



SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE

ANNUAL REPORT: 2019 City of Urbana, Illinois

Photo Caption: Arbor Division natural compost spreader for synthetic free turf management

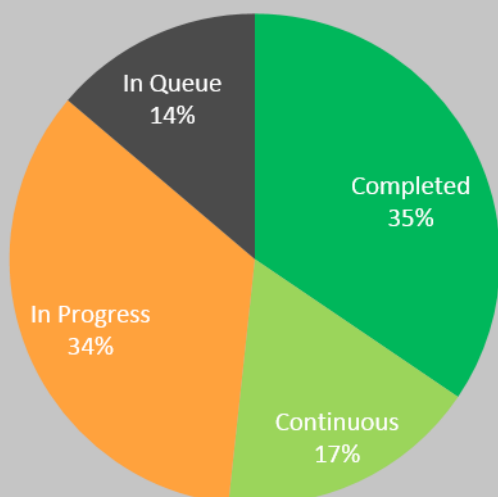
SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE

The City of Urbana incorporates sustainability and resilience throughout a number of programs and departments, working to improve the performance of energy, water, and waste management. The City administers community energy efficiency and water conservation efforts while working with staff to also save energy and water. It provides curbside and multi-family recycling service while conducting engagement with City staff to reduce waste. The City operates the Landscape Recycling Center as an enterprise which provides disposal services for landscape trimmings and converts this material into saleable lawn care products. The City is also responsible for maintenance of the a closed landfill and pursues compatible reuse of the landfill property. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, th City began working across departments to improve continuity of operations preparations. It manages a Municipal Electric Aggregation program and the concomitant purchase of renewable energy credits. The Sustainability Advisory Commission whose members are appointed by the Mayor, review and make recommendations regarding this work. For more information, visit <http://urbanaininois.us/sustainability>.

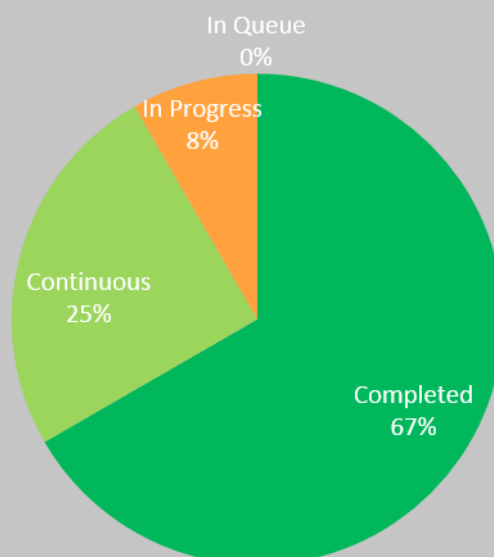
Sustainability & Resilience Budgets Fiscal Year 2019-2020

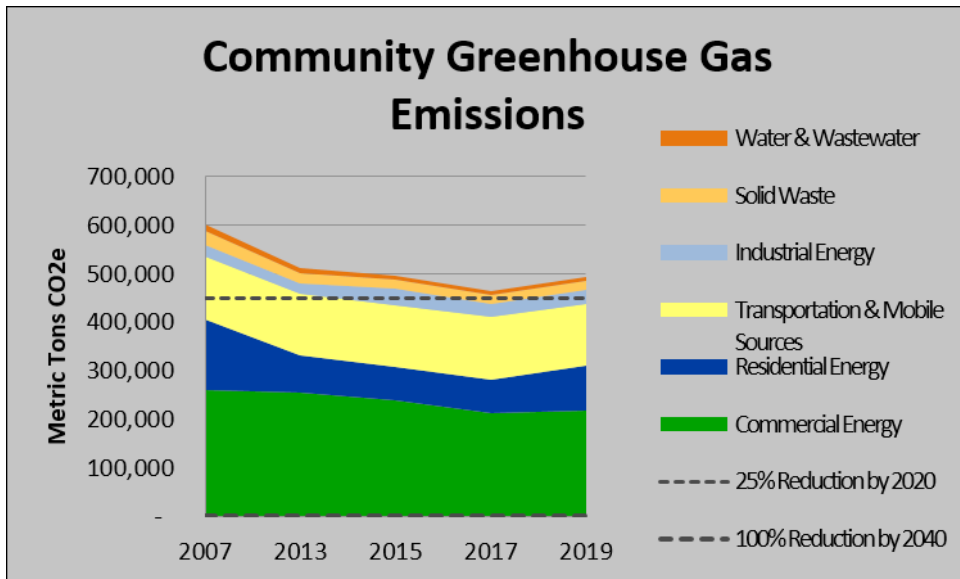
| Category | Budget |
|---|--------------|
| U-Cycle -staff, collection, carts, education | \$683,517.00 |
| Environmental Management & Planning -staff, administration | \$75,883.00 |
| City Landfill + CUSWDS Landfill -maintenance, consulting, sampling | \$53,642.00 |

