

10-20-30 Rule

The “10-20-30” Rule addresses the importance of tree diversity in a city’s street tree plan. Because we can never predict when and if some new disease might pop up, the best we can do is prepare and provide safeguards. Since insects and diseases generally affect certain tree species and their close relatives, having a diversity of street trees will help to lessen the chances of major canopy loss.

No more than 30% of the urban forest is comprised of the same FAMILY, i.e: Fagaceae, which includes oaks, chestnut, and beech (*Quercus*, *Castanea*, and *Fagus* respectively).

No more than 20% of the urban forest is comprised of the same GENUS, i.e: *Quercus agrifolia*, *Q. suber*, *Q. lobata*.

No more than 10% of the urban forest is comprised of the same SPECIES, i.e: *Quercus*.

