



**CHICAGO
REGION
TREES
INITIATIVE**

Our Trees.
Our Communities.
Our Future.

ChicagoRTI.org

Dear Community Decision-Maker:

Your constituents are depending on you to make practical and cost-effective improvements to your community. Investing in your community's trees is one of the best financial decisions you can make! While trees provide myriad benefits to the people who live among them, they can become costly and a liability if they are not cared for properly.

Are there ways your staff can strengthen your community's tree management plan, thereby reducing costs and risks from trees?

The CRTI Tree Risk Toolkit was developed by forestry professionals in the Chicago Region to help public land managers reduce risk from trees by establishing better and more efficient forestry practices.

The Tree Risk Toolkit includes the following to help you run a more efficient and safe forestry program in your community, all available at ChicagoRTI.org/ReduceCosts:

1. [Trees: Your Community's Best Investment video](#)
This 4 minute video can be shared with your fellow elected officials to bring to their attention the need and benefits of tree risk management.
2. [Managing Tree Risk to Reduce Costs](#)
This resource is designed to accompany the video described above, with key points identified to help you remember the key take-aways during subsequent conversations.
3. [Improve Your Forestry Management Flow Chart](#)
This flow chart walks the community through potential forestry management goals, with suggestions for next steps and links to resources that can help achieve a stronger urban forestry risk reduction program.

We hope these pieces will be helpful for you as you improve your forestry program. Fill out [this survey](#) to let us know how you have used these pieces or how we can improve the toolkit!

Cheers,
The Chicago Region Trees Initiative
Tree Risk and Management Work Group

Executive Advisory Council



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