Climate Action Plan Phase 2 Progress

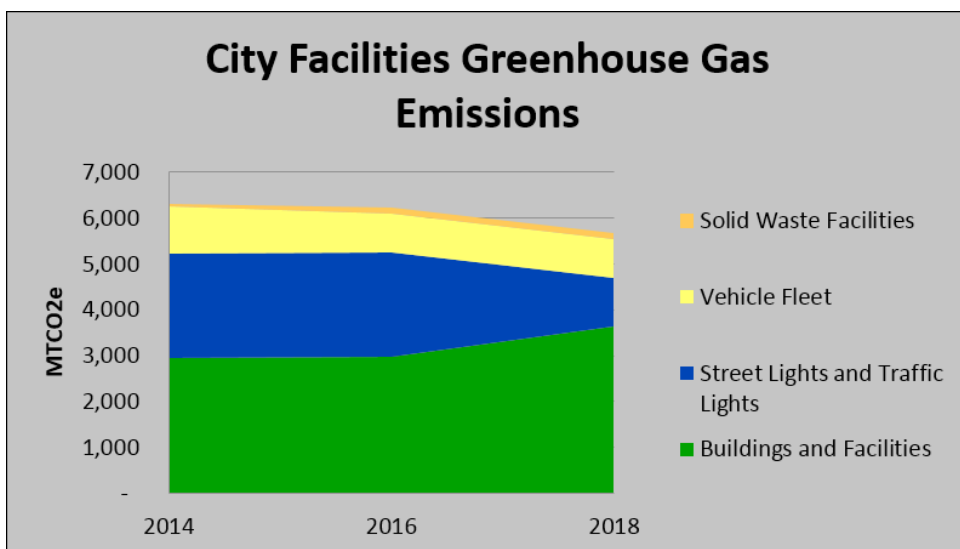
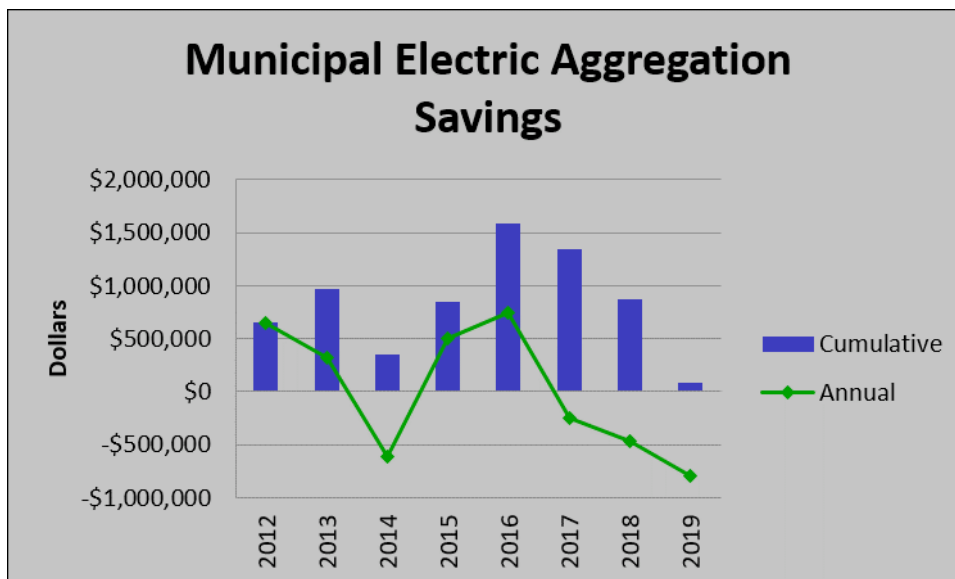


