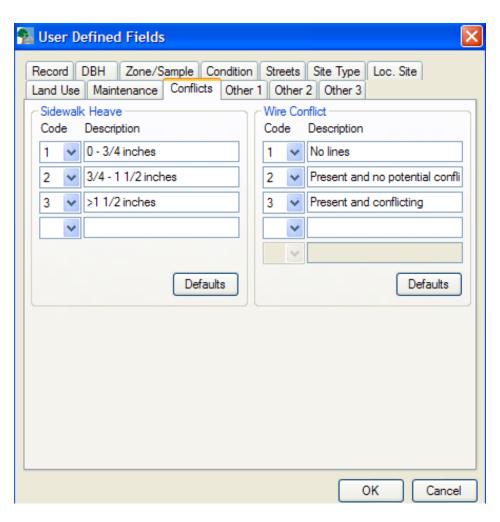
- Defaults available
- Customize to meet your needs
- Modify existing fields and add new ones—"town common," "park," "downtown"

Reportable Data--Maintenance

- Recommended maintenance
 - **≻**General
- Priority Tasks
 - ➤ Specific tasks
- Use Defaults or modify



Reportable Data—Conflicts



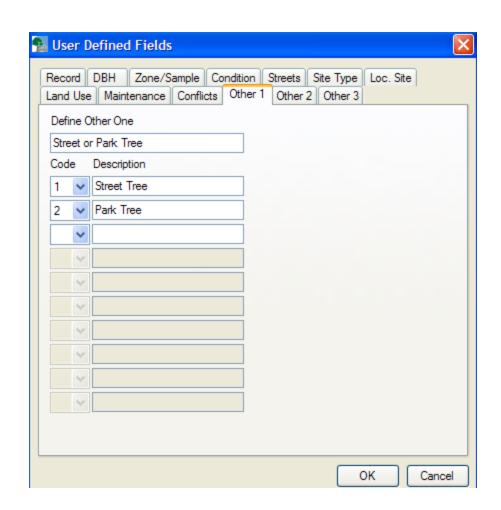
- Default values
- Sidewalk Heave
- Wire Conflicts
- Can modify as needed

Reportable Data—Other1, 2, 3

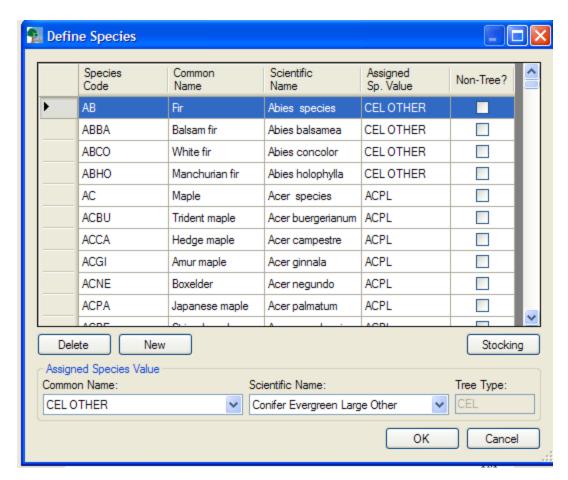
- There are 3 additional categories that are completely open and customizable.
- If you clicked Other One, Two, or Three on the main record screen, you will be able to enter the additional Fields
- For example, if you wanted to collect whether a tree was a street or park tree for your inventory, you could do that in the **Other** field

Reportable Data—Other One

- Sample Other field with Street or Park tree option
- Include additional maintenance or other information

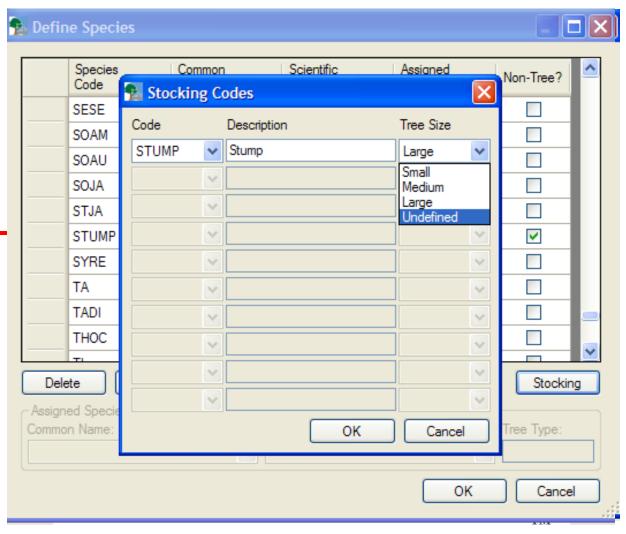


- Go to Input → Species and you can customize species
- i-Tree will have species by default that were selected for the climate region
- Include other species not on the list or include non-tree items for stocking

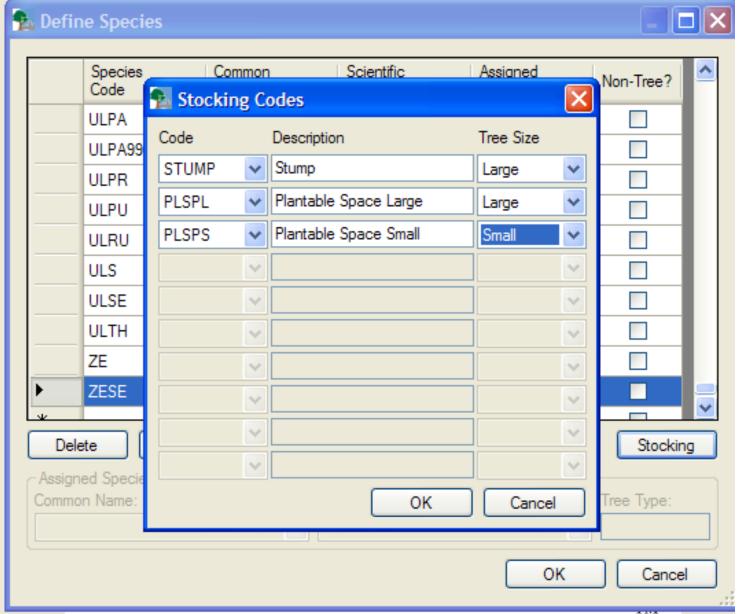


Species—Non-Tree items

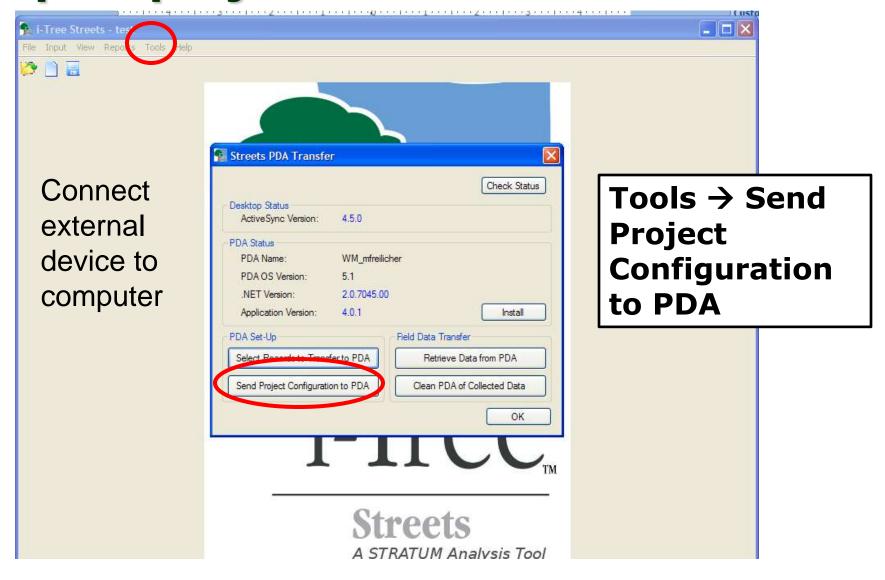
- Click New to add the nontree
- Type the code, STUMP, in this case
- Then check the Non-Tree box and click
 Stocking
- Select the code, describe it and include an appropriate new tree size if applicable

