COLORADO SPRINGS

SAMPLE TREE INVENTORIES

TREES INVENTORIED

137,763 TREES

2005-2018 INVENTORIES

TOP SPECIES

GREEN ASH

20% OF ALL TREES

TOP SIZE CLASS

12-18 INCHES

32% OF ALL TREES

The urban forest in Colorado Springs is a valuable asset that provides residents and visitors with many ecological, environmental, and community benefits. This assessment analyzed the City's existing urban forest composition, including the species diversity, age structure, and maintenance needs of individual trees. Data from several inventories dating back to 2005 and covering parks, streets, and select neighborhoods were assessed. The results, which are further explored in the Urban Forest Management Plan Research Summary, provide the necessary information that the City can use to assign maintenance tasks that support the strategic preservation of exisiting trees and planting of new trees, and were incorporated in the 4 management scenarios in the primary Urban Forest Management Plan document.

Inventory Location	Year	Trees
Old North End Neighborhood	2018	3,300
Southeast Neighborhood	2018	1,740
Village 7 Neighborhood	2014	963
Park Trees	2013	11,017
Street Trees	2005	120,743
Total Trees Inventoried (2005-2018)		**137,763**

Tree Inventories

Sample Areas

Neighborhoods

- Old North End (2018)
- Southborough (2018)
- Village Seven (2014)

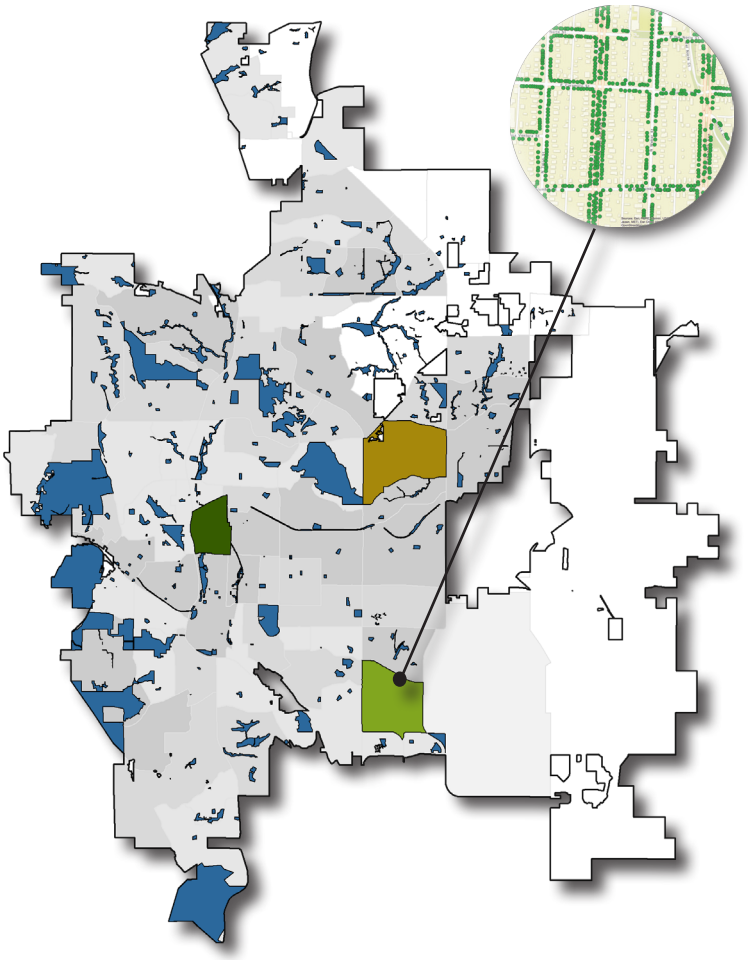
Parks (2013)

- Parks Land Use

Streets (2005)

Trees per Neighborhood

- 0
- 1 - 10
- 11 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 2,000
- 2,001 - 5,000



Total Street Trees*	**~250,000**
Total Park Trees*	**~20,000**
Total Public Trees*	**~270,000**

**Note: Total tree counts are based on estimates from the City provided as a part of the 2020 Urban Forest Management Plan. Actual numbers are unknown.*

