

URBAN FOREST CLIMATE AND HEALTH ADAPTATION MENU

The following list of strategies and approaches offers a glance at the Urban Forest Climate and Health Adaptation Menu. The [full report](#) includes a description for each strategy and approach as well as example adaptation tactics.

Strategy 1: Activate social systems for equitable climate adaptation, urban forest, and human health outcomes

Approach 1.1: Address socio-ecological systems in early, comprehensive response

Approach 1.2: Integrate urban forestry in climate planning and policy

Approach 1.3: Address climate and health challenges of disadvantaged communities and vulnerable populations

Strategy 2: Reduce the impact of human health threats and stressors using urban trees and forests

Approach 2.1: Reduce extreme temperatures and heat exposure

Approach 2.2: Improve urban air quality conditions

Approach 2.3: Anticipate and reduce human health impacts of hazardous weather and disturbance events

Strategy 3: Maintain or increase extent of urban forests and vegetative cover

Approach 3.1: Minimize forest loss and degradation

Approach 3.2: Maintain existing trees through proper care and maintenance

Approach 3.3: Restore and increase tree, forest, and vegetative cover

Approach 3.4: Sustain sites and ecosystems that provide high value across the landscape

Strategy 4: Sustain or restore fundamental ecological functions of urban ecosystems

Approach 4.1: Maintain or restore soils and nutrient cycling in urban areas

Approach 4.2: Maintain or restore hydrologic processes in urban forests

Approach 4.3: Restore or maintain fire in fire-adapted ecosystems

Strategy 5: Reduce the impact of physical and biological stressors on urban forests

Approach 5.1: Reduce impacts from extreme rainfall and enhance water infiltration and storage

Approach 5.2: Reduce risk of damage from extreme storms and wind.

Approach 5.3: Reduce risk of damage from wildfire.

Approach 5.4: Maintain or improve the ability of forests to resist pests and pathogens

Approach 5.5: Prevent invasive plant establishment and remove existing invasive species

Approach 5.6: Manage herbivory to promote regeneration, growth, and form of desired species

Strategy 6: Enhance taxonomic, functional, and structural diversity

Approach 6.1: Enhance age class and structural diversity in forests

Approach 6.2: Maintain or enhance diversity of native species

Approach 6.3: Optimize and diversify tree species selection for multiple long-term benefits

Approach 6.4: Maintain or enhance genetic diversity

Strategy 7: Alter urban ecosystems toward new and expected conditions

Approach 7.1: Favor or restore non-invasive species that are expected to be adapted to future conditions.

Approach 7.2: Establish or encourage new species mixes

Approach 7.3: Introduce species, genotypes, and cultivars that are expected to be adapted to future conditions

Approach 7.4: Disfavor species that are distinctly maladapted

Approach 7.5: Move at-risk species to more suitable locations

Approach 7.6: Promptly revegetate and remediate sites after disturbance

Approach 7.7: Realign severely altered systems toward future conditions

Strategy 8: Promote mental and social health in response to climate change

Approach 8.1: Provide nature experiences to ease stress and support mental function

Approach 8.2: Encourage community and social cohesion to support climate response

Strategy 9: Promote human health co-benefits in nature-based climate adaptation

Approach 9.1: Co-design large-scale green infrastructure and built systems to promote health

Approach 9.2: Provide micro-scale nature experiences to promote health and healing