

Improving Tree Canopy for Climate Resilience

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<http://naturechange.org/2017/07/28/improving-tree-canopy-for-climate-resilience/>

The ***Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay*** is sharing some good news. Mature trees can play an important role in controlling and limiting storm water runoff, cooling urban areas and reducing harmful air pollution – all at the same time.

In this video essay, Nature Change hears from Christine Crissman, Executive Director of the Watershed Center located in Traverse City. She explains that the frequency of severe rain storms and the severity of those storms are increasing across Northwestern Lower Michigan. That means larger amounts of storm water runoff which can damage the water quality in the Grand Traverse Bay. Crissman says that one effective response to reduce the negative impacts of storm water is increasing tree canopy in both urban and smaller community settings.

Topics Covered

Forestry; Street Trees; Urban Canopy; Water Quality; Climate Change

Next Generation Science Standards

- 3-LS4-4. Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change.
- HS-ESS2-2. Analyze geoscience data to make the claim that one change to Earth's surface can create feedbacks that cause changes to other Earth systems.
- HS-ESS2-4. Use a model to describe how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate.