

WEB-BASED TREE CROWN CONDITION EVALUATION TRAINING TOOL FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

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Volunteers are getting involved more and more, particularly in monitoring applications within the context of urban and community forestry. Training numerous volunteers becomes a substantial task given the numbers of people, time available, and a multitude of other projects. Hundreds of different individuals may be involved in a single field season. These individuals may only be able to spare a few days of volunteer time. The more of this limited time that is spent on on-site training, the less time available for meeting the project goals. This paper deals with using web-based training (WBT) to address some of these issues relating to the specific application of tree crown condition evaluation, which is a particularly challenging element to explain. It is also inherently difficult to find representative trees at a single field location, so images created by 3D graphical modeling software are used to generate virtual trees with desired characteristics.

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