

Trees Contribute to Climate Resiliency in Many ways. Native Trees Even More!

Carbon Storage by Trees

- Large, long-lived plants with dense cell structure store more carbon in their tissues than other plants (Trees!)
- Plants with large root systems deposit the most carbon in soil where it can remain out of harm's way for thousands of years (Trees!)

Water Management by Trees

The large root systems and broad canopy spread of trees manage

watersheds far better than small plants with shallow root systems

- Tree canopies and roots manage heavy rain
- Leaf litter from trees provides a buffer against soil erosion



The Mighty Oak: a Native Powerhouse for Climate Resiliency

- Oaks are superior to other plants in all of the categories above
- Although not all oaks are large, most are; and even small species are very long lived
- The average oak species has a 900-year life cycle; 300 years of growth, 300 years of stasis, and 300 years of decline
- Large species oaks have enormous root systems that can extend 300 feet or more in all directions from the trunk
- Oak leaves take up to three years to break down—far longer than leaves produced by maples, birches, hickories, willows, poplars, and other deciduous trees

