

Geographic Information System (GIS) Data

GIS Data Helpful for UFST Disaster Response

GIS & Disaster Response:

Urban Forest Strike Teams work with state forestry agencies and the Urban & Community Forestry (U&CF) Coordinator within that agency.

Urban Forest Strike Teams assess disaster-affected trees for risk to public safety and classify these trees based on FEMA debris standards (FEMA 325 Debris Management Guide). These publicly owned trees may occur along streets, in parks, along trails, and around other public buildings.

Urban Forest Strike Teams can be deployed into communities without GIS support, but GIS data layers of any type are helpful. **Include metadata.**

The best places to look for GIS data:

- City planning or GIS departments
- Regional planning agencies
- State GIS clearinghouse

GIS data helpful when assessing trees:

Of primary importance

Municipal boundary
Street centerlines (or Edge of pavement)

Extremely helpful

Right-of-Way
Park boundaries
Other public property boundaries
Trails
Easements
Tree inventories (park and/or street)
Recent DOQQ or other digital imagery

Less important

Landuse (or Zoning)
Sidewalks
Parcels
Park facilities (e.g. pavilions, benches, and picnic tables)

We need quality data and any of the data listed above can be utilized for an UFST response.

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GIS data should be provided as ArcGIS shapefiles or personal geodatabases and should **include metadata** that defines the projection, datum and lineal measurement.

On-line municipal GIS data can simply be referenced with a valid URL link; others can be compressed and e-mailed to your state U&CF Coordinator. Larger files can be placed onto our Internet storage (www.BOX.NET account provided as needed).