



HELP CREATE AN URBAN FOREST

WHY AN URBAN FOREST?

In France and Europe, Reforest'Action plants urban forests to help develop greener, more sustainable and more attractive cities. Autonomous within two years, they contribute to the development of local biodiversity and the fight against climate change thanks to CO₂ storage. They shelter 30 times more biodiversity and store more CO₂ than a regular forest. Trees are also a way of cooling and purifying the air in cities, in response to an ever-increasing number of heatwaves and the formation of heat islands.

” THE FOREST IS
THE CITY’S FUTURE.

TREES IN THE CITY:
SEEN AS VITAL BY
THE FRENCH PEOPLE

80%

OF FRENCH PEOPLE WANT
TO LIVE NEAR AN URBAN
GREEN SPACE.

90%

OF FRENCH PEOPLE NEED
DAILY CONTACT WITH
PLANT LIFE.



THE PRINCIPLES OF AN URBAN FOREST

These woodland areas in the heart of the city become autonomous in just two years and contribute to city dwellers' well-being while supporting the emergence of sustainable cities and protecting the environment.



2 YEARS



OUR METHOD

Our technique is inspired by a method developed by botanist Akira Miyawaki in 1970 and allows a forest to grow in record time, on soils with no humus content or that are highly degraded, such as urban soils. The keys to success? The selection of a high number of native species and dense planting to foster emulation and cooperation between species.

- **DENSITY** : 5 trees / m².
- **DIVERSITY** : 15-30 local species adapted to climate change.
- **MAINTENANCE** : 2 years. The forest can then evolve autonomously.

HOW DOES IT ACTUALLY WORK?

When land is made available by a public or private stakeholder, **Reforest'Action** seeks the funding required to develop the project, and takes care of the technical engineering and planting operation.



PROVISION OF LAND

with a surface area of at least 300 m² by a public or private stakeholder (e.g. a municipality or company).



FOREST FUNDED

by the organisation that provides the land or by a corporate contributor.



PROJECT ENGINEERING

financial arrangements (including seeking funds) and technical engineering (preliminary study of the land and technical deployment).



PLANTING THE FOREST

The planting work is done by Reforest'Action's technical network and may involve citizens or the project backer's staff and clients.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Recommended minimum: 300 m² of land
- Width of the area: 5 metres minimum.
- Storage space available.
- Area accessible to a compact excavator.
- 5 metres side clearance.
- An all-earth site (no slab or underground car park).
- No pipes or power cables within the planting area.

REFOREST'ACTION OVERSEES THE 4 KEY STAGES OF THE PROJECT

1. PRELIMINARY STUDY



Analysis of the soil in the area to be afforested and identification of 15–30 tree species that are native to the region and existed on the planting site or nearby before any human intervention. Seedlings of the selected species are then acquired from nurseries.

2. GROUND WORK



Soil preparation by our technical teams on the ground. Mounds of earth may be built up on a plot to regulate rain water runoff. The planting area is then fertilised using natural amendments such as wood chippings and decomposed plant matter, which add nutrients to the soil.

3. PLANTING



Trees planted by technicians or via a participatory planting operation involving the public or the project's backers. The trees are planted very densely: 3–5 seedlings per m². The seedlings are planted densely and randomly distributed to reproduce the complexity of the natural environment where there is emulation and cooperation between species. Piles of straw are then placed around the trees to protect the young plants.

4. MAINTENANCE & FOLLOW-UP



Maintenance and follow-up over a two-year period. Often, over 90% of the seedlings become established during the first year. The young trees double in size over the first year. After two years, the forest is able to evolve autonomously and no longer requires maintenance. A closed canopy is formed within five years and a mature woodland in 20 years.

HELPING CREATE AN URBAN FOREST BRINGS BENEFITS FOR:

CITIZENS



AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

Today, nine people out of ten across the world breathe in polluted air. Yet urban trees can reduce the concentration of fine particles (air pollutants released by building heating systems and vehicle use) by 20–50%.



URBAN COOLING

By producing humidity and providing shade, trees help cool down the atmosphere and mitigate the increasingly frequent heatwaves while reducing the urban heat island effect. Urban trees can cool ambient air by 2–8°C.



PERSONAL WELL-BEING

Wooded areas improve local residents' health and morale by reducing blood pressure and stress. Living near an urban green area lowers the risk of falling ill and increases life expectancy by seven years.

AND THE ENVIRONMENT



CO₂ STORAGE

Urban forests contribute to the fight against climate change on a local and global scale through the storage of carbon by trees.



BIODIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT

Urban forests make it possible to develop the biodiversity of the local fauna and flora by providing numerous shelters for animals, plants and micro-organisms.



**TO CONTRIBUTE TO AN URBAN FOREST PROJECT,
GET IN TOUCH!**



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