

2018 Tree Canopy Study

Infrastructure and Environment Committee

January 9, 2020

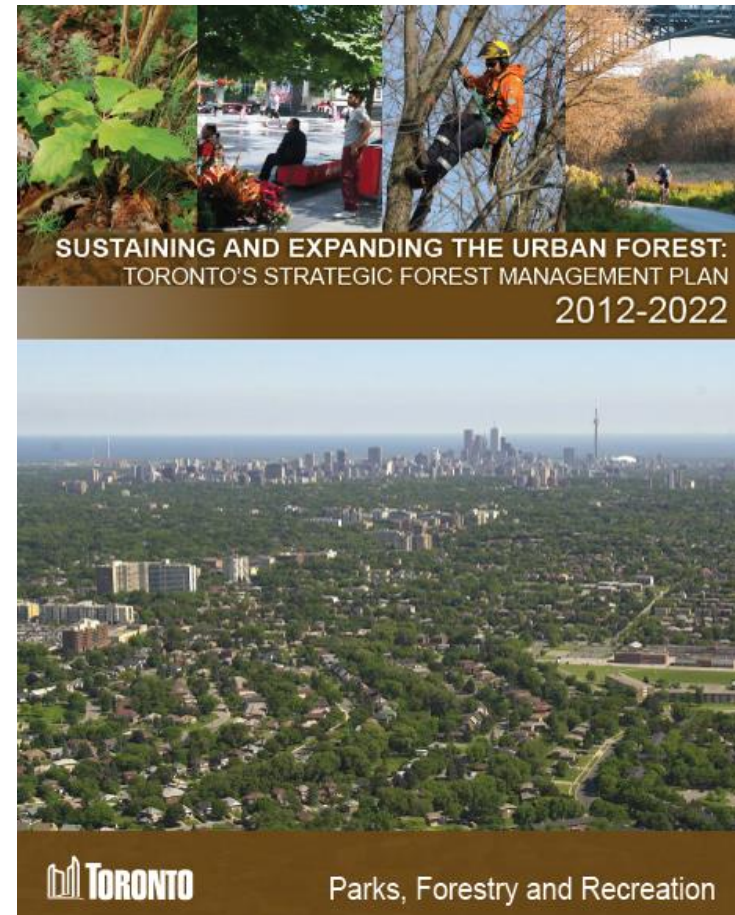
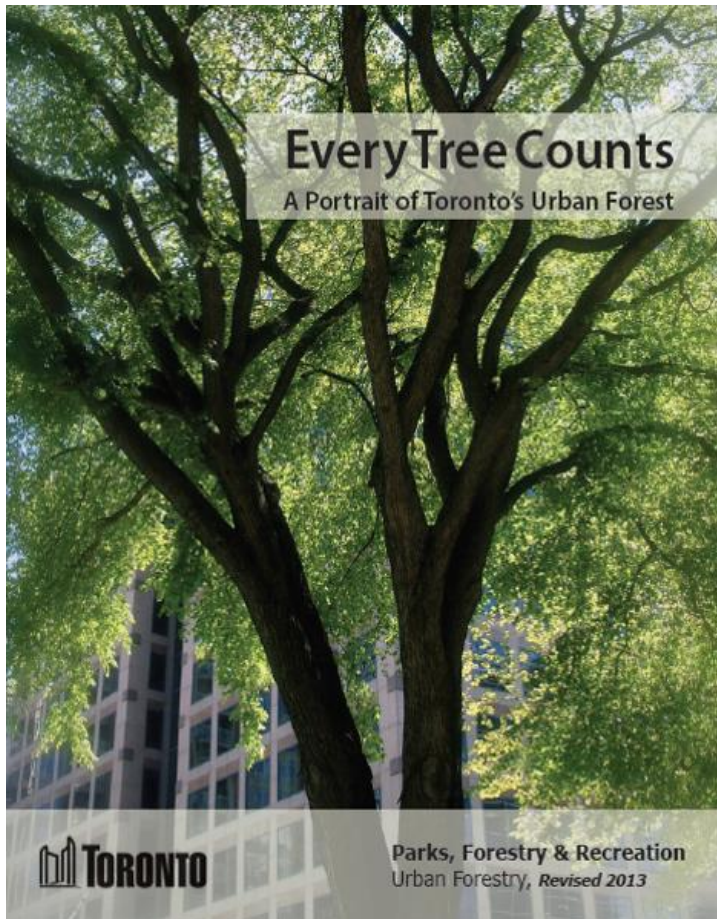
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Study Background

A decade has passed since the original tree canopy study was undertaken.

The Strategic Forest Management Plan recommended that tree canopy studies should be undertaken every ten years.



