

Woodhill Park

Lexington, Kentucky

63 trees

17 species



457 Larkwood Dr Lexington, KY 40509

- Paved trails
- Bus stops for #1 & #51 within 0.1 miles of the park
- Nearby bike route

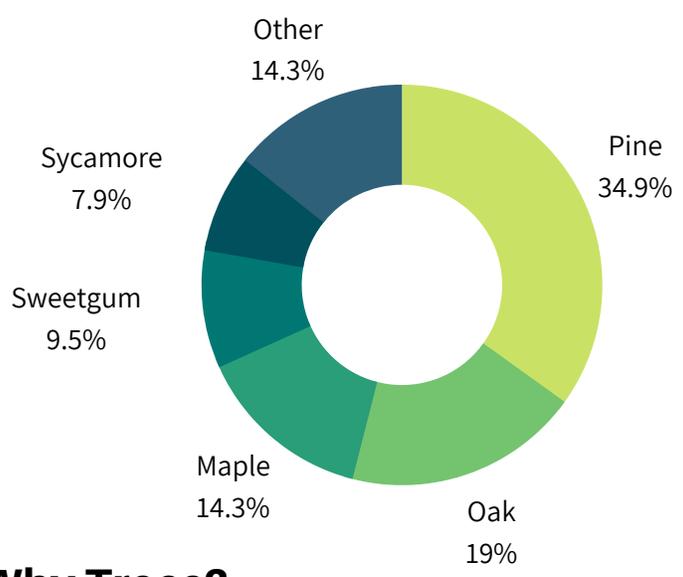
Background

In June 2022, the University of Kentucky Urban Forest Initiative (UFI) team mapped trees in Woodhill Park as part of our Climate Adaptation Project. This is a summary of our findings.

About the Trees

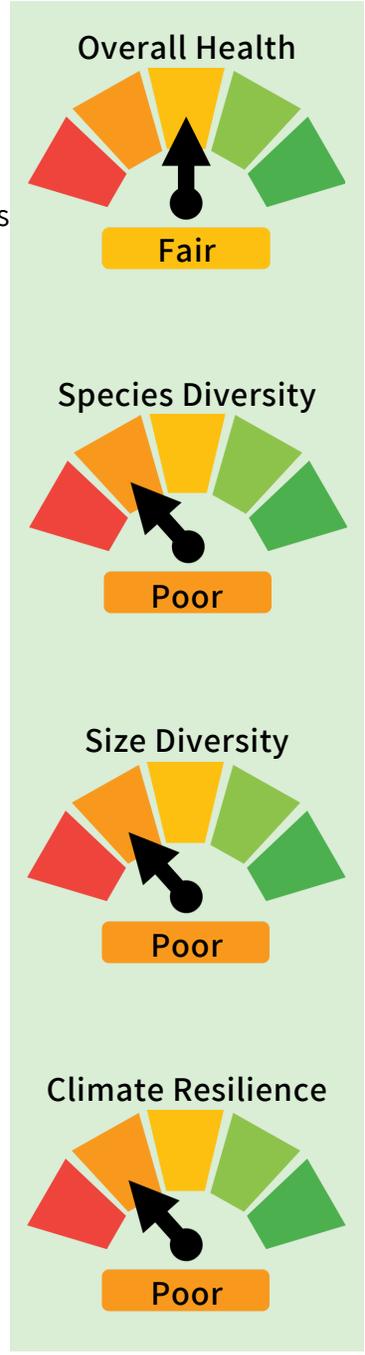
Woodhill Park is a mid-sized park in the Woodhill neighborhood. The park is relatively unforested, with white pine as its dominant tree. The canopy is in fair health overall, and would benefit from improved tree care practices and more small trees of underrepresented species.

Woodhill Park Top 5 Tree Genera



Why Trees?

Urban forests are vital resources for **climate change mitigation** (the slowing down of climate change through carbon capture, emissions reduction, etc.) and **adaptation** (the ability of our cities to withstand the impacts of climate change). Woodhill Park provides **10.4 acres of trees and greenspace** for the residents of Lexington's 7th District. As such, it is an important part of Lexington's urban forest, providing numerous **ecosystem services** to the city and helping to **prepare Lexington for climate change**.



Annual tree benefits ... and growing!

38,285

gallons of stormwater captured

1,310

ounces of pollution removed

1,987

pounds of carbon sequestered

\$657

annual monetary benefits

Learn more about trees in your local park and what they do for you!

Most Common Species in Woodhill Park*

*based on 63 trees inventoried in 2022.



white pine



sugar maple



sweetgum



white oak



London plane tree

Need help identifying trees? Try reaching out to your local extension agent! Many great resources can also be found at https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/tree_id. Photos courtesy of Janet James and missouribotanicalgarden.org.



Considerations for Woodhill Park

- Woodhill Park trees are in **fair health**, providing many tree benefits to the community such as shade, cooling, and carbon sequestration. The **most common health issue** was **rotting underneath watering bags**.
- With white pine representing more than 30% of the trees in the park, Woodhill Park has **poor species diversity**, and could use **more diverse species** to **protect the canopy** from species-specific pathogens and other threats.
- Woodhill Park has **poor size diversity**, and could benefit from **more small trees**, especially young trees of species capable of growing into larger sizes.
- As the **climate changes**, some tree species may no longer thrive here in Kentucky, including nearly **60% of trees in Woodhill Park**. Many of the park's trees, such as Kentucky yellowwood, are not vulnerable to these changes, but most trees, including white pine, are more sensitive to changing climate, making the park **highly vulnerable**.



Managing for Climate Resilience in Woodhill Park

- Continue to practice proper **tree care**, including **watering, pruning, and mulching** regularly. Be sure to check trees with water bags for rot and insect swarming. Visit this website to learn more about good tree care practices and resources: <https://tree-health.ca.uky.edu/tree-care>
- Plant **diverse tree species that can grow to large tree sizes** to improve tree canopy **regeneration and resilience**. As older trees in the park inevitably die, younger trees will grow up to take their place.
- Plant **climate resilient tree species** in appropriate sites that can **meet the needs of that species** to build a tree canopy capable of **withstanding changing climate**. Check out the climate resilience of trees you are interested in planting using this website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/ccrc/tool/climate-change-tree-atlas>

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