

**PLAN SMART,
RETHINKING
GREEN**

LIVING SMART

NEW MEXICO TREE BENEFITS

**TREES ENHANCE STORM
WATER MANAGEMENT.**
A recent study in the
City of Albuquerque
showed 5.5% tree
cover providing \$121.5
million dollars in
storm water control

CLEANER AIR.
Albuquerque research
study shows our
canopy cover seques-
ters 285,434 tons of
CO₂ and another
2,222 tons seques-
tered annually – It
also removes 449,377
pounds of CO, SO₂,
NO₂, PM₁₀, and O₃
pollutants annually.

WATER BENEFITS.
"The planting of trees
means improved
water quality, result-
ing in less runoff and
erosion. This allows
more recharging of
the ground water
supply."—USDA
Forest Service

DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR\$

What would your community be like without clean and accessible water – to drink, to wash, to grow? Trees and their natural watershed, process the very water we depend on every day. How would cities operate without road and power infrastructure? Trees and vegetation represent your communities natural Green Infrastructure -- creating cooler temperatures, cleaner air and water. Taxpayer dollars help communities deliver necessary services that improve quality of life, healthcare, education, transportation, and other services. Dollar for dollar having trees and community forests can help create "livable communities" for everyone.

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

This is a national initiative that uses smart growth strategies to encourage "land use and transportation planning, and adopt programs and policies that lead to more livable and resource-efficient land use patterns. ... communities can adopt transportation alternatives, build safer streets, encourage routine physical activity, foster civic engagement, reduce infrastructure costs, create more affordable housing, improve air and water quality, preserve natural resources, conserve agricultural land and open space, and restore local economic and social vitality."

Livable Communities initiatives have been adopted by AARP, The National Conference of Mayors, and numerous state and local governments. www.livable.com

WHAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CAN DO

- Plant shade trees in new developments, parking lots, along streets and in medians
- Encourage residents and businesses to plant trees on private property.
- Adopt a tree preservation ordinance.
- Hire or appoint a City forester/arborist.
- Conduct a street tree inventory and establish and fund and maintenance program.
- Recognize and account for trees as a public utility capital asset.
- Use tree planting to strengthen communities and increase resident involvement.
- Collaborate with local groups and tree organizations.
- Plan appropriately insuring community needs are met, for situations such as: wildland fire, water supply, etc.

Adapted from: USDA Forest Service UCF Program on recommendation of National Urban and Community Advisory Council.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.NMFORESTRY.COM