



HOT off the press...

Boston is getting hot, and our teens (and our trees) are here to keep things cool.

This summer we are thrilled to be hiring 20 Boston teens to bring the message of Tree Equity and urban forestry to all neighborhoods of the city through our Teen Urban Tree Corps program. In addition to learning about the importance of trees and our urban forest, we're providing teens with an introduction into the field of forestry and connecting them to leaders in the field. **Equity in our new green economy will only be just and sustainable if it is accessible to all.**

To that end, we're proud to partner with Boston SuccessLink, DCR, and John Hancock's MLK Scholars program to develop a program that speaks to Boston's trees and Boston's teens.

As we get rooted in Boston, we hope you'll join us in our efforts to build a greener and healthier Boston for *all* residents. Over the next month, we're aiming to raise \$10,000 to support our teen program. And we can only do it with your help!

[Your donation helps ensure that we can bring Tree Equity and economic opportunities to Boston!](#) Together, we can build for a more equitable future for all.

Donate Today to Build a Just and Resilient City

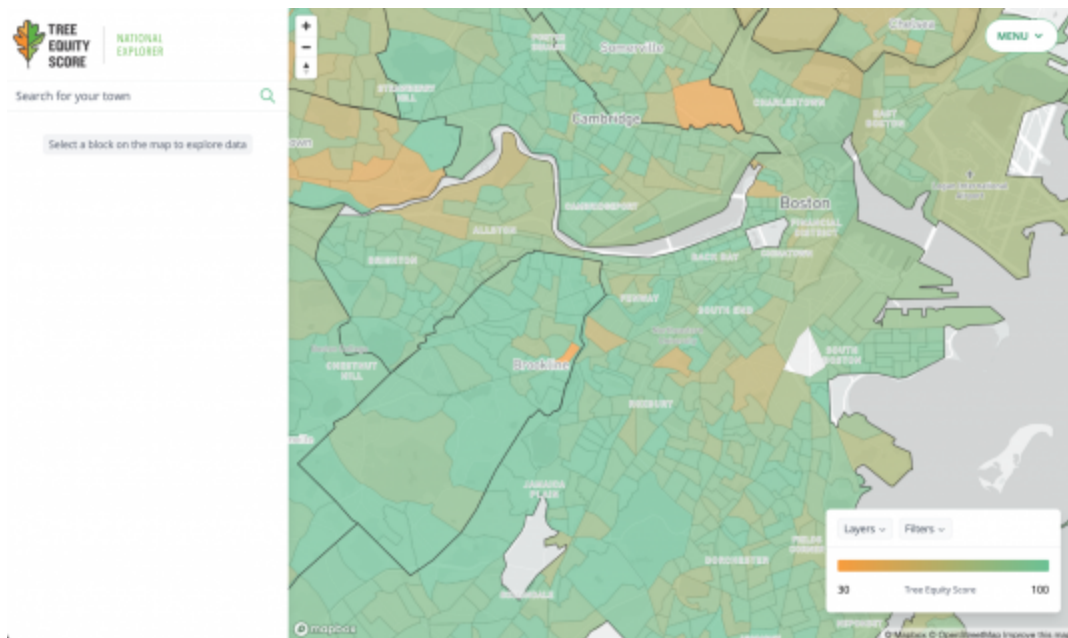
P.S. Our Teen Urban Tree Corps program is on top of all our great year-round programming: capturing and sharing community tree stories, developing maps and ways to connect, and planting and distributing trees. We have so much in store for 2021 and beyond.



Thank you to the Boston Foundation

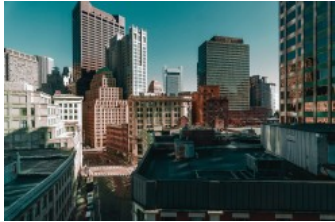
We wanted to thank the Boston Foundation for awarding Speak for the Trees an Open Door grant for 2021-2022. This \$50,000 general operating grant will allow us to expand our work in bringing Tree Equity to all Boston neighborhoods. We're proud to be recognized by The Boston Foundation for our work and are excited to be partnering with them in the coming 2 years.

American Forests releases Tree Equity Score Explorer



This week American Forests announced its Tree Equity Score Explorer map. This map analyzes each census block across the country and assigns it a Tree Equity Score, taking into account factors such as the existing tree canopy, population density, income, surface temperature, race, and more using sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Geological Survey. This powerful tool provides ways for residents, municipal officials, and nonprofits to explore the city of Boston and target planting projects where trees are needed most. We've been proud to partner closely as a ReLeaf Partner with American Forests and to have created our own Tree Equity map tool. Stay tuned as we refine our own Boston-specific map!

[Access the Tree Equity Score Explorer](#)



David Abel warns that Boston’s “heat islands” impacts low-income residents

“Heat islands” are areas of high temperature due to a concentration of infrastructure that absorbs heat such as concrete and asphalt. These amplify the rising temperatures Boston faces due to climate change, especially in low-income neighborhoods across Boston. Green infrastructure, especially trees, are a critical tool in building a healthy city across all zip codes.

[Read More](#)

dcr
Massachusetts



Thank
you!



Farewell to our Citizen Forester

Mollie Freilicher, Community Action Forester at the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) for 12 years, is leaving this Friday, June 25. Mollie has served in her position for nine and a half years supporting local efforts throughout the Commonwealth. We wish Mollie the best of luck as she moves on to take a position with Colorado State University Extension on the Western Slope of Colorado. Thank you for your work in improving urban and community forests in Massachusetts! We'll miss you, Mollie!

Join us in growing Boston's urban forest



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