

# Public Tree Inventory

## City of Lawrenceburg, Indiana

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Davey Resource Group, Inc. completed a geographic information systems-based tree inventory of the City of Lawrenceburg, Indiana in July 2017. All trees, stumps, and planting sites along the city's public street rights-of-way (ROW) in the downtown area and within public parks and properties were inventoried.

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The following statistical summary of the public tree population reflects genus and species composition, condition, primary maintenance recommendations, risk ratings, and annual benefits that have been calculated using i-Tree Streets:

- A total of 818 sites were inventoried, including 572 trees, 226 planting sites, and 20 stumps.
- Site distribution of inventoried areas includes 592 sites along streets and 226 sites within parks and public properties.
- The inventory found 59 species representing 35 genera.
- The genus *Acer* (maple) comprised 21% of the tree population, followed by *Fraxinus* (ash), 11%; *Pyrus* (pear), 9%; *Gleditsia* (honeylocust), 8%; *Prunus* (cherry), 5%; *Picea* (spruce), 4%; *Quercus* (oak), 4%; *Thuja* (arborvitae), 4%; *Platanus* (sycamore), 3%; *Ulmus* (elm), 3%; and all other genera, 29%.
- Conditions include 435 Good trees (76%); 85 Fair trees (15%); and 31 Poor trees (5%). There were 21 Dead trees (4%).
- Recommended primary maintenance needs include 439 Prunes (54%); 74 Trains (9%); 59 Removals (7%); 20 Stump Removals (2%), and 226 Plants (28%).
- Risk ratings include 543 Low Risk trees (95%); 27 Moderate Risk trees (5%); 2 High Risk trees (less than 1%); and 0 Extreme Risk trees (0%).
- The inventoried trees contribute \$23,936 in annual benefits (\$41.85 per tree and \$4.79 per capita), including \$10,667 in aesthetic and other tangible benefits; \$950 in air quality improvements; \$406 in carbon sequestered and avoided; \$3,466 in energy consumption savings; and approximately \$8,447 in stormwater management.

The tree inventory is an important planning tool that should help the City of Lawrenceburg establish a systematic program for tree care and determine budget, staff, and equipment needs. Implementation of the maintenance recommendations will improve public safety and help guide future management decisions. When properly maintained, trees return economic, environmental, and social value to the community. These benefits greatly outweigh the time and money invested in planting, pruning, protection, and removal.

Some of the environmental benefits trees provide include shading and acting as windbreaks, which decreases residential energy consumption; slowing and reducing the amount of stormwater that reaches storm drains, rivers, and lakes; reducing noise levels; cleansing atmospheric pollutants; producing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide; stabilizing the soil by controlling wind and water erosion; and providing habitat for wildlife. Additionally, the aesthetic benefits of properly managed and well-placed trees are numerous. Attractive areas increase property values and appeal to commercial businesses. The shade and beauty trees provide enhance quality of life throughout the City of Lawrenceburg.