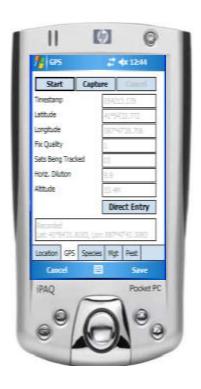


Species—Non-Trees



Export project to external device





USING I-TREE STREETS WITH A PDA OR EXTERNAL DEVICE

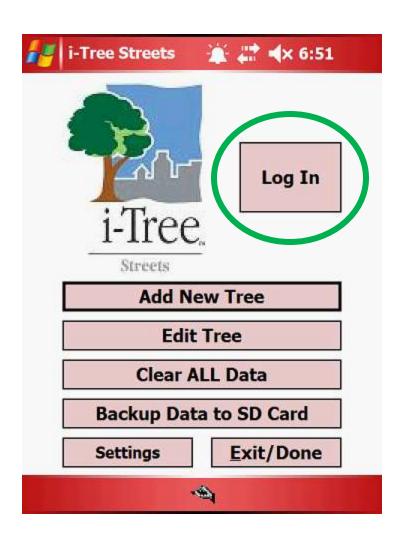
Once you've configured your project

- You are now ready to go out in the field with your device
- Now what!?
- Make sure your batteries are charged, you have plenty of food and water, maps, field guide, tree ID books, whatever you need and head out



Working with your external device

- Main screen
- If you selected a requirement to log in, log in at this time



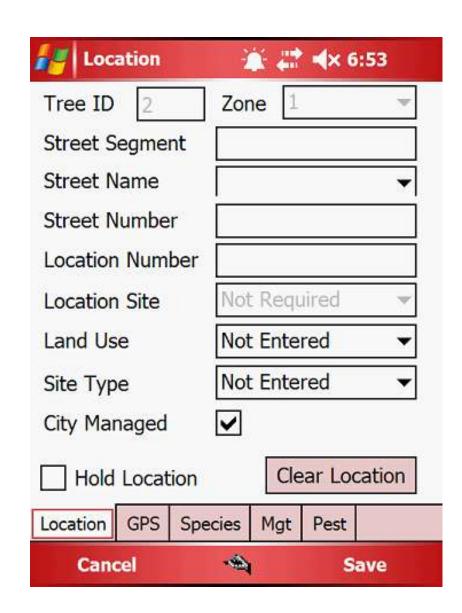
Log In



- Enter name or Team ID
- Can adjust the date if necessary

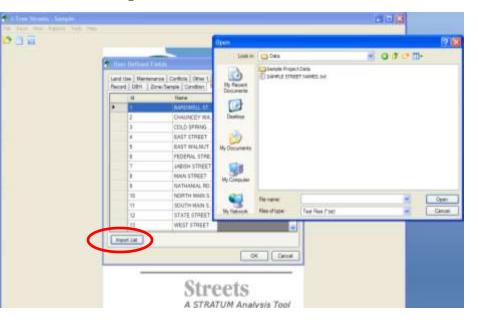
Tree Information

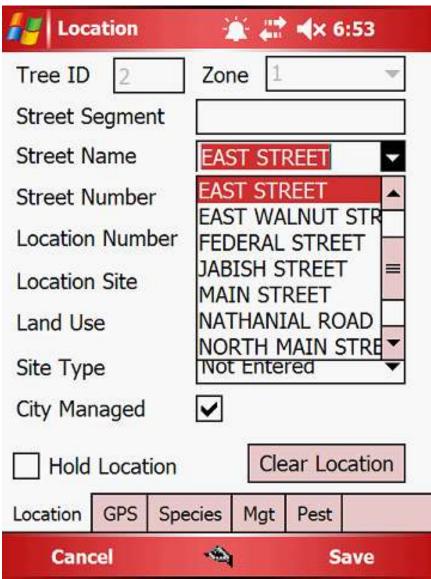
- Tabs at bottom to navigate through tree information
- Location
- GPS
- Species
- Management
- Pest



Select Street

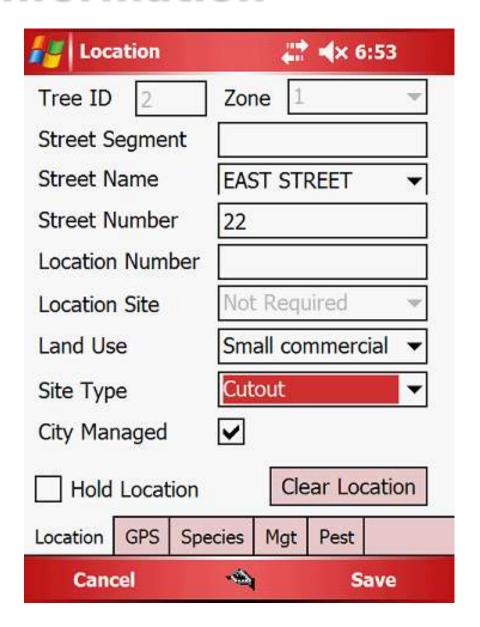
Import street list into desktop for a drop-down street list (.txt file)





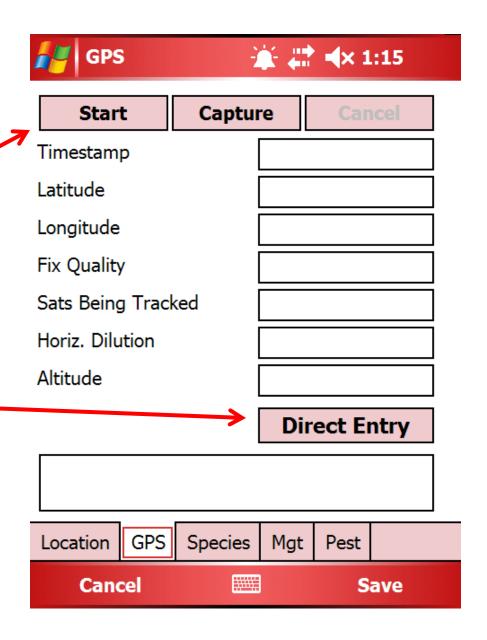
Location and Site Information

- Automatically assigns Tree ID
- Enter street address
- Land Use
- Site Type
- City Managed
 - ➤ Public or private tree



