

Center for Urban Forest Research Tree Carbon Calculator

December 15, 2008

The U.S. Forest Service's Center for Urban Forest Research recently developed a "Tree Carbon Calculator". This calculator helps quantify the benefits of the urban forest, aiding homeowners, schools, citizen's groups and governments to choose the best species for their climate zones. Once the user enters information on the climate region and tree's size or age it produces information on: carbon dioxide stored in the tree due to its growth over many years, carbon dioxide sequestered during the past year and dry weight of aboveground biomass that could be utilized if the tree was removed. The tool was designed for use in urban communities in California, but since California covers so many climate zones, it's likely to be useful for many other areas of the country as well. This calculator is intended as "proof of concept" software that is in the testing phase. It is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. In 2009, data for other tree species in climate regions across the U.S. will be added, and in 2010, this version will be replaced by a Web-based version with greater functionality.

To view this on-line tool visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ccrc/topics/urban-forests/ctcc/>

This tool is part of the *Climate Change Resource Center*, which is a reference Web site for resource managers and decisionmakers who need information and tools to address climate change in planning and project implementation on lands in the Western United States.

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