Benefits of Trees



\$8.2 Million
ENERGY SAVINGS



\$4.0 Million
GROSS CARBON SEQUESTRATION



\$37.6 Million
POLLUTION REMOVAL



\$4.8 Million
AVOIDED RUNOFF



\$55.0 Million
TOTAL ANNUAL BENEFITS

Study Methodology

The consultants used two methods to estimate canopy cover:

**Manual Random Point
Sampling (10,000 points)**

**Automated Continuous
Classification**

Tree Cover Distribution in the
City of Toronto



2018 Tree Canopy Study Findings



Toronto's canopy cover and total tree population increased over the last ten years.



Street trees are making a significant contribution to the urban forest.

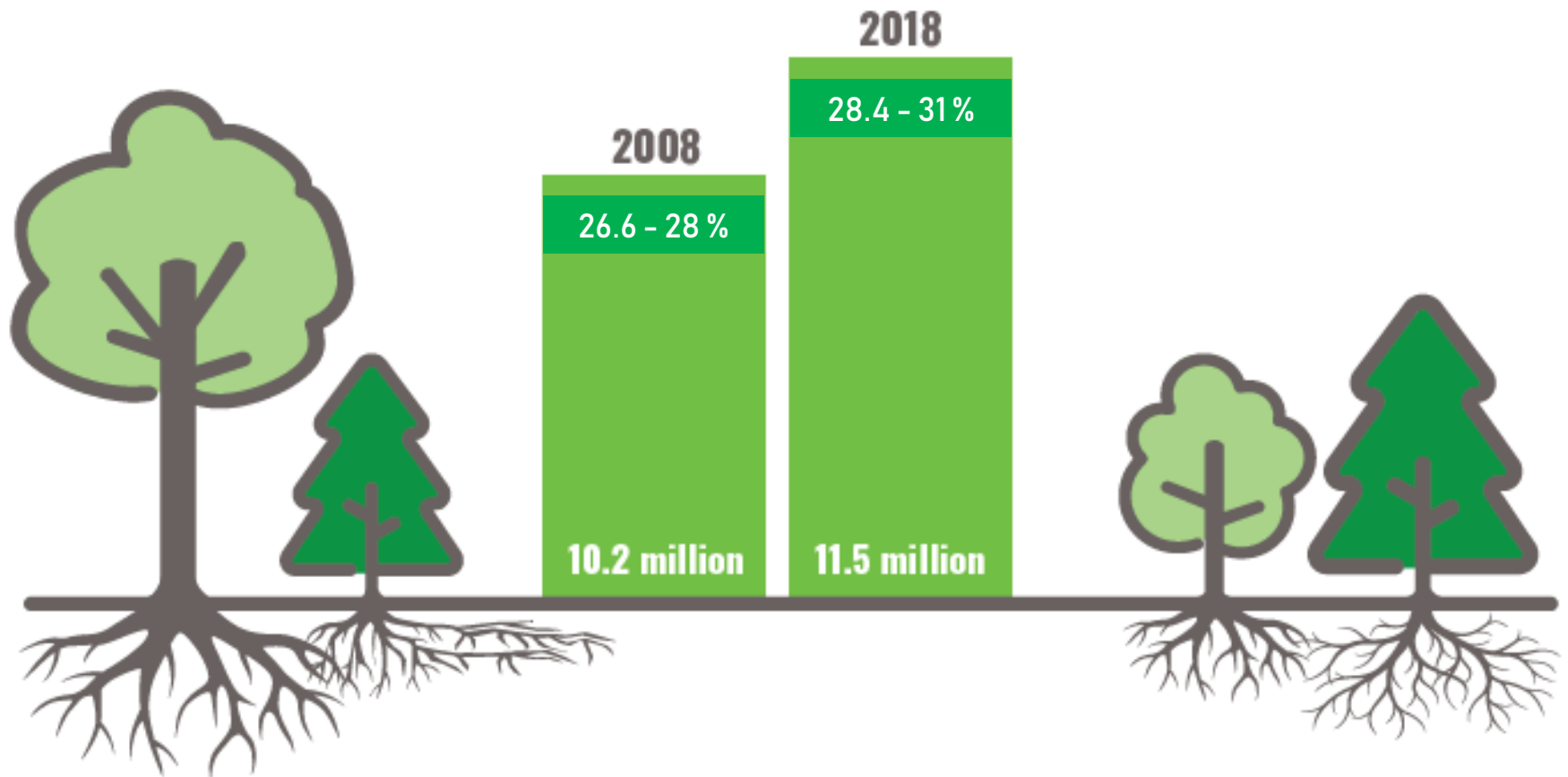


The composition and condition of the urban forest has seen positive and negative changes.



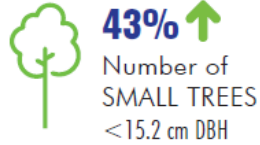
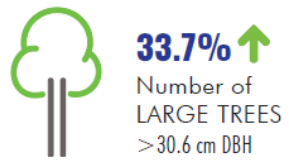
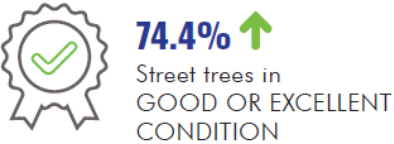
Impervious land cover is increasing across the city.