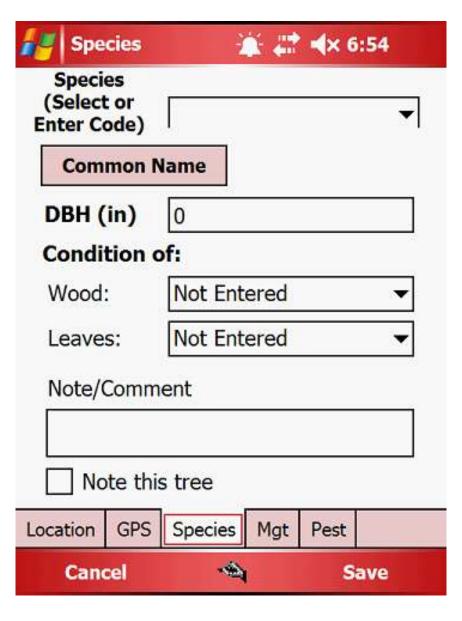
GPS

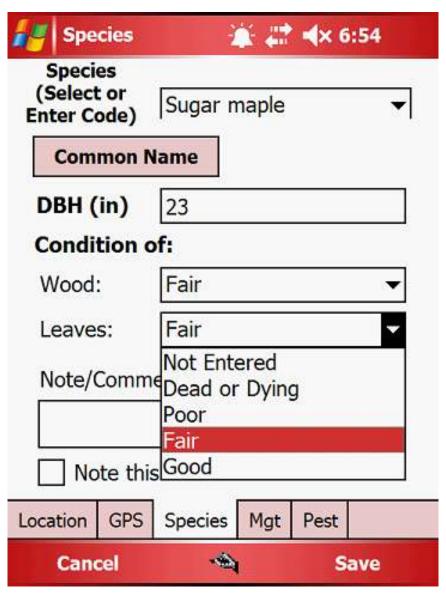
- Connect to your external GPS and capture the coordinates
- Enter the coordinates manually __



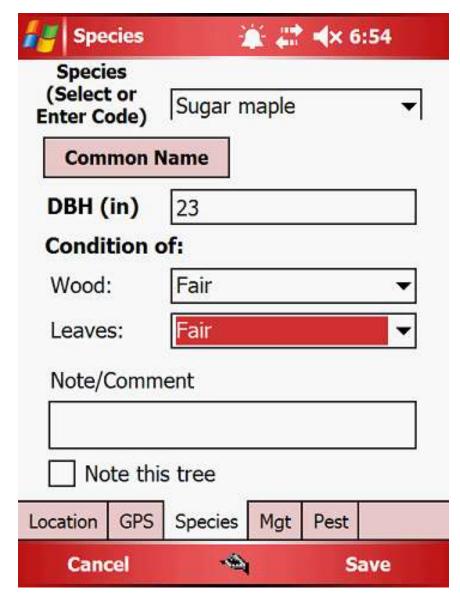
GPS—Direct Entry

GPS Direct Entr	y 🕌 📇 ┥× 1:17 ok
Please enter coordinates in Decimal Degrees	
Latitude	0
Longitude	0
Cancel	OK
123 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 - = 4	
Tabqwertyuiop[]	
CAP a s d f g h j k l ; '	
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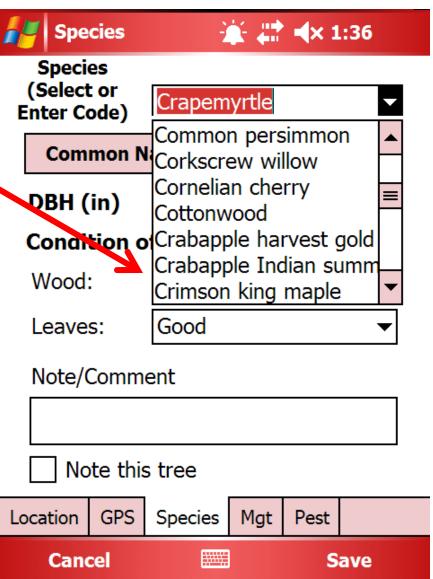


- Include any notes or comments on the tree
- Check "Note this Tree" to flag tree for further inquiry
- Click "Common Name" button to switch between common and scientific names



Species Information

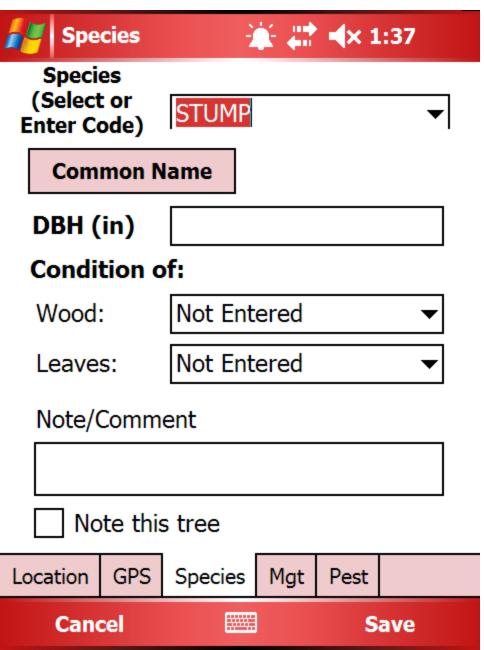
- Species not in drop-down menu
- Type species name
- You will work with this in the desktop program



