Arizona State University set goals to reach net climate positivity by 2035. To address a large portion of ASU’s Scope 3 emissions, which are outside of the university’s control, ASU purchases carbon offsets bundled with local urban forestry projects. ASU has a significant investment in renewable energy to address Scope 1 and 2* emissions.

ASU seeks to build urban forestry capacity in the Valley. ASU provides education and training on carbon offsets from urban forestry, catalyzing urban tree planting, engaging the community with plantings and researching best practices.

**ASU partners**
- Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management
- City of Phoenix
- City of Tempe
- Duke Carbon Offsets Initiative
- Maricopa County Food System Coalition
- Mountain Park Health Center
- Ramsey Social Justice Foundation
- Urban Offsets

**Tree plantings**
- **150** fruit trees in community gardens
- **200** shade trees in parks
- **350** trees in Phoenix and Tempe, mostly in low-income neighborhoods

**Educational partnerships with ASU organizations**

| Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability | Hosts lectures to discuss carbon offset projects and trains current and potential partners in carbon management. |
| National Sustainability Teachers’ Academy | Develops and pilots curriculum for fifth- to ninth-graders about urban trees and the carbon cycle. |
| Sustainable Cities Network | Facilitates municipal sustainability practices with partners and coordinates presentations about urban forestry and carbon management. |
| Urban Climate Research Center | Explores future research projects to measure the impact of trees on the urban heat island. |
Building resilience through co-benefits

- **Beautify public spaces**: Create economic, psychological and social benefits
- **Create overhead shade canopies**: Cool sidewalks and increase walkability
- **Decrease urban heat island effect**: Lower temperatures decrease utility demands
- **Improve air quality by removing airborne toxins**: Increase community health with fresh air
- **Remove CO₂ from atmosphere**: Take action against climate change
- **Retain storm water runoff**: Decrease infrastructure repair costs and prevent flash floods

**Future opportunities**

- Coordinate controlled experiments with ASU research hubs such as the Urban Climate Research Center.
- Initiate peer review protocols that make carbon offsets more accessible to academic institutions.
- Investigate opportunities for offsets from fire and forestry management, streetscape and trees lining canal areas.

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To learn more about the urban forestry program and how you can get involved, please contact usp@asu.edu.

*Scope 1 emissions are emissions from sources owned or operated by ASU. Scope 2 emissions are emissions from sources that ASU purchases.*