Sustainable Water Management Plan Progress





Additional Information
 The City uses a community greenhouse gas emissions model called ClearPath provided by the professional association, ICLEI. The model combines national average pollution factors with local data to generate modeled greenhouse gas emissions. Local data is provided by utility companies and public agencies. For the first time since reporting began, the City's greenhouse gas emissions have increased predominantly due to increases in Residential electricity and natural gas consumption in 2019 as compared to 2017. The increase in greenhouse gas emissions is also due to an increased carbon intensity of electricity production in our grid subregion.



Solar Urbana-Champaign

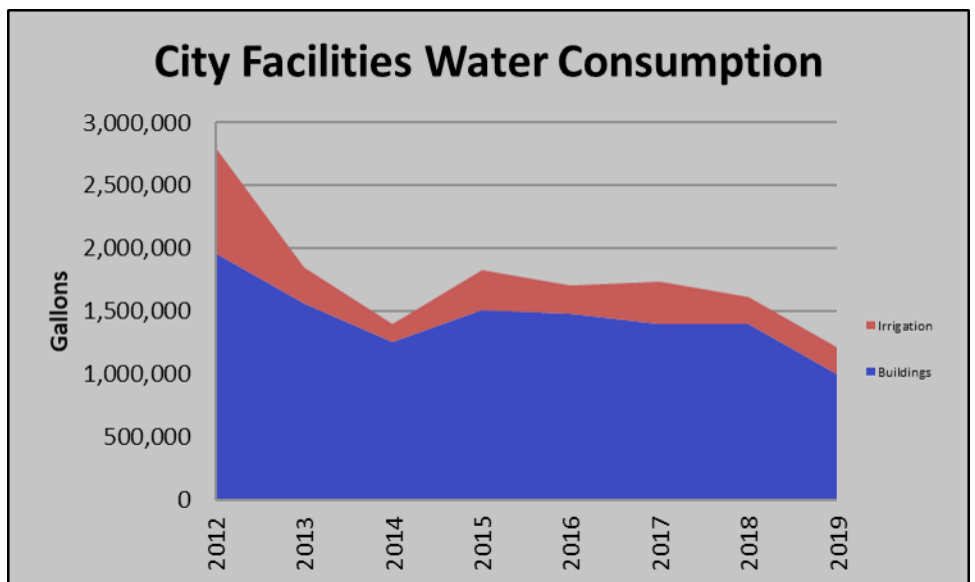
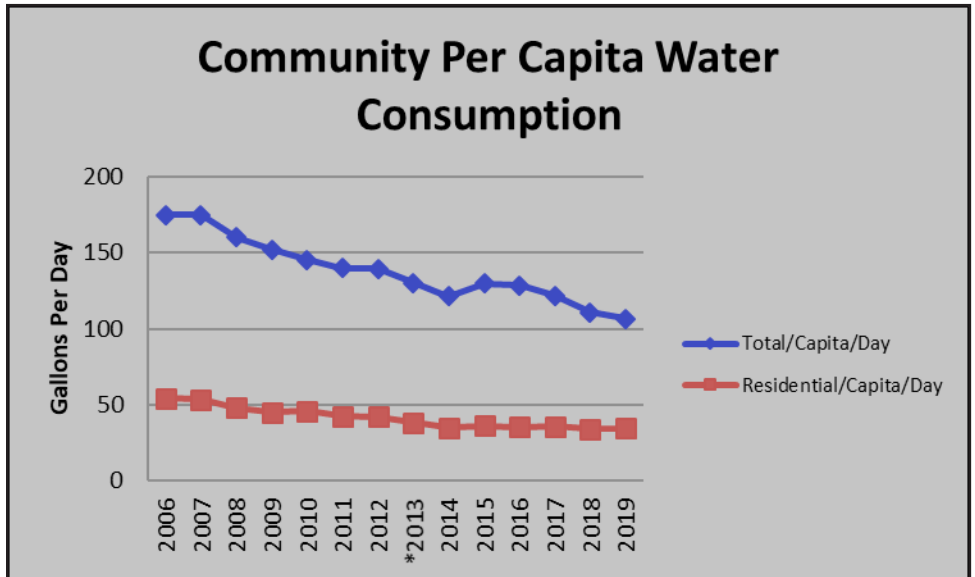
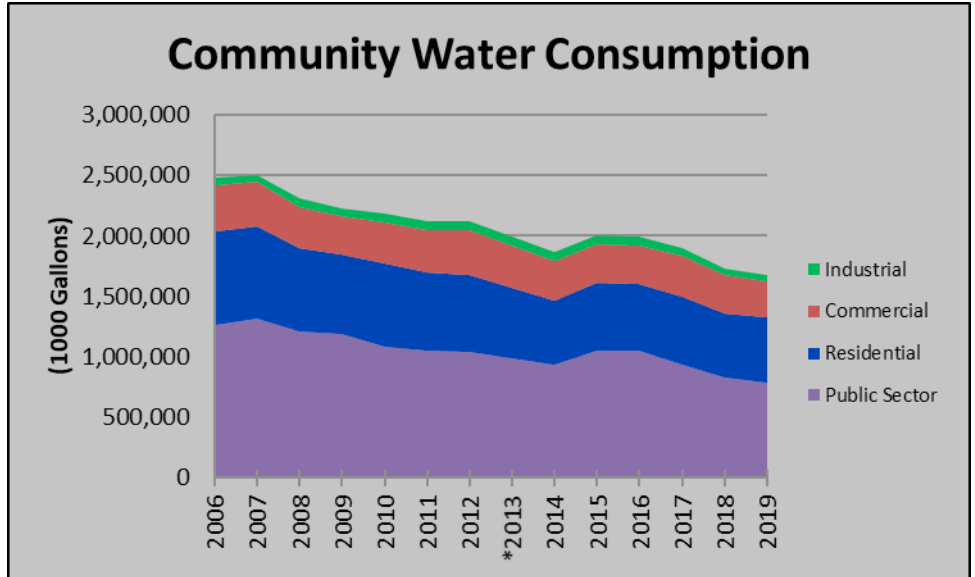
The City's bulk solar purchase program had another successful year with 42 solar array installations totalling 366 kW of installed capacity. Over the course of four program years, Solar UC has installed over 1.5 megawatts of solar in Central Illinois and lowered the cost of solar energy from \$4 per installed watt to \$3.

Additional Information

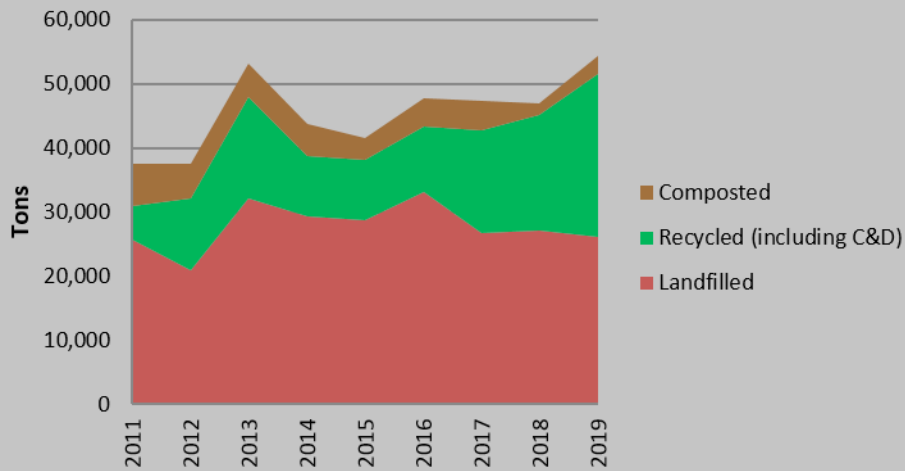
The Community Water Consumption chart shows proportional water consumption by sector in the community over time. *2013 data in this chart is estimated since actual data is not available from Illinois American Water.

