

**Colonial Village  
Neighborhood Association**

March 9, 2023

**Tom Welborn  
Trees Knoxville**



**Tell us what you think today!**

**Get Involved!**

SIGN UP FOR  
**PROJECT UPDATES**

**INVITE US**  
TO YOUR NEXT EVENT

**TELL US**  
WHAT YOU THINK

[www.KnoxvilleTreePlan.org](http://www.KnoxvilleTreePlan.org)

Open house with update on progress and findings - April 2023

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## Knoxville Tree Benefits - Tree Keeper Information from City website

- Environmental benefits - **\$1, 807,425.44 annually**
- Greenhouse Gas Benefits - **\$42,587.94 - CO<sub>2</sub> avoided & sequestered**
- Reducing Stormwater runoff & maintenance cost - **\$ 450,469.89 – 45+ million gallons saved**
- Energy Benefits - **\$245,921.79 – energy saved**
- Improved Air Quality - **\$63,544.54 – pollutants removed**
- Property Value - **\$1,004,901.28 – value increase**
- Wildlife Habitat/Diversity
- Public Health/Wellness
- Traffic Calming and Accident Reduction
- Food Production

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## Urban Forest Program Continuum

Knoxville's Progress

1. Tree City USA – 1991
2. Tree Board - 1992
3. Urban Forest Program - 2012
4. Trees Knoxville -2015
5. Tree Inventory - 2020
6. Master Plan -2023



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## How We Got Here

2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study



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## 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study

Mapping of 5 Land Cover Types

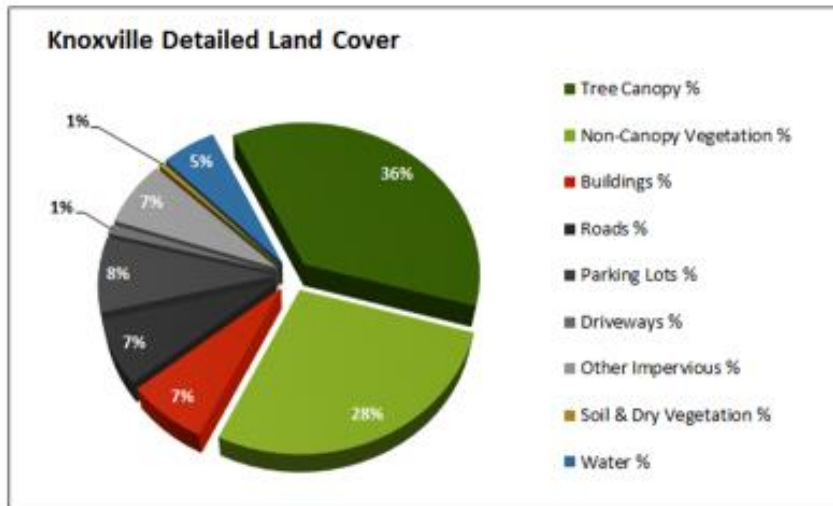
1. Tree Cover
2. Other Green Space
3. Impervious Surfaces
  - a. Buildings
  - b. Paved surfaces
4. Bare Ground
5. Water



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# 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study

## Results



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# 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study

## Study Broke the City & County into Smaller Geographies

- City of Knoxville
- City Council Districts
- Watersheds
- Neighborhoods
- Census Tracts
- Census Blocks
- City of Knoxville Maintenance Zones
- City of Knoxville Zoning
- 100 ft. Stream Buffer
- Street and Highway Right-of-way
- City Parks and Public Spaces
- Schools



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# 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study

Also looked at Changes in Tree Cover from 2008 to 2018

[Tree Canopy Assessment \(igis.org\)](https://www.knox.gov/2020-urban-tree-canopy-study)