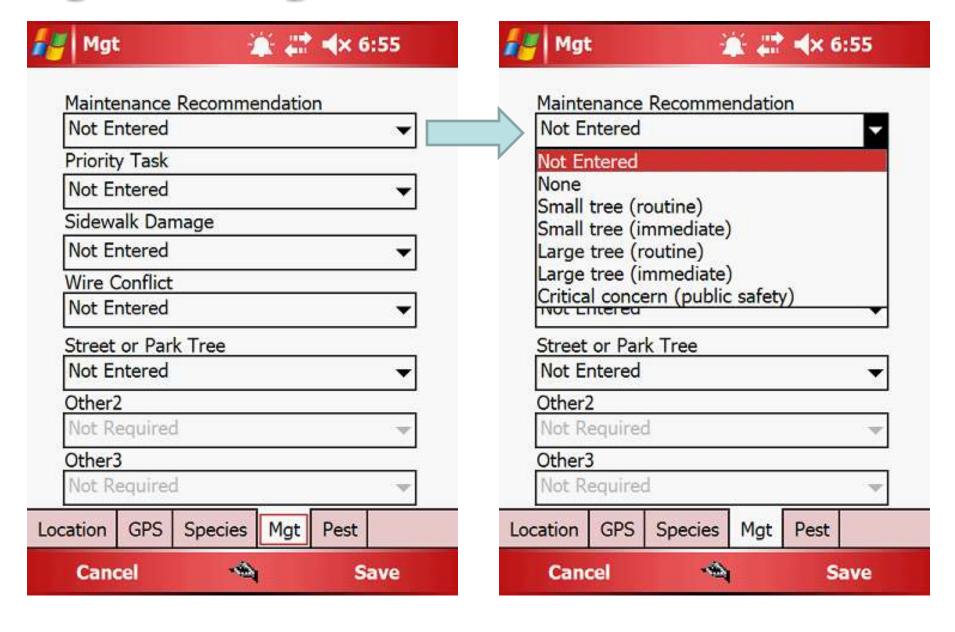
Species Information—Non-Tree

items

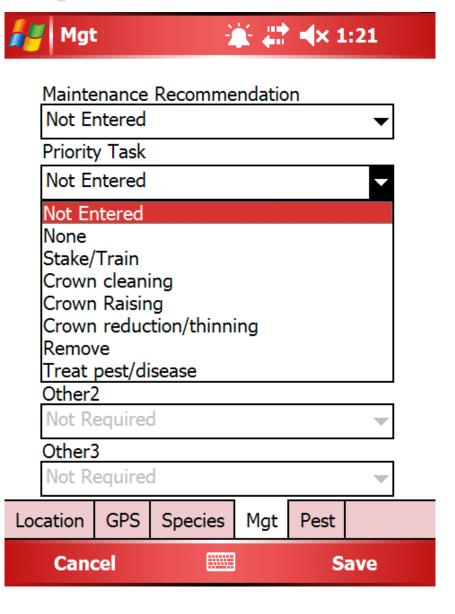
- When configuring the project at your computer, you can enter non-tree items, such as "stump" or "plantable space"
- Hit Save when complete or continue to Mgt tab to enter removal information



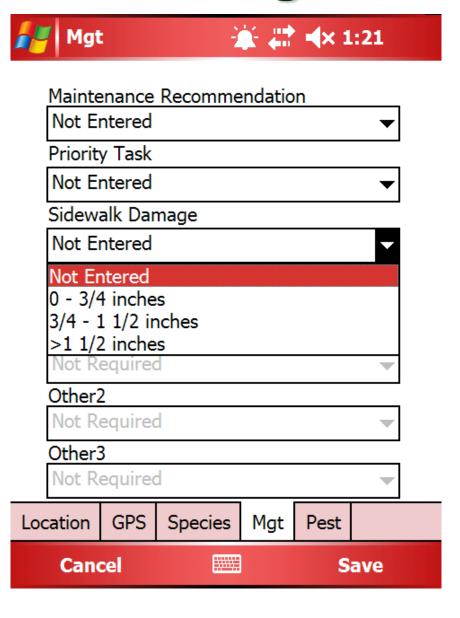
Mgt—Management Information



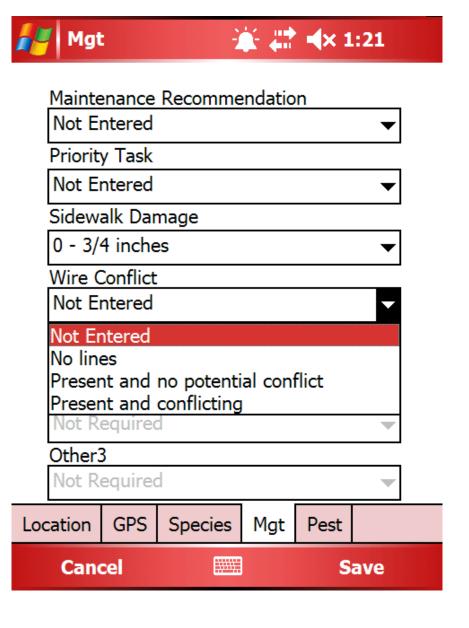
Mgt—Priority Task



Mgt—Sidewalk Damage



Mgt—Wire Conflict

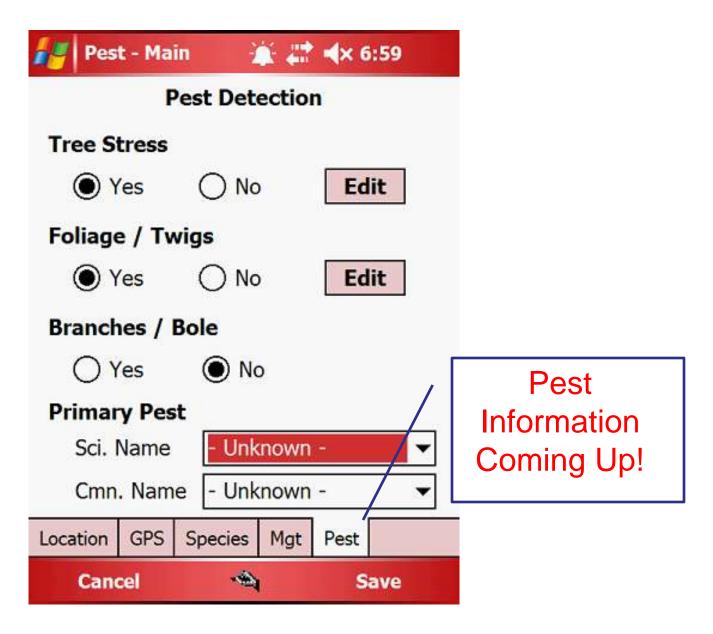


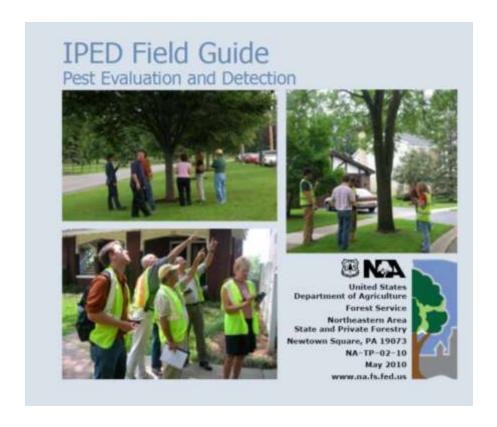
Mgt—Management Information

- Other1, Other2, Other3
- For inventory purposes, you can include Street or Park tree, but for i-Tree Streets Analysis, park trees must be excluded (Streets analysis for street trees only)
- Here we used the Other1 Category to designate street or park trees



Pest





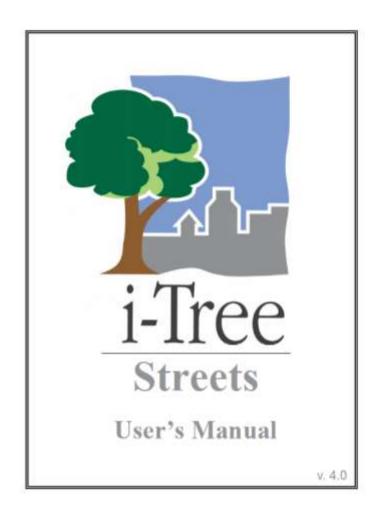
WORKING WITH IPED INVENTORY PEST EVALUATION AND DETECTION



WORKING WITH YOUR INVENTORY ON YOUR DESKTOP

Manual Data Entry

- ↑ Inputs → Records
 - Manually enter inventory information directly into i-Tree Streets
- Import inventory as Microsoft Access Database
 - ➤ See the i-Tree Streets
 User's Manual for
 information on
 importing





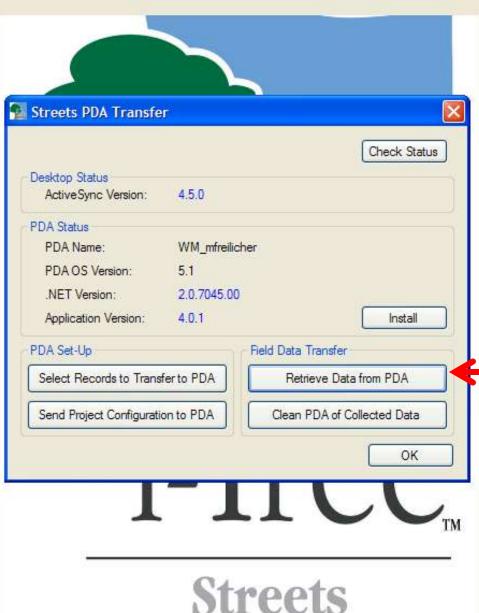






Open i-Tree Streets and connect external device to computer.

