

Appendix F

Glossary

American National Standards Institute (ANSI): ANSI is a private, nonprofit organization that facilitates the standardization work of its members in the United States. ANSI's goals are to promote and facilitate voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and to maintain their integrity.

ANSI A300: Tree care performance parameters established by ANSI that can be used to develop specifications for tree maintenance.

bare soil land cover: The land cover areas mapped as bare soil typically include vacant lots, construction areas, and baseball fields.

canopy: Branches and foliage which make up a tree's crown.

canopy assessment: See **urban tree canopy (UTC) assessment**.

canopy cover: As seen from above, it is the area of land surface that is covered by tree canopy.

canopy spread: A data field that estimates the width of a tree's canopy in five-foot increments.

extensively-managed: A term used to describe trees managed as a group, such as in wooded or natural areas (not street trees).

community forest: see **urban forest**.

DBH: see **tree size**.

existing UTC: The amount of urban tree canopy (UTC) present within the study boundary. See **urban tree canopy**.

genus: A taxonomic category ranking below a family and above a species and generally consisting of a group of species exhibiting similar characteristics. In taxonomic nomenclature, the genus name is used, either alone or followed by a Latin adjective or epithet, to form the name of a species.

geographic information system (GIS): A technology that is used to view and analyze data from a geographic perspective. The technology is a piece of an organization's overall information system framework. GIS links location to information (such as people to addresses, buildings to parcels, or streets within a network) and layers that information to give you a better understanding of how it all interrelates.

global positioning system (GPS): GPS is a system of earth-orbiting satellites that make it possible for people with ground receivers to pinpoint their geographic location.

greenspace: A land use planning and conservation term used to describe protected areas of undeveloped landscapes.

impervious land cover: The area that does not allow rainfall to infiltrate the soil and typically includes buildings, parking lots, and roads.

intensively managed: A term used to indicate street trees and park trees that are managed individually (not wooded areas or natural areas).

land cover: Physical features on the earth mapped from satellite or aerial imagery such as bare soils, canopy, impervious, pervious, or water.

mitigate: Make less severe, or lessen impacts.

monoculture: A population dominated by one single species or very few species.

open water land cover: The land cover areas mapped as water typically include lakes, oceans, rivers, and streams.

pervious land cover: The vegetative area that allows rainfall to infiltrate the soil and typically includes parks, golf courses, and residential areas.

possible UTC: The amount of land that is theoretically available for the establishment of tree canopy within the town boundary. This includes all pervious and bare soil surfaces.

potential plantable area: The amount of land that is realistically available for the establishment of tree canopy within the town boundary. This includes all pervious and bare soil surfaces with specified land uses.

pruning: The selective removal of plant parts to meet specific goals and objectives.

relative tree canopy: The level or amount of canopy achieved compared to what has been defined as realistically possible.

removal (primary maintenance need): Data field collected during the inventory identifying the need to remove a tree. Trees designated for removal have defects that cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category have a large percentage of dead crown.

right-of-way (ROW): A strip of land generally owned by a public entity over which facilities, such as highways, railroads, or power lines, are built.

risk: Combination of the probability of an event occurring and its consequence.

stormwater management: management of the runoff that occurs during and after precipitation. Typically involves managing stormwater that cannot infiltrate naturally into the ground because of hard surfaces like roads, sidewalks, and buildings.

street tree: A street tree is defined as a tree within the right-of-way.

structural defect: A feature, condition, or deformity of a tree or tree part that indicates weak structure and contributes to the likelihood of failure.

species: Fundamental category of taxonomic classification, ranking below a genus or subgenus and consisting of related organisms capable of interbreeding.

tree: A tree is defined as a perennial woody plant that may grow more than 20 feet tall. Characteristically, it has one main stem, although many species may grow as multi-stemmed forms.

Tree benefit: An economic, environmental, or social improvement that benefited the community and resulted mainly from the presence of a tree. The benefit received has real or intrinsic value associated with it.

tree canopy land cover: The area of land surface that is covered by the tree's canopy (leaf covered branches) as seen from above an aerial view in summer months.

tree inventory: Comprehensive database containing information or records about individual trees typically collected by an arborist.

tree ordinance: Tree ordinances are policy tools used by communities striving to attain a healthy, vigorous, and well-managed urban forest. Tree ordinances simply provide the authorization and standards for management activities.

tree size: A tree's diameter measured to the nearest inch in one-inch size classes at 4.5 feet above ground, also known as diameter at breast height (DBH) or diameter.

urban forest: All of the trees within a municipality or a community. This can include the trees along streets or rights-of-way, parks and greenspaces, and forests.

urban tree canopy assessment: A study performed of land cover classes to gain an understanding of the tree canopy coverage, particularly as it relates to the amount of tree canopy that currently exists and the amount of tree canopy that could exist. Typically performed using aerial photographs, GIS data, or LIDAR.

urban heat island: a city or urban area that is significantly warming than the surrounding more rural areas, due in large part to development and its related hard surfaces (roads, buildings).