Tree Cover Status & Change
FOR VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

40.2%  $37.6 Million  -1,893 Acres
Total Percent  Annual Benefits  Net Loss
of City with Tree Cover  provided by Tree Cover  of Tree Cover on
(in reduced air pollution, stormwater, & carbon dioxide)  Developed Lands, 2014 to 2018

What is the land use/land cover breakdown in your city?
155,092 ACRES OF LAND AREA
IN VIRGINIA BEACH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land Use/Category</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tree Cover</td>
<td>62,424</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>22,307</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turf Grass (Lawns)</td>
<td>17,257</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impervious (Buildings/Pavement)</td>
<td>30,595</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8,326</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Forested Wetlands</td>
<td>14,183</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Tree cover includes all trees occurring on all land uses, such as individual trees found over turf, impervious, agricultural, wetlands, or other lands. It also includes areas of "forest," defined in this dataset as patches of tree cover 1 acre or greater, with a minimum patch width of 240 feet.
2. Other includes a mixture of non-treed land uses not captured in the main pie chart categories. See the Data Guide for detailed definitions of "other" and all the land use categories.

Land use/land cover statistics were generated based on 2018 imagery using the 2022 edition of the Chesapeake Bay Land Use and Land Cover Database.

Where does tree cover occur in your city?

- 61.5% is in forest (38,417 acres)
- 6.9% is over impervious (4,288 acres)
- 24.4% is over turf grass (15,202 acres)
- 7.2% is other tree cover (4,517 acres)

What are some benefits of tree cover in your city?

- Total Air Pollution Removal Value: 6.3 Million lbs removed annually, $16.7 Million saved annually
- Total air pollution removal includes CO, NO2, O3, SO2, and Particulate Matter (PM2.5, PM10)
- Gallons of Reduced Stormwater Runoff Value: 784.9 million gallons reduced annually, $7.0 million saved annually
- Carbon Sequestered Value: 75,000 tons removed annually, $13.9 million saved annually

Calculated based on 2018 tree cover data using: landscape.itreetools.org
How is tree cover changing on developed and developing lands?

Understanding how your tree cover changes over time can inform the sustainable management of forests and community trees. The map to the left shows where your city has lost and gained tree cover from 2014 to 2018, focusing on land that is already or newly developed.

Tree cover can be lost quickly due to human activities (e.g., construction) or natural events (e.g., severe weather).

Tree cover can be gradually increased through tree planting and natural regrowth, but these gains may take 10-15 years to be detected in high resolution imagery.

Since mature, healthy trees provide significantly greater community benefits than newly planted trees, it is important to both preserve existing tree cover and seek opportunities to grow new trees and forests. Local land use planning, ordinances, and tree programs play a critical role!

Tree Cover Change on developed/developing lands (2014-2018)

- **Gains** (469 acres)
  - 257 acres gained over turf/pervious
  - 212 acres gained over impervious

- **Losses** (2362 acres)
  - 1897 acres lost to turf/pervious
  - 465 acres lost to impervious

Net Change = Gains - Losses
(-1,893 acres Net Loss)

Learn More:
- **Chesapeake Tree Canopy Network**
  - Links to county fact sheets, user guides, map viewers, datasets, and more
- **Tree Equity Score**
  - Explore maps of how tree benefits are distributed across communities
- **Capitalizing on the Benefits of Trees**
  - A slideshow for local leaders featuring tree benefits, case studies and resources
- **State Urban and Community Forestry Assistance**
  - (Lara Johnson, Virginia Website)

Fact sheets produced through a grant from the USDA Forest Service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.