



# Recover, Replant, Restore!

## Growing Strong Community Forests

### Healthy Community Trees

Trees Forever's *Recover, Replant, Restore!* program assists communities in central and southern Illinois to build healthy and diverse community forests. Supported by the U.S. Forest Service and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Trees Forever will help your community:

- **Recover** from and prepare for natural disasters (wind, ice, floods, drought), man-made disasters (emerald ash borer and other devastating pests or years of neglect) that endanger your community forest.
- **Replant** with a diverse, disease- and storm-resistant selection of tree species.
- **Restore** a healthy and beneficial community forest.



Specifically, Trees Forever can help your community by:

- Assisting smaller communities with a street tree inventory so city officials discover the benefits of their trees and know the composition of city trees (especially ash trees).
- Implementing and updating local forestry programs and ordinances.
- Helping create volunteer tree boards and committees.
- Helping communities achieve Tree City USA status.
- Informing citizens through public outreach and education how trees benefit their communities and what they can do to help.

### Tree Care Training and Workshops

Trees Forever can help train citizens and city staff on proper tree planting, species and site selection, pruning techniques and tree care that will ensure healthy and long-lived trees. Trees Forever staff can give presentations to schools, youth groups, civic and other organizations on a wide variety of topics.

For more information about this program visit:  
[www.treesforever.org/Recover-Replant-Restore](http://www.treesforever.org/Recover-Replant-Restore).



*Volunteers learn about growing a healthy tree canopy through classroom and hands-on classes.*



Planting a better tomorrow™

# Helping Communities Recover after Natural Disasters

Trees Forever assists the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the US Forest Service to deploy a Strike Team of certified arborists to your community after a natural disaster to assess damaged public trees.

These professionals will spend time in the community performing “rapid tree assessments” on public trees or certain privately-owned trees that pose a threat to people or property on public land. After the Strike Team has finished collecting information about damaged trees on public property, IDNR will analyze the data and create a report for the city prioritizing trees for removal or special care.



Trees Forever staff can help your community plan for a healthy urban forest by assisting with an inventory of city trees, planting diverse storm and disease resistant trees and providing training on proper tree care.



*Top: Strike Team arborists assess trees in Ottawa, Illinois, for damage after a tornado struck the community in 2017. Right: Volunteers plant new trees in a Washington, Illinois, park after a tornado destroyed most of the trees at that site.*



## Trees Forever's *Recover, Replant, Restore!* can help by:

- Providing useful resources. Find factsheets at: [www.treesforever.org/Guides](http://www.treesforever.org/Guides) [www.treesforever.org/Recover](http://www.treesforever.org/Recover)
- Assisting you to coordinate replanting projects.
- Assisting as your community builds a tree committee.
- Offering workshops on tree selection, proper tree planting and care, diseases and stressors.
- Working with your community to update ordinances and/or obtain Tree City USA status.

Supported by:



Trees Forever Members

**For information on how your community can participate** in Trees Forever's *Recover, Replant, Restore!* program contact: Debbie Fluegel at [dfluegel@treesforever.org](mailto:dfluegel@treesforever.org) or 309-613-0095.

Join Trees Forever on its mission to plant and care for trees and the environment by empowering people, building community and promoting stewardship.

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