

# Tree Cities of the World

## Celebrating greener cities worldwide

Now more than ever, trees and forests are a vital component of healthy, livable, and sustainable communities around the globe. Urban forests help define a sense of place and well-being where people live, work, play, and learn.

We invite your community to become part of the Tree Cities of the World programme, an international effort to recognize cities and towns committed to ensuring that urban forests and trees are properly maintained, sustainably managed, and duly celebrated.

This is your opportunity to connect with cities around the world in a new network dedicated to sharing and adopting the most successful approaches to managing community trees and forests.

### Standards for Recognition

Recognition through the Tree Cities of the World programme represents the first step toward achieving a green vision for the community. To receive recognition, a town or city must meet five core standards:

- **Standard 1: Establish Authority**  
The community has a written statement by city leaders delegating responsibility for the care of trees within the municipal boundary to a staff member, a city department, or a group of citizens—called a Tree Board.
- **Standard 2: Know the Rules**  
The community adopts policies, best practices, or industry standards for managing urban trees and forests. These rules describe how work must be performed, where and when they apply, and penalties for noncompliance.
- **Standard 3: Know What You Have**  
The community has an updated inventory or assessment of the local tree resource so that an effective long-term plan for planting, care, and removal of city trees can be established.
- **Standard 4: Allocate the Resources**  
The community has a dedicated annual budget for the routine implementation of the tree management plan.
- **Standard 5: Celebrate Achievements**  
The community holds an annual celebration of trees to raise awareness among residents and to acknowledge citizens and staff members who carry out the city tree programme.

### Gain Worldwide Recognition

Join this new, global network of communities recognized as leaders in the sustainable management of urban trees and forests. You may already be using innovative practices that keep city trees healthy and growing. Now you can share your successes in planting and tending the urban forest of your community and learn from others around the world.

A Programme Partnership Between the Arbor Day Foundation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

The Arbor Day Foundation inspires people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees in order to solve some of the world's biggest challenges: poverty, hunger, clean water and air, climate change, and species loss.

FAO supports the development of urban and peri-urban forestry actions, projects, and strategic planning tools that promote a sustainable and resilient model for city development around the world.



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