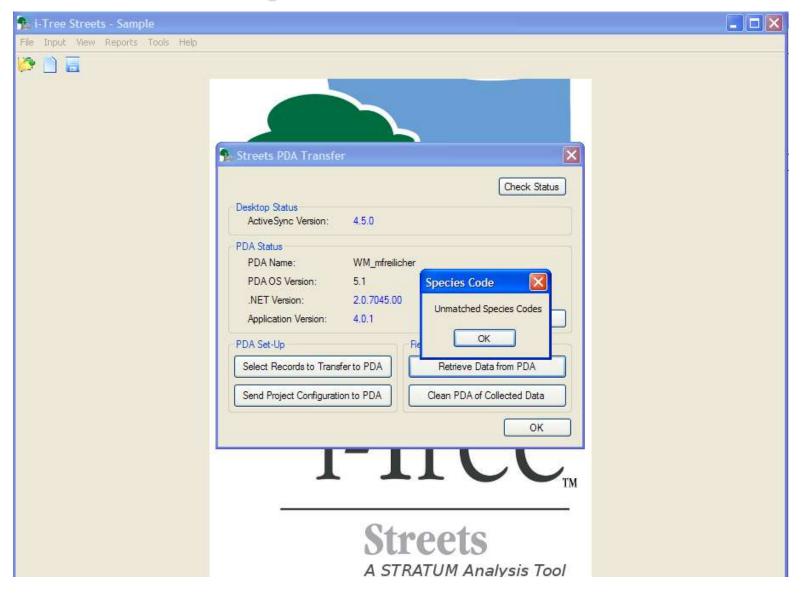
Once connected, select **Retrieve Data** from PDA to import data from external device

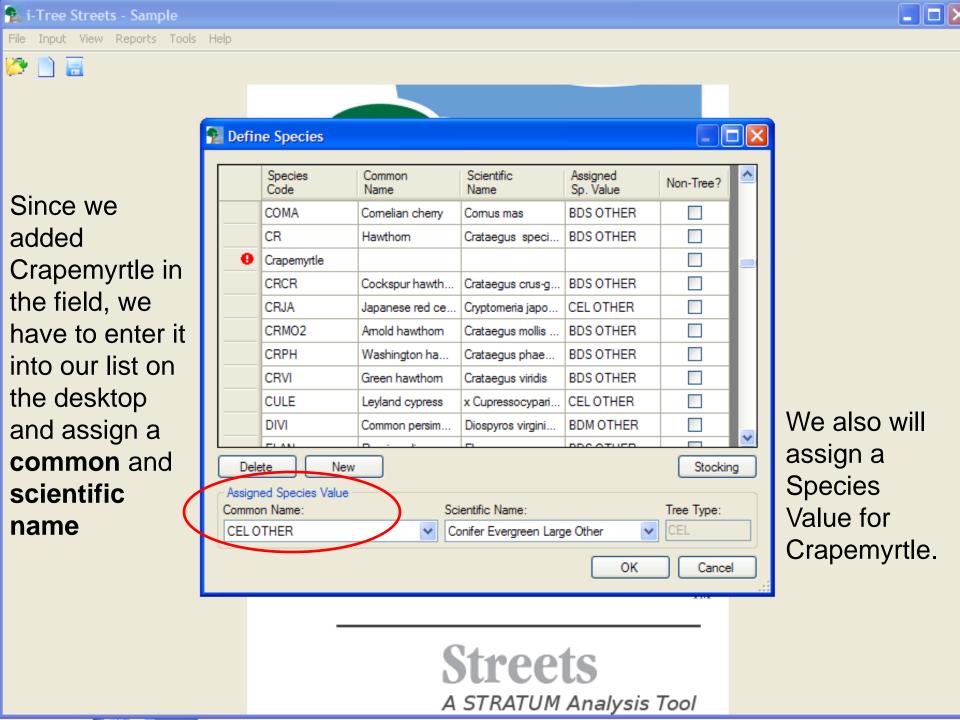


Make sure you have exited out of Streets on the external device before importing data

A STRATUM Analysis Tool

Unmatched Species Codes



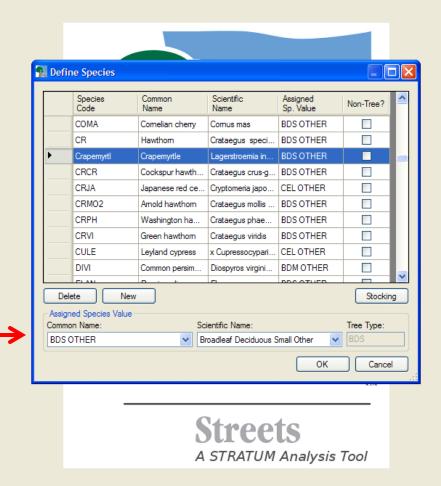


Assigned Species Value

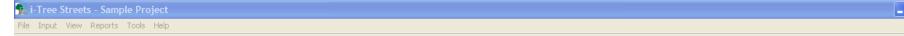
- We assign a species value for the i-Tree Streets assessment so that benefits from the tree can be counted
- Consider the mature size, tree type, form, and family and genus relationships
- You may be able to match to a similar species OR
- You may match with a broad category: "Broadleaf Deciduous Small"
- The same tree in another area may have a different value if climate or other conditions are more or less favorable



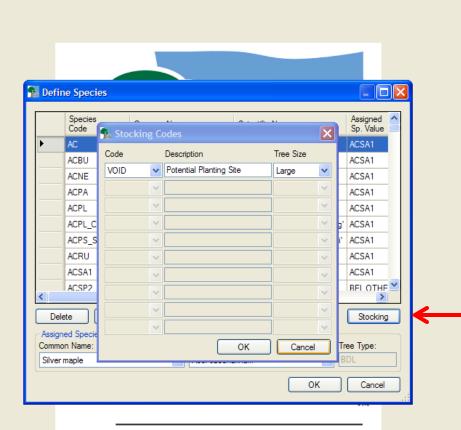
Assign species value for new trees



BDS Other
"Broadleaf
Deciduous
Small Other"







