

Preparing For Climate Change

This session will provide information on the current and anticipated effects of climate change on the Boston region and its urban forests and describe resources and tools that can be used to integrate climate change into urban forest management.

Agenda

Part 1: Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation in the Boston Region

- 9:00 Welcome, Introductions, Workshop Objectives and Context
Axum Teferra, Clean Energy Planner, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Leslie Brandt, Climate Change Specialist, Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, US Forest Service
- 9:30 Changing Climate in the Boston Region
Paul Kirshen, Professor and Academic Director of the Sustainable Solutions Lab, UMASS Boston
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Regional/Local Climate Resiliency Planning: A Focus on Natural Resource Conservation and Restoration
Julie A. Conroy, AICP, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- 10:35 Managing Gas Leaks for a Healthier Urban Forest
Patrick Roche, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- 10:45 Climate-Smart Cities: Harnessing Data for Climate Solutions
Shaun O'Rourke, Green Infrastructure Director, Trust for Public Land
- 11:15 Adaptation Resources in Massachusetts
Katie Theoharides, Director of Climate and Global Warming Solutions, MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs
- 11:30 Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity of Boston Area Trees
Leslie Brandt, Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, US Forest Service
- 12:00 Lunch



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Part 2: Adapting Urban Forests to Climate Change

- 12:45 Adapting Urban Forests to Climate Change: Approaches for Action
Leslie Brandt, Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, US Forest Service
- 1:00 Panel Presentations on Real World Examples of Urban Forest Adaptation
Assessing Your Community's Tree Canopy
Jarlath O'Neil-Dunne, Director, University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Laboratory

Green Streets Project-Springfield
David Bloniarz, Research Scientist, US Forest Service

Greening the Gateway Cities
Bob O'Connor, Director, Division of Conservation Services, MA EEA

"As if you were There": Climate Adaptations in Worcester
Erin Lane, Coordinator, USDA Northeast Climate Hub

Examples of Adaptation in the City of Cambridge's Urban Forest
David Lefcourt, City Arborist and Tree Warden, City of Cambridge
- 2:00 Panel Q&A
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Activity: Incorporating Climate Change into Your Work
- 3:00 Group Rounds and Discussion
- 3:30 Discussion of Breakout
- 3:50 Closing Comments
- 4:00 Adjourn

