



City of Trees CHALLENGE

2021 IMPACT REPORT

The City of Trees Challenge was launched on Arbor Day 2020 by Boise City Council President Elaine Clegg in partnership with the Treasure Valley Canopy Network. Over the course of the next 10 years, Boise has committed to planting one tree for every Boise household and one forest seedling for every Boise resident in Idaho forests.

The City of Trees Challenge is a critical component of Boise's Climate Action Roadmap. By providing every citizen with an opportunity to plant a tree, the Challenge directly improves air and water quality, improves the quality of life, promotes healthy and active lifestyles, mitigates urban heat, and makes Boise more resilient in the face of a changing climate.

In its second year, the Challenge has made great progress in growing local and national partnerships, fundraising and strategically targeting tree planting to help the city provide a high quality of life for all Boiseans.

“By encouraging tree planting in neighborhoods with low canopy cover we can increase the health and wellbeing of the community as a whole. Our challenge as a community is to plant trees where they are needed the most to ensure that everyone can enjoy their benefits.” - Boise City Council President Elaine Clegg



LOCAL INVESTMENT WITH GLOBAL IMPACT

The City of Trees Challenge is committed to addressing the needs of the community at every scale by pursuing three key pillars: inspiring local climate action, enhancing the overall health of Boise and its residents, and addressing the impacts of climate change worldwide. Through planting, growing and maintaining healthy trees across the city, Boise can achieve each of these outcomes.

EQUITY FOCUSED LOCAL INVESTMENTS

Through partnerships with Boise's Climate Action Division and American Forests, the Challenge is using equity focused mapping tools to strategically target tree planting efforts in neighborhoods of greatest need, and providing opportunities for every resident to advance climate action at their home.

Local residents have invested in the Challenge through private donations made possible through the Cauze Donation Platform & Love Boise Parks t-shirt donations.

Ten local nursery partners have joined the Challenge and are helping to increase local tree plantings and support the local green industry.

ENHANCE THE HEALTH OF BOISE AND ITS RESIDENTS

In 2021 the City of Trees Challenge secured financial support from the USDA Forest Service to employ equity focused tree planting programs. Tree plantings in low canopy areas of Boise will help cool surrounding environments, create walkable streets, remove harmful pollutants and create healthy green spaces.

ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE WORLDWIDE

The City of Trees Challenge is advancing on commitments to the 1t.org Trillion Trees Pledge to plant, grow and maintain 335,000 trees by 2030 – to-date the Challenge has recorded over 4,600 tree plantings in Boise & 37,000 seedling plantings in Idaho forests.

The City of Boise is continuing its pledge as a Tree City of the World.

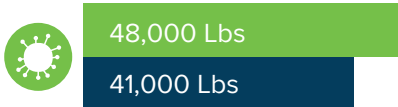
LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT

The Challenge is capturing the ecosystem service and economic benefits of recorded tree plantings. Based on the approximately 2,450 trees planted in 2021, we estimate the following ecosystem service benefits over the course of the next 50+ years**

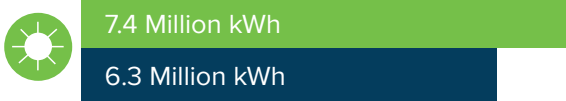
Carbon Removal and Avoidance



Air Pollutant Removal



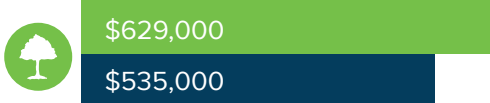
Energy Conservation



Stormwater Captured and Cleaned



Increased Property Values



Boise residents registered **460 TREES** in 2021. Next time you plant a tree make sure to register it and join the challenge!
www.cityoftreeschallenge.org

ROOTED IN TREE PLANTING - 2,450 TREES IN 2021!

Boise invests in planting trees across the city in parks, schools, new developments and on private land by partnering with home and business owners. The City of Boise, Treasure Valley Canopy Network, The Nature Conservancy in Idaho, Boise Farmers Market, Jayker ReWholesale Nursery and Boise Neighborhood Associations planted over 2,000 trees in 2021. All trees planted through the challenge will be certified through the City Forest Credits Impact Certification.

TREE PLANTINGS

600 TREES

LOCATION: Boise homes & businesses

PARTNER: Boise Farmers Market

150 TREES

LOCATION: Boise homes in areas with greatest need*

PARTNER: Boise Neighborhoods

1,000 TREES

LOCATION: New residential development

PARTNER: New residents

400 TREES

LOCATION: Parks and streets

PARTNER: Boise Parks and Recreation

300 TREES

LOCATION: Riparian and habitat areas

PARTNER: Boise River Enhancement Network & Boise Parks and Rec.

TOTAL
2,450 TREES PLANTED

**Estimates derived from iTree™ Design v7.0

*Determined by analyzing urban heat, tree canopy & equity

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Similar to the effort of planting an individual tree, the City of Trees Challenge has focused the first two years on growing strong roots. Tree planting numbers in Boise have been slow to grow, but with the community partnerships and funding resources built, 2022 looks to be a year of significant growth and success! Keep an eye on a few key strategies and programs in the coming year:

Boise Parks and Recreation and Community Forestry have expanded staffing resources which will:

- Update the city's existing tree inventory
- Continue to enhance tree planting efforts in neighborhoods of greatest need
- Bolster recycling efforts as part of Idaho's Urban Wood Network

Treasure Valley Canopy Network has expanded funding and staffing resources which will:

- Update Boise's tree canopy data & planning tools to address urban heat, equity and tree canopy needs
- Enhance the BSU Community Steward Internship Program
- Implement a citywide Tree Captain Program to empower volunteers alongside community partners in neighborhoods of greatest need
- Grow green industry partnerships to plant more trees and ensure they are cared for by a robust industry workforce for the next generation
- Double efforts to restore lands damaged by the Pioneer Fire in the Boise National Forest by planting 75,000 forest seedlings in partnership with Arbor Day Foundation and The Nature Conservancy in Idaho.

PARTNERS

We would like to thank all the valuable partners who contributed to the first two years of the Challenge

LEADERS

- City of Boise - Council President Elaine Clegg; Parks and Recreation Department; Climate Division; Planning & Development Services - Energize Our Neighborhoods
- Treasure Valley Canopy Network
- The Nature Conservancy in Idaho

VALUED PARTNERS

- Jayker Nurseries Inc.
- Boise Farmers Market

GREEN INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Tree Care Companies - Boise Tree & Idaho Tree Preservation
- Nurseries - Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association, D&B Supply, Jayker Nurseries, Edward's Greenhouse & Flower Shop, Franz Witte, Far West Landscape & Garden, Flutterby Gardens
- Timber Creek Recycling
- Love Boise Parks
- Cauze



TO LEARN MORE, engage with us and join the Challenge, visit our website cityoftreeschallenge.org or contact us at cityoftreeschallenge@cityofboise.org.