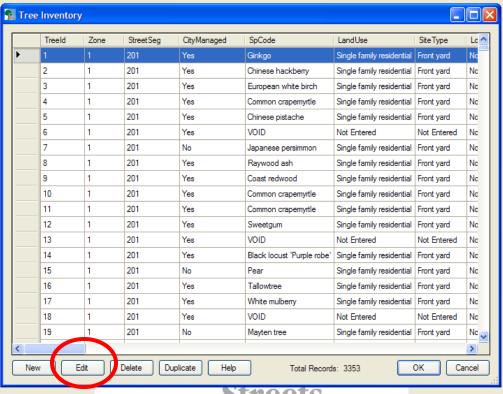
For non-tree codes click "Stocking" to assign non-tree information

Streets
A STRATUM Analysis Tool



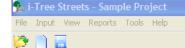


To edit any records go to Input→Records and select Edit



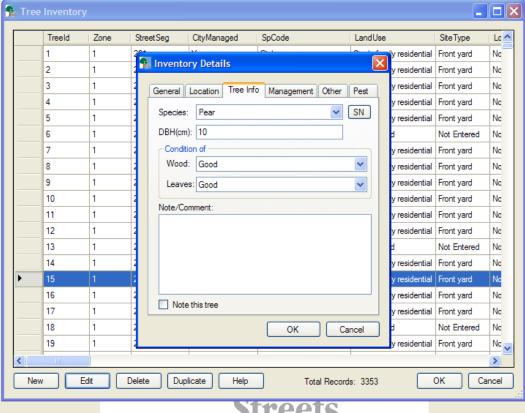
Streets

A STRATUM Analysis Tool





Then you can edit any of the information collected



Streets A STRATUM Analysis Tool

Enter local cost and benefit information

- P Enter local information to customize benefits to your community.
- These costs are entered in the Input menu
- City Information
- Annual Costs
- Benefit Prices

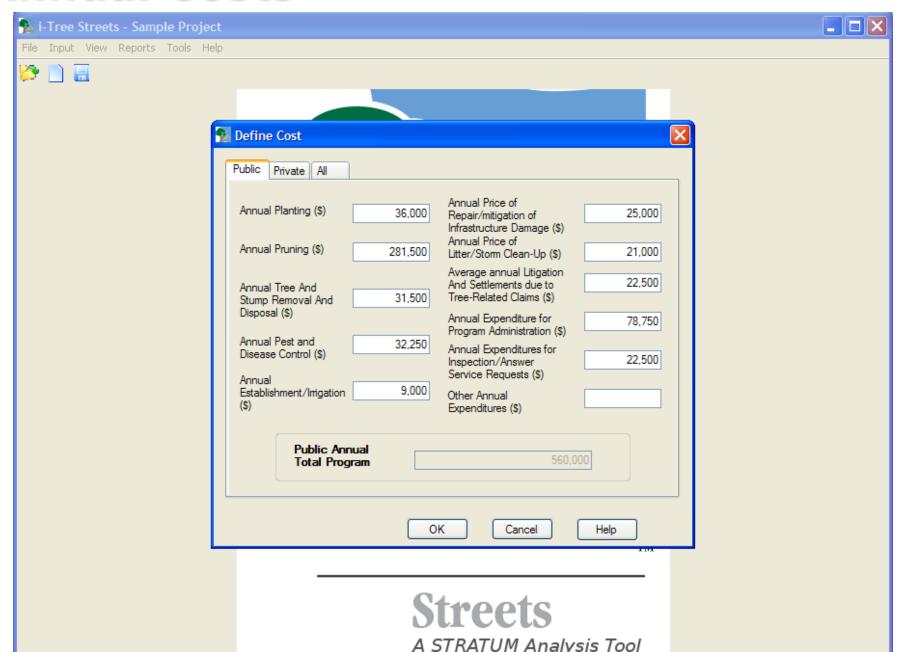
City Information

- Total Municipal Budget
- Population
- Total Land Area (Sq mi)
- Average Sidewalk width (ft)
- Total Linear Miles of Street
- Average Street width (ft)

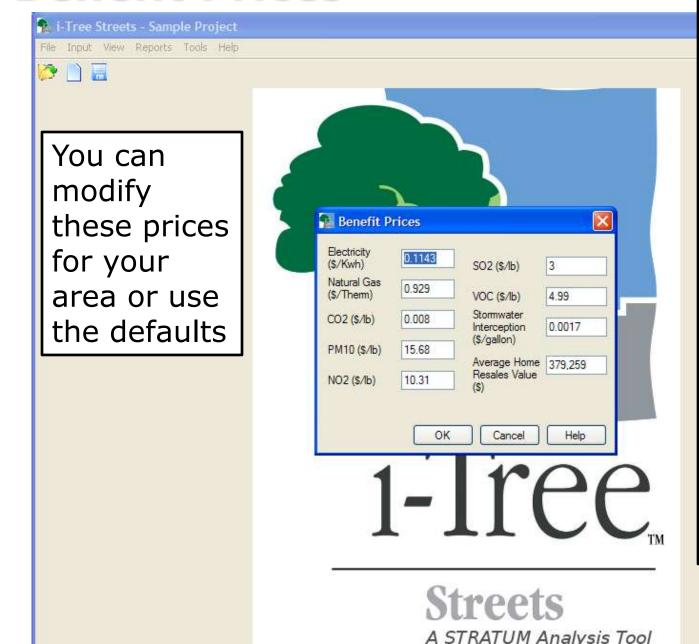


Much of this information will be available from your Public Works Department or Tree Warden

Annual Costs



Benefit Prices



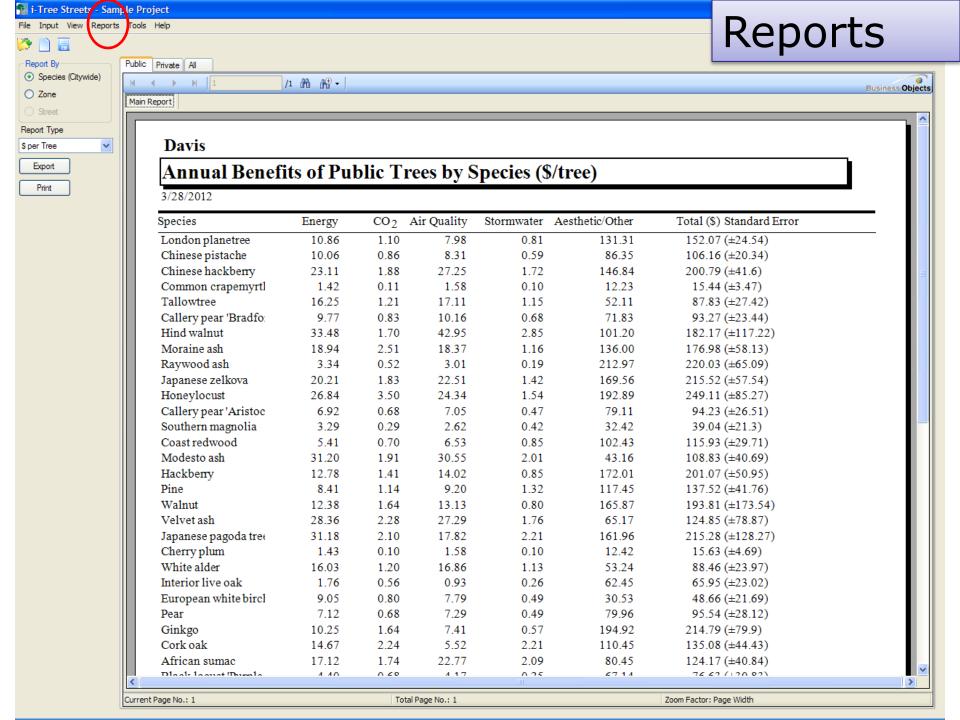
It may be difficult to find prices for air pollution