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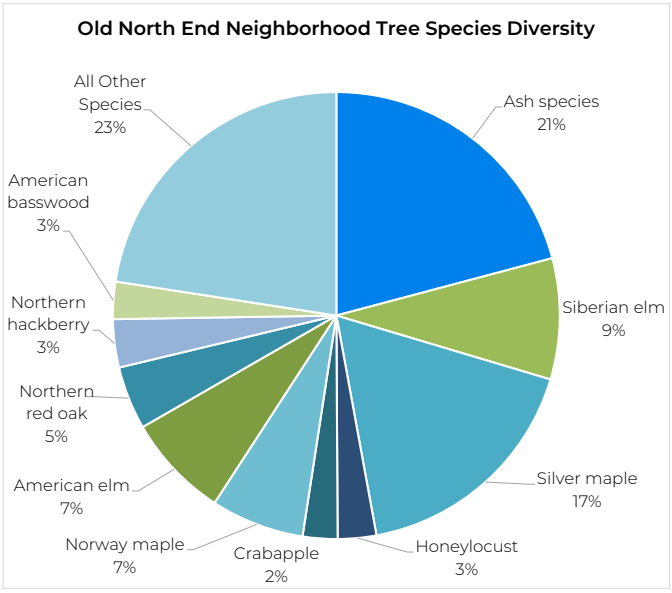
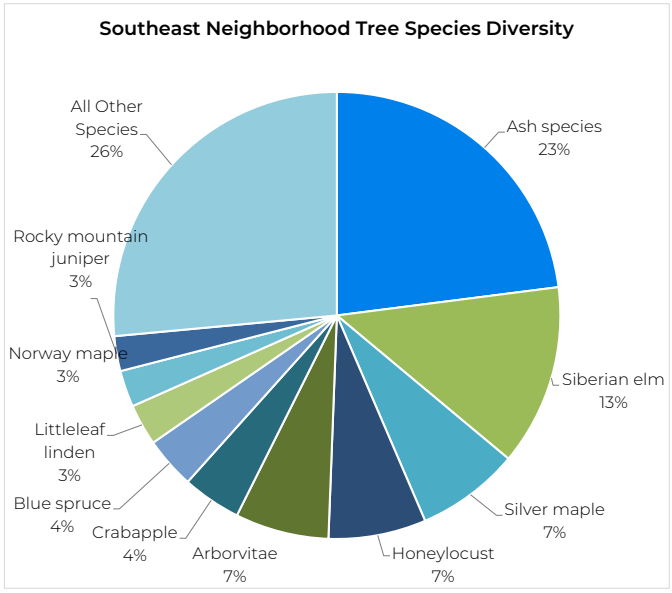
Tree inventory data were analyzed for two neighborhoods in Colorado Springs in 2018 as a part of the Tree Canopy Assessment project. Species, size, and maintenance needs were assessed for each tree in the right-of-way in the Old North End and Southeast neighborhoods. This data was combined with the City's existing tree inventory datasets, including the Village 7 neighborhood (2014), park trees (2013), and street trees (2005), to get a picture of the urban forest's composition and structure.

