

DOWNLOAD THIS FLYER
AND LEARN MORE AT
PlantSomethingOregon.com/pmlb

More than 80 percent of Americans live in urban areas, but the air in their communities contains a host of pollutants that can harm human health, from visible smog caused by motor vehicle exhaust to particulate pollution consisting of dust, dirt, pollen, ash and smoke.

Fortunately, trees and other plants can purify the air, removing pollutants both seen and unseen. Trees catch airborne particulates with their leaves and bark, absorb gases and odors, contribute oxygen and reduce heat through respiration.

A mature leafy tree generates as much oxygen in a single season as 10 people inhale in a year.¹ Trees also release water vapor into the atmosphere through their leaves, cooling the surrounding air, which is especially important in urban areas where heat is trapped by solid surfaces.²

Plants Make Life Better

Trees improve air quality.

Just 100 trees can remove two tons of carbon dioxide from the air annually.² In fact, urban trees in the contiguous United States have been found to remove nearly 800,000 tons of air pollution from the atmosphere every year.

In addition, a recent study found that green plants remove city street pollution up to eight times more than previously thought.³

By Elizabeth Petersen
Photo courtesy of www.sustainablecitiescollective.com

SOURCES:

¹http://forestry.about.com/od/treephysiology/tp/tree_value.htm

²<http://www.americanforests.org/blog/the-important-relationship-between-forests-and-air/>

³<http://phys.org/news/2012-07-green-city-street-pollution-previously.html>

**PLANT
SOMETHING™**
plant-something.org