Easier to adjust electricity, natural gas, and average home resale value

May be able to find value for stormwater interception

Reports

- Benefits
 - ➤ Energy, stormwater, carbon dioxide, air quality, aesthetic
- Structure
 - ➤ Population summary, species distribution, importance value, condition, land use, site type, canopy cover over street
- Replacement value
- Pest analysis
- Examine reports within i-Tree Streets or Export to Excel

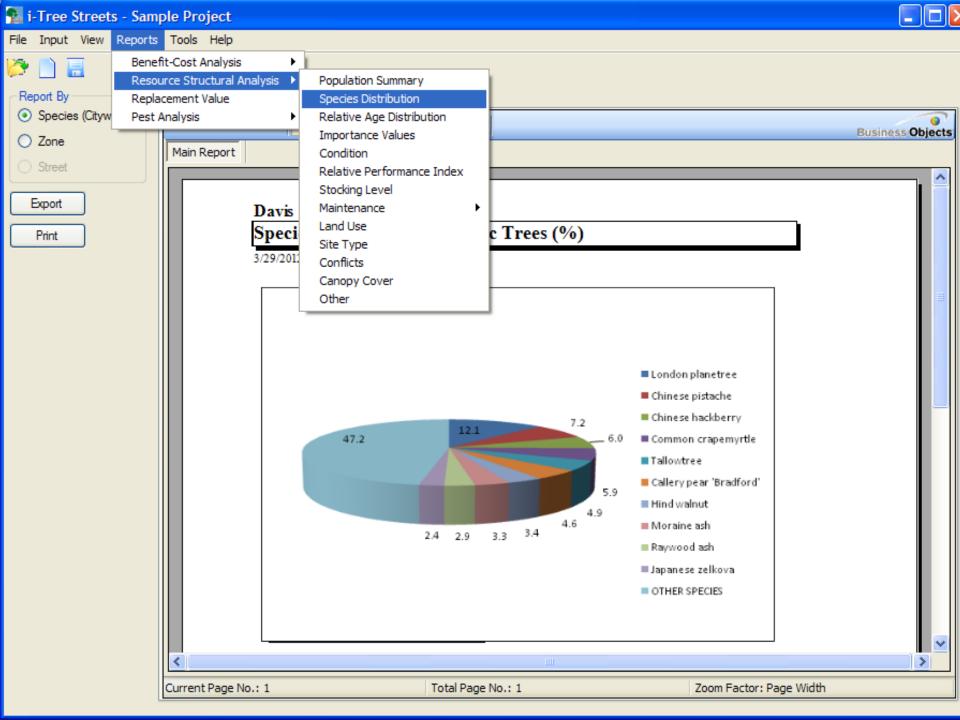


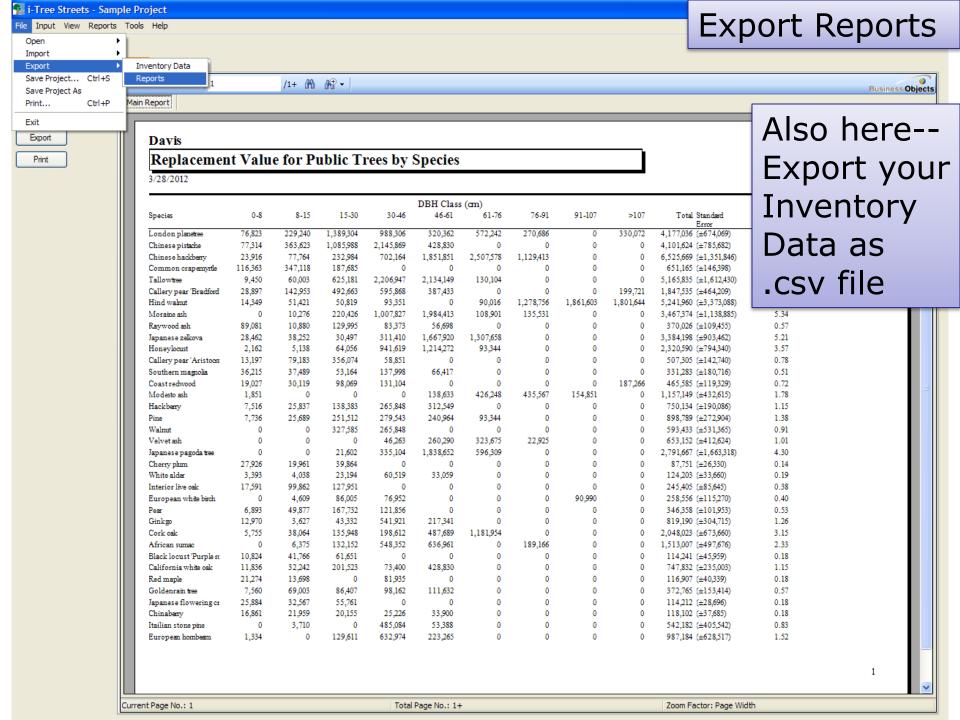
Reports—Many Options

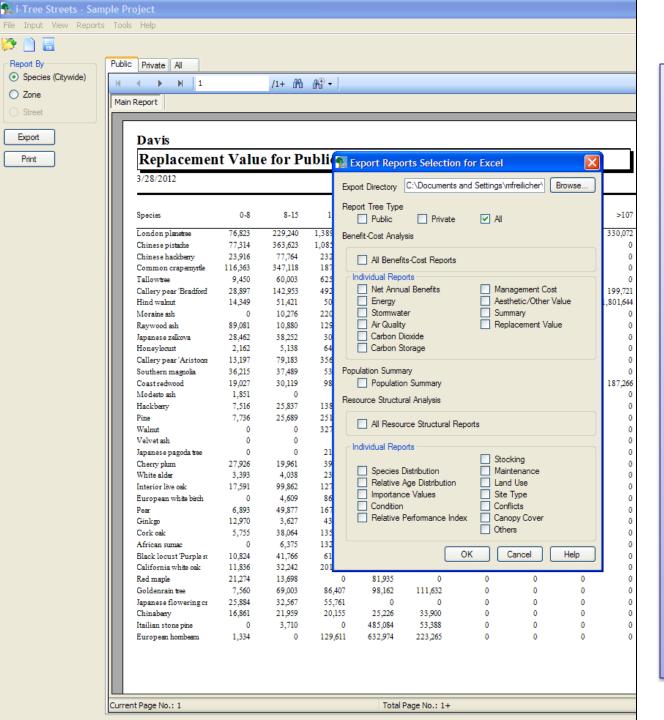
Davis

3/12/2012
Total Annual Benefits, Net Benefits, and Costs for Public Trees

Benefits	Total (\$)	Standard Error Total \$/	Er	andard ror Per ee	_	tandard rror Per Capita
Energy	307,7	20(±14,534)	12.93(±	.61)	4.79(:	±.23)
CO2	29,3	19(±1,385)	1.23(±	.06)	0.46(±.02)
Air Quality	297,8	80(±14,069)	12.52(±	.59)	4.64(±.22)
Stormwater	23,9	39(±1,131)	1.01(±	.05)	0.37(±.02)
Aesthetic/Other	2,413,0	02(±113,969)	101.40(±	4.79)	37.57(:	±1.77)
Total Benefits	3,071,8	60(±145,088)	129.08(±	6.1)	47.83(±2.26)







