What is ReLeaf?

ReLeaf is a community-centered planning model to bring greening efforts to low-canopy neighborhoods. This program aims to increase tree canopy cover and engagement on a localized scale by creating greening plans and planting trees. Once the plans are completed, Tree Pittsburgh will support the ongoing implementation of green infrastructure projects in these communities.

This program is supported by the City of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Shade Tree Commission, and Western PA Conservancy in partnership with the Tree Vitalize program. Funding for this planning is due to support from the Hillman Foundation.

Local data reveals that neighborhoods with the lowest tree canopy are also areas where summer temperatures are higher, air pollution is worse, and flooding is more prevalent. Nearly half of Pittsburgh's neighborhoods fall below the city average of 42% tree canopy cover. In those communities, almost half of the poverty rates and African American populations are higher than citywide averages. Adding to this urgency, Urban Tree Canopy data between 2015 - 2020 shows that we lost more than 4,000 acres of tree canopy across Allegheny County.

ReLeaf Homewood launched in November 2022. The program uses these four questions to create plans and implement projects in Homewood:

- What do we have?
- What do we want?
- How do we get there?
- How are we doing?

Contact clara@treepittsburgh.org to learn more or get involved in this planning process.

Upcoming Events in Homewood

Sign up to join our community meetings hosted by Operation Better Block. You'll learn more about:

Homewood Residents Tree Tender Program: TBD

Want to learn more about the trees in your neighborhood? Become a Tree Tender! We'll tell you more about our Tree Tenders training course! This is a free course that teaches you the hows and whys of planting and caring for young trees, so they can grow to benefit your community.

• Tree Adoptions at YMCA: <u>September 13, 2023 - 5-8 PM</u>

We'll help you get a free tree (or three!) for your yard through Tree Pittsburgh's Tree Adoption Program.