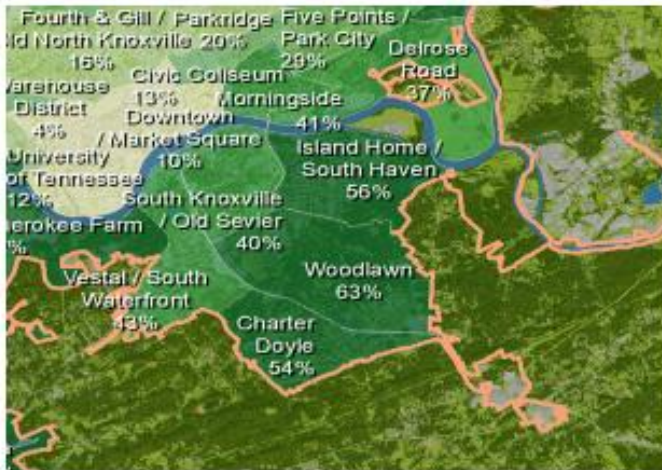


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## 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Study

Study Broke the City into Smaller Geographies

Charter Doyle - 54%  
Canopy Cover with 4%  
decline (2008-2018)



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# 2023 Urban Forest Master Plan

1. Trees Knoxville raises funds, and put out Requests for Proposals In July 2022
  - a. Funding from City, State, KUB, KKB, UT and Local Organizations
  - b. Still bringing partners together
2. Selection Committee formed and selected a Consultant in October 2022 (City, Trees Knoxville, KUB, City Tree Board, Knoxville Knox County Planning) from 7 different proposals.
3. Project Kick-off December 2022



## Priority areas to be covered in the Urban Forest Master Plan

This list was developed to gain information for City of Knoxville and Trees Knoxville to inform future management

- Assess urban forest conditions and threats. Rank the threat and how to address the threats.
- Determine technologies to manage the UTC.
- Evaluate existing relationships with infrastructure and trees and recommend improvements.
- Analyze city urban forest codes and recommend improvements.
- Assess the city's urban forestry program and make recommendations to improve it.
- Evaluate work on private property, and recommend ways to manage trees on private property.
- Execute a robust public involvement process. Review the Tree Board structure and provide any recommendations on their roles and duties.



## Priority areas to be covered in the Urban Forest Master Plan

This list was developed to gain information for City of Knoxville and Trees Knoxville to inform future management

- Define metrics to measure success and keep the plan updated.
- Recommend "Priority Planting Locations".
- Recommended "Urban Tree Canopy Goals".
- Strategize actionable funding mechanisms to implement the UFMP.
- Develop outreach and education strategies and provide guidance to implement them.
- Deliver approaches for public & private partners to collaborate on urban forestry efforts.
- Provide guidance on how Knox County may build an Urban Forestry program.

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## Knoxville Plan

City Focused

Over 24,000 acres of tree canopy in City of Knoxville (36%)

Over 14,000 acres on private residential land (2/3 of all canopy)

Approximately 75% on privately owned land citywide.

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## UFMP Process

### Three Phases

#### Phase I: Project Launch

Phase II: Discovery

Phase III: Plan Development

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## Phase I: Project Launch

**Timeline:** November - December 2022

### Efforts:

- Project Set Up
- Data Collection
- Project Website - [KnoxvilleTreePlan.org](http://KnoxvilleTreePlan.org)
- Steering Committee
- Advisory Group
- Kick Off Event



## UFMP Process

### Three Phases

Phase I: Project Launch

#### Phase II: Discovery

Phase III: Plan Development

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## Phase II: Discovery

**Timeline:** January - June 2022

### Focus:

1. What exists or is in place currently?
2. Where do we want to go?

### Research/Analysis

- Tree canopy trends
- City public tree Inventory
- Impact of climate
- Invasives and natives
- Planting strategies
- Prior urban forest efforts
- Broader city plans
- Review of City operations - urban forestry
- Review of City policies/code related to trees
- Intersections of Trees Knoxville, City and County

### Engagement

- Interviews
- Advisory Board Workshops
- Open House
- Online community input
- Speaking Circuit



## UFMP Process

### Three Phases

Phase I: Project  
Launch

Phase II: Discovery

**Phase III: Plan  
Development**

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## Phase III: Plan Development

**Timeline:** June–October 2023

**Efforts:**

- Setting Goals
- Developing Plan
- Review Process
- Final Plan Release

## Q&A

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