Natural Lawn Care

The City of Urbana partnered with the Integrated Pest Management Institute of North America on a grant program, Midwest Grows Green, funded by the Lumpkin Family Foundation. The program funded public engagement around the natural lawn care approach. The City is encouraging residents to replace synthetic fertilizers and pesticides with annual core aeration, compost top-dressing, and mowing at three inches or higher. The City is now managing the south lawn of the City building synthetic free. This year's Midwest Grows Green program also partially funded a compost spreader purchase for the Urbana Arbor Division to use on City-owned landscapes.



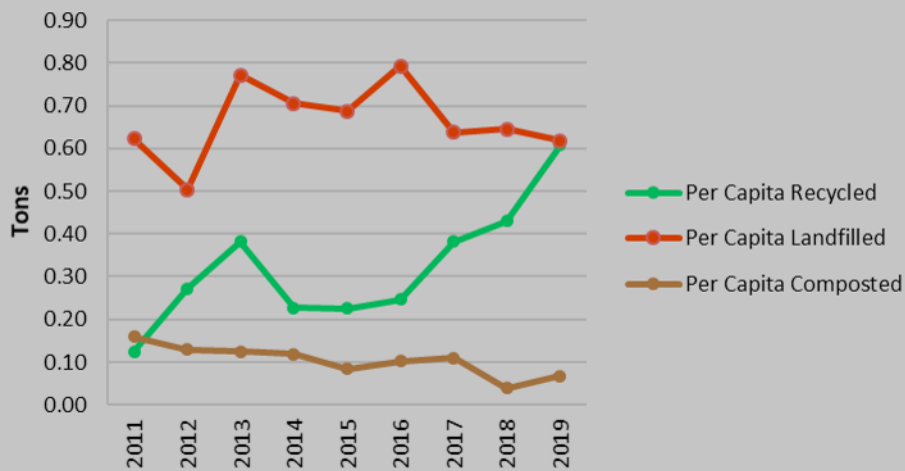
Community Waste Diversion



Additional Information

The Community Waste Diversion chart shows proportional waste, recycling, and composting over time. In 2019, total waste diversion was 52%. The US average recycling rate for 2017, the most recent year reported, is 35.2%, including composting.