Report By

O Zone

Export

Print

Select where you want the reports saved ("Export Directory")

Which reports you want

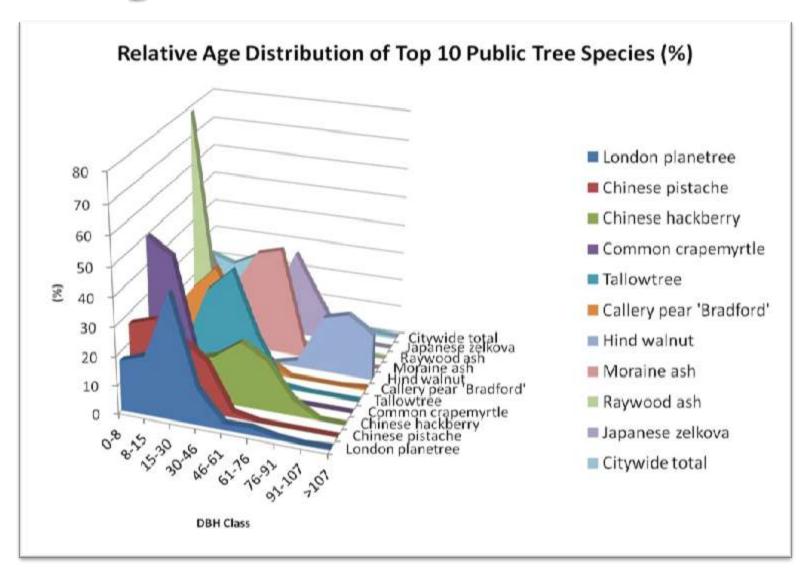
Click OK

It may take several minutes to generate the reports

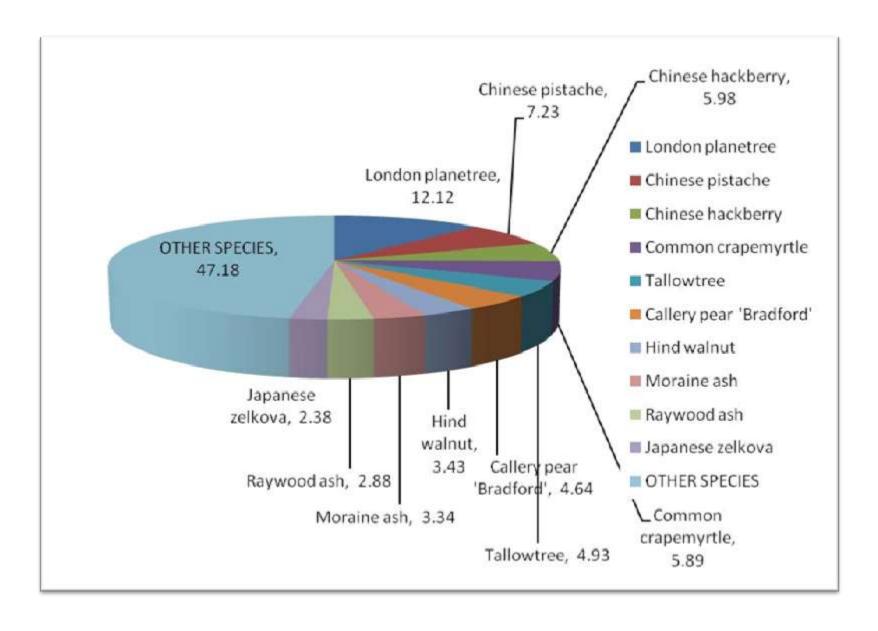
Exporting Reports

- If you selected all reports, you will end up with 3 Excel workbooks
 - ➤ BenefitOutput
 - ➤ PopulationSummary
 - >Structural
- If you designated all, public, or private trees that designation will be at the end of the workbook title (i.e. StructuralAll)

Working with Excel

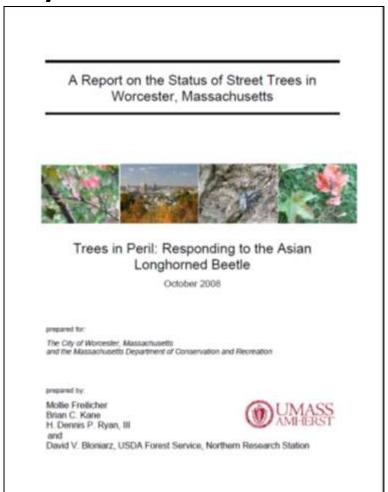


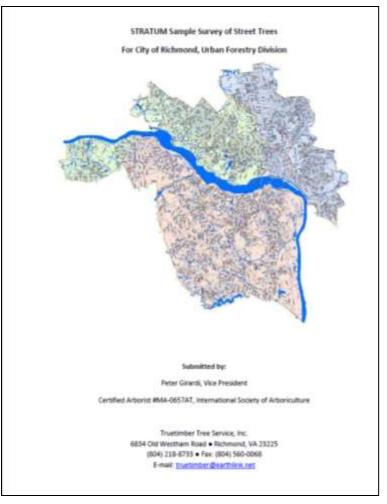
Working with Excel



Where to go with your data

Use the reports to prepare an analysis of your street trees





Example reports from communities

- Worcester
- Richmond
- Santa Barbara
- Minneapolis
- More at:
- http://www.itreetools.org/resources/reports.php

Contact your state urban and community forestry office for guidance

Grant Opportunities in Massachusetts

- MA- DCR Urban & Community Forestry Website: http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/
- Urban & Community Forestry Challenge Grant
 - > Twice yearly—May 1 and November 1 deadlines
- Projects that will result in sustained improvements in local capacity for excellent urban and community forestry management in key areas including
 - > Tree Inventories that will inform management plans
 - Other areas include strengthening advocacy groups, implementing ordinances, attaining professional staff, attaining Tree City USA status, strategic tree planting, heritage tree care, and others

Information on Grants in Massachusetts

For more information on grant opportunities in MA:

Contact Eric Seaborn

eric.seaborn@state.ma.us

617-626-1468

Elsewhere, contact your state
Urban and Community
Forestry Program



Where to get assistance

- IPED data
 - Contact your state urban and community forestry program for guidance
 - ➤ University Cooprative Extension
 - > When in doubt-reach out!
- www.itreetools.org
 - ➤ Lots of resources there—users forum, manuals and workbooks, support
- In Massachusetts, contact the MA-Department of Conservation and Recreation, Urban & Community Forestry Program

Streets Helps You:

- Justify and leverage funds
- Mighlight benefits to public & decision makers
- Plan, prioritize, and budget
- Benchmark progress
- Build partnerships











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