Toronto's Canopy Cover Increased





Street Tree Condition Improved



Urban Forest Composition and Condition Changes



Native Species

A species living within its natural range that is naturally self-sustaining.

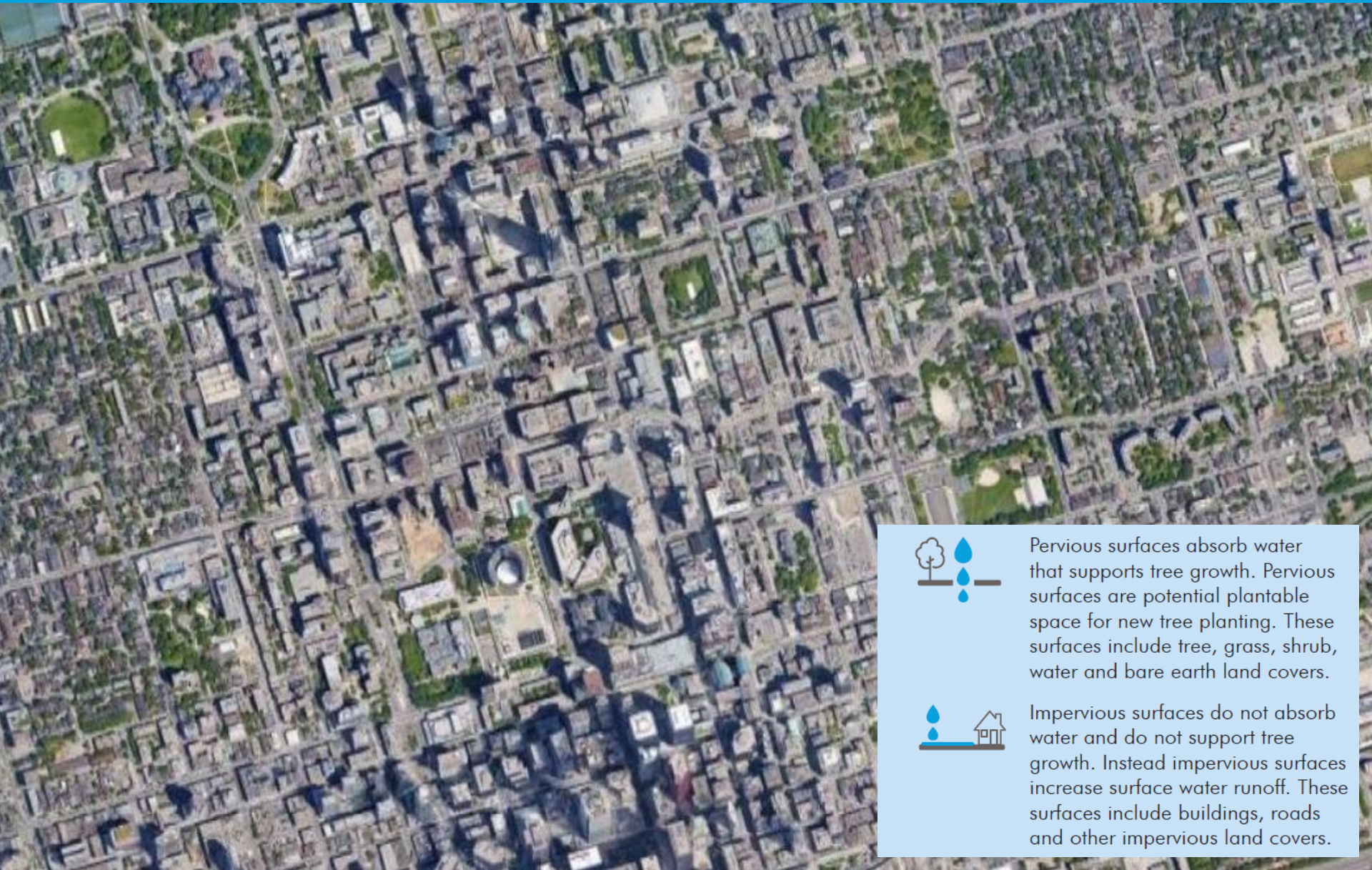


Invasive Species

A non-native species that aggressively out-competes native species and comes to dominate the ecosystem.



Impervious Land Cover Increased



Pervious surfaces absorb water that supports tree growth. Pervious surfaces are potential plantable space for new tree planting. These surfaces include tree, grass, shrub, water and bare earth land covers.



Impervious surfaces do not absorb water and do not support tree growth. Instead impervious surfaces increase surface water runoff. These surfaces include buildings, roads and other impervious land covers.

Growing Toronto's Urban Forest





 TORONTO