

# URBAN STREET TREES (UST) IN THE ST. CATHARINES BIA



## UST REPLACEMENT COST

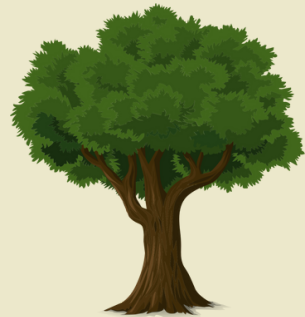
It would cost **\$ 240,859** to *only* replace the USTs in the downtown BIA. This does not factor the other costs and value, socially, economically, and environmentally, associated with USTs.



## URBAN FOREST

An urban forest is the collection of trees and shrubs that are growing within a city. It may contain any kind of woody plant vegetation growing in or around our homes.

*City of St. Catharines*



## TREE MATURITY

**Nine trees greater than 50 cm** were recorded in 2016. This dropped to six in 2022.

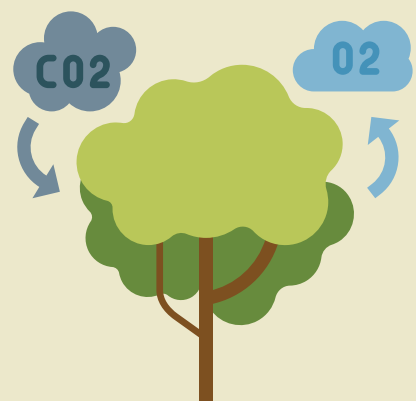


## CARBON STORAGE

Carbon storage plays an important role in climate change mitigation. It is measured as the total quantity of carbon stored by the USTs based on species, Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) & frequency. In 2022, **31.44 metric tons** of carbon was stored by USTs in Downtown St. Catharines. This is down 6.23 tons from 2016.

## OXYGEN PRODUCTION

Gross amount of oxygen produced by the BIA street trees. In 2016 & 2022, **2.8 metric tons** of oxygen was produced.



## MOST COMMON TREE

The most common tree in Downtown St. Catharines is a **Honey Locust** also known by its scientific name ***Gleditsia triacanthos***.



## SPECIES RICHNESS

The species richness value for UST in the BIA is **0.77**. The closer we are to 1 the more diverse our trees are!



## AVERAGE SIZE

While the average tree size was **20 cm**, the *most frequent* tree size observed was **only 6 cm**.

## URBAN FOREST & COMMUNITY

USTs play an integral role in our urban forests. Respecting these important **natural assets** and allowing them to grow is the best strategy for protecting USTs in the BIA.