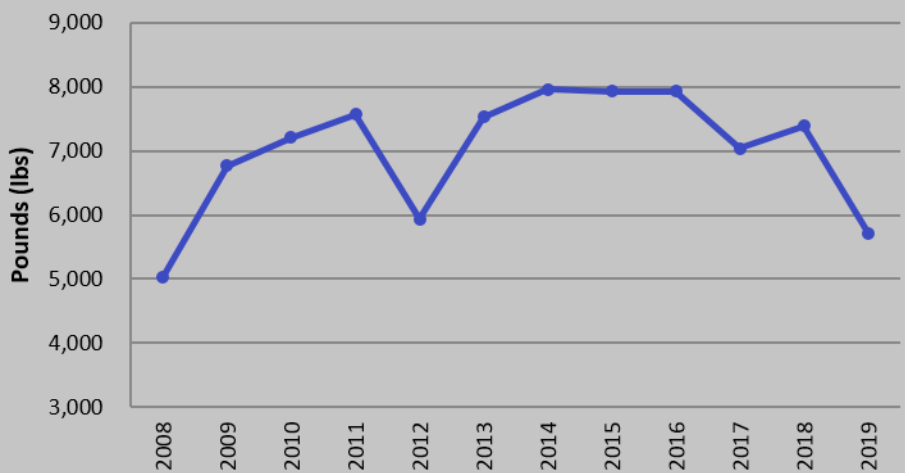
Per Capita Waste Diversion



Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection

In October 2019, the Illinois EPA (IEPA) and local municipalities collected 20,735 gallons of chemicals/materials from 800 households. On average each household brought 25.9 gallons of chemicals/materials to the event. Prior to the 2019 event, IEPA conducted an event in Champaign County in 2012, where IEPA recovered 27,995 gallons of chemicals/materials from 2,293 households. At that event, the average household brought 12.2 gallons of chemicals/materials to the event.

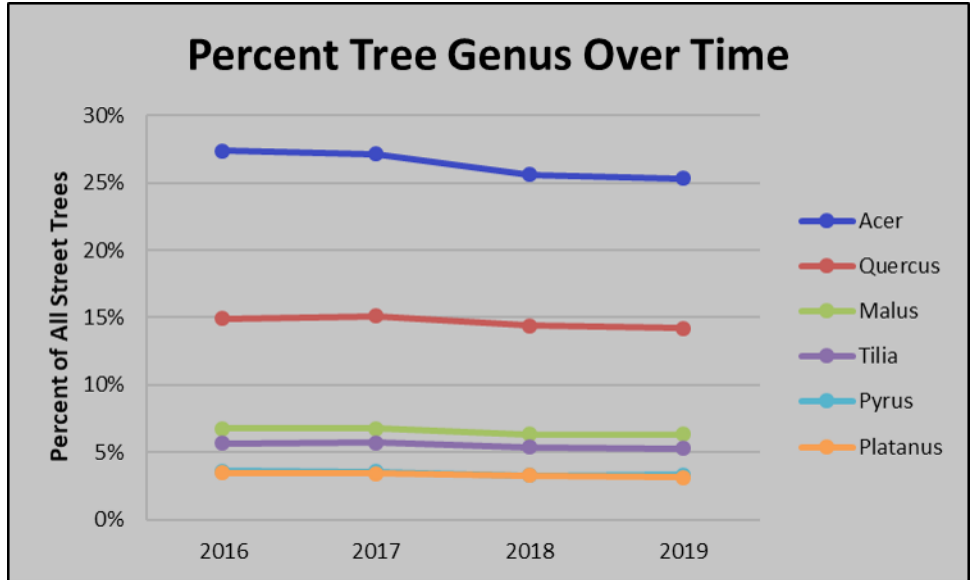
Community Battery Recycling



Additional Information

The Arbor Division has committed to maintain the percentage of trees in any one Family below 30%, the percentage in any one Genus below 15%, and the percentage in any one Species below 5%. No single Family is above 30% at the close of 2019.

