

On the path to seamless rural-to-urban forest monitoring: Evaluating Urban FIA methods and techniques.

A McIntire-Stennis supported project

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Driven to Discover®

We need to integrate two vegetation monitoring traditions, one focused on rural areas and the other focused on urban areas, to address issues affecting the rural-urban gradient.

Trees in urban settings provide benefits like carbon sequestration, pollution reduction, lower residential energy consumption, and reduced storm water runoff. Cities have undertaken inventories of their trees to quantify those benefits and inform city planning and management. Rural forests have a long history of monitoring through programs like the National Forest Inventory. Data from rural forest inventories is used in natural resource management, industry, policy, conservation, education, and research.

Between these two monitoring efforts are the forests and trees of the rural-urban gradient. Integrating these two traditions is necessary if the resources and sustainability of the rural-urban gradient are to be fully assessed.



About McIntire-Stennis

The McIntire-Stennis program, a unique federal-state partnership, cultivates and delivers forestry and natural resource innovations for a better future. By advancing research and education that increases the understanding of emerging challenges and fosters the development of relevant solutions, the McIntire-Stennis program has ensured healthy resilient forests and communities and an exceptional natural resources workforce since 1962.



COLLABORATION

State and Federal forestry agencies and urban tree service industry organizations.



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Collaborating agencies and organizations.

IMPACT

Results promote integrated monitoring of urban and rural forest, providing important resource information to natural resource professionals, scientists, and city planners and policymakers.



40+

US cities participate in national forest inventory that includes urban inventory.



5+

Consultations with urban forestry professionals on inventory methods.



2

Publications on urban inventory and integration of urban and rural inventories.