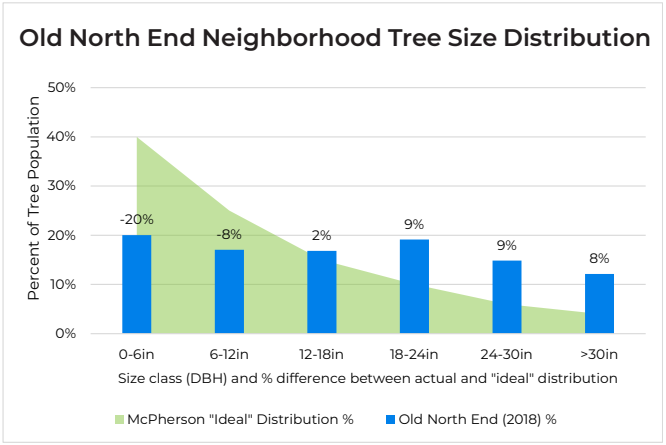
TREE SPECIES DISTRIBUTION

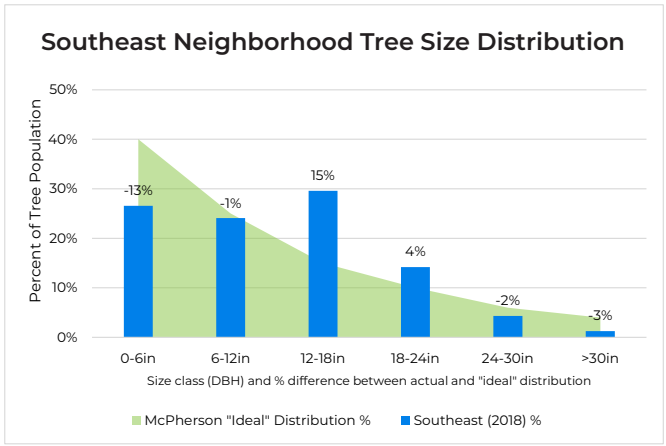


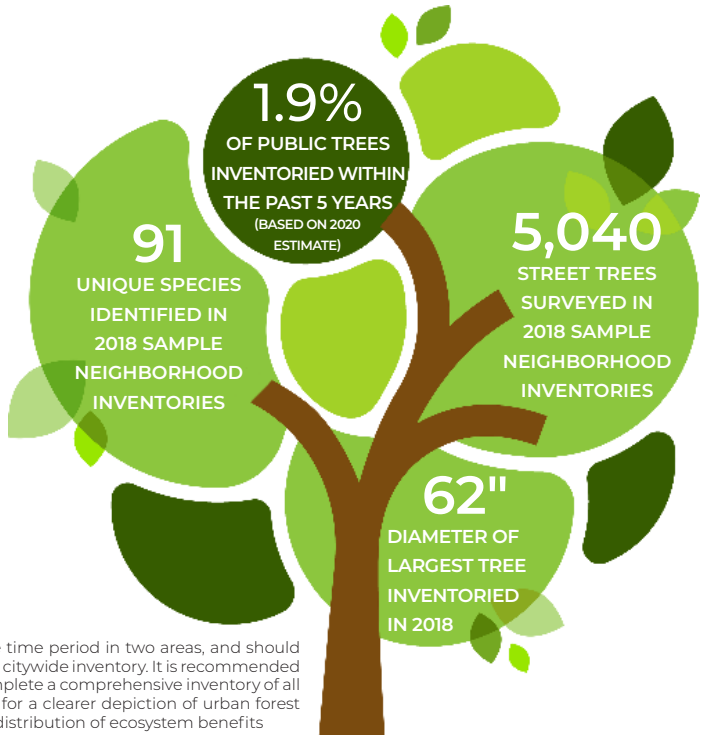


Ash species were the most prevalent in both neighborhoods, comprising 21 percent of the Old North End and 23 percent of the Southeast, followed by Siberian elm at 9 percent and 13 percent, respectively. In addition to exceeding the recommended amounts of any one species to maintain a healthy species diversity, these two species are particularly concerning. Ash trees are susceptible to major threats such as emerald ash borer (EAB) and Siberian elms are at risk from elm leaf beetles, have brittle branches, and are known to be prolific sprouters in undesired or unplanned areas. The size structure of Colorado Springs' urban forest does not reflect the industry standard "ideal" distribution, which states that the majority of trees (40 percent) should be in the smallest size class. In the Old North End, only 20 percent of trees are in this class, and in the Southeast, 27 percent. Many trees are sized 12-18" (30 percent of Southeast trees) or 18-24" (19 percent of Old North End), which puts the City at risk of losing a large proportion of its canopy if these larger trees that continue to age and decline are not replaced by a younger urban forest.

TREE SIZE DISTRIBUTION







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This sample data represents one time period in two areas, and should not be substituted for a complete citywide inventory. It is recommended that the City and its partners complete a comprehensive inventory of all public trees in Colorado Springs for a clearer depiction of urban forest structure, health, resiliency, and distribution of ecosystem benefits

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