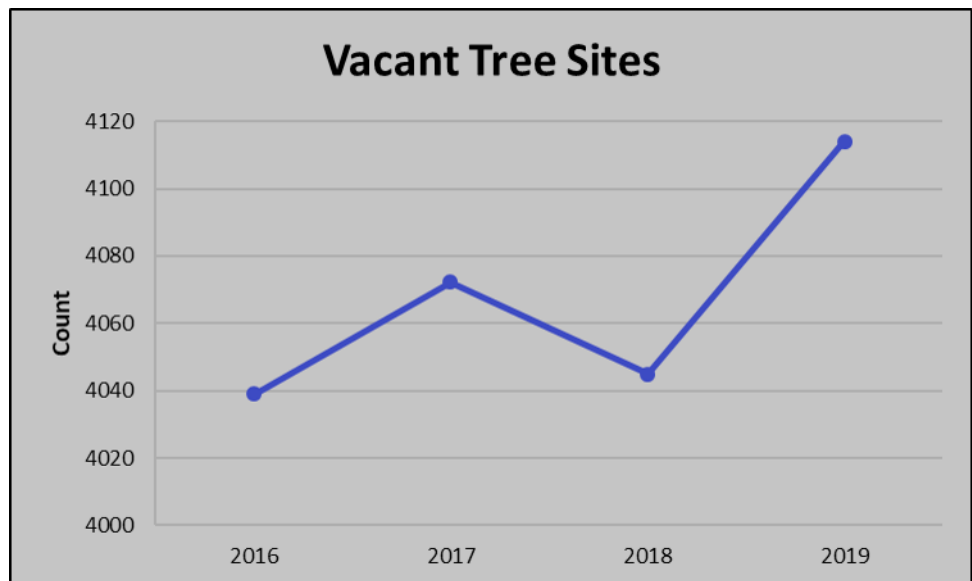
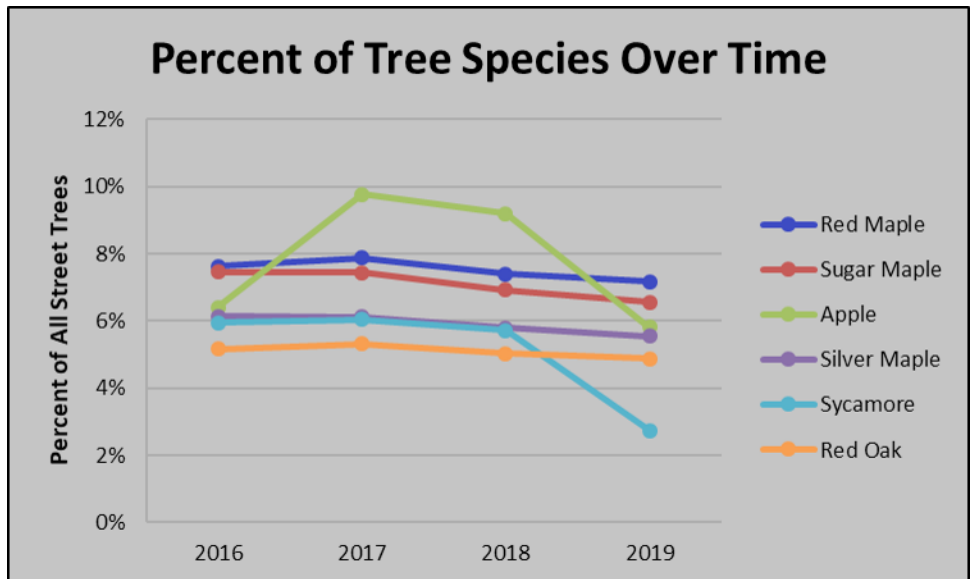
The City had 4114 vacant street tree sites at end of 2019.



Replanting the Urban Forest

Urbana has lost hundreds of trees over the past several years to the emerald ash borer in addition to those felled by disease, and severe weather like the tornado of May 2019. These larger than usual losses are taking a serious toll on our urban forest, making it necessary for the City to plant 2-3 trees for every one that's lost.

Urbana's tree data is publicly accessible at <https://urbana.mytreekeeper.com>.





The City of Urbana and solar developer Sunpower were awarded two Low Income Community Solar incentives from the Illinois Power Agency. The incentives will allow Sunpower to build approximately 4 megawatts of solar on Urbana's closed landfill. The City will purchase a portion of the power with the majority sold to income-qualified households by subscription. The incentive is in the form of a renewable energy credit purchase by the Illinois Power Agency.

The City of Urbana partnered with the Integrated Pest Management Institute of North America for a third year on a successful grant request from the Lumpkin Family Foundation to fund Midwest Grows Green programming which engaged and educated residents on synthetic-free, natural lawn care practices. The grant also provided funding to purchase the compost spreader shown on the cover of this report. This spreader will allow the City to fertilize city properties with natural compost produced by the Landscape Recycling Center.



In May 2019, a tornado touched down in south Urbana that destroyed 64 City-owned trees and damaged 89 City-owned trees. The cost of the clean-up of tree materials alone was more than \$130,000 and the estimated cost to replace the trees lost in the tornado was more than \$20,000. The Morton Arboretum administers federal grants funded by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the US Forest Service (USFS) through the Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry. Urbana was awarded \$14,250 for replanting of street trees.