

# COMMUNITY ADAPTATIONS TO CITY HEAT

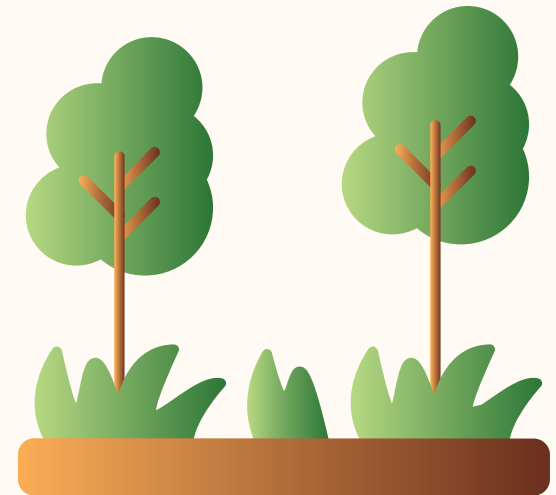
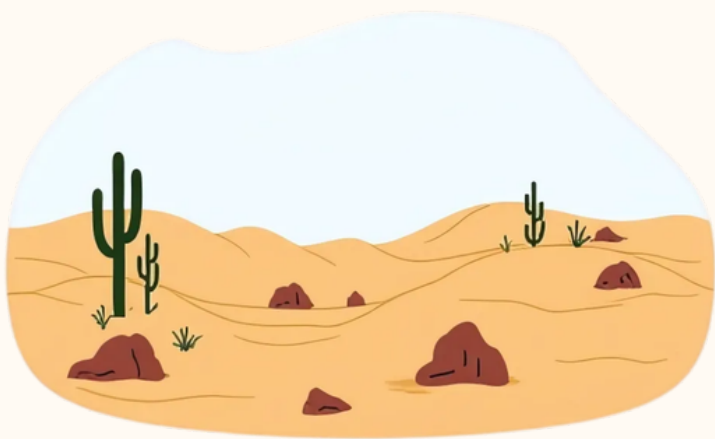
## URBAN HEAT ACTION AND POLICY DATABASE

How are hot, dry cities  
growing greener without  
ignoring water scarcity?

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Trees and vegetation serve as an important heat adaptation tool by reducing surface temperatures, providing shade, and helping lessen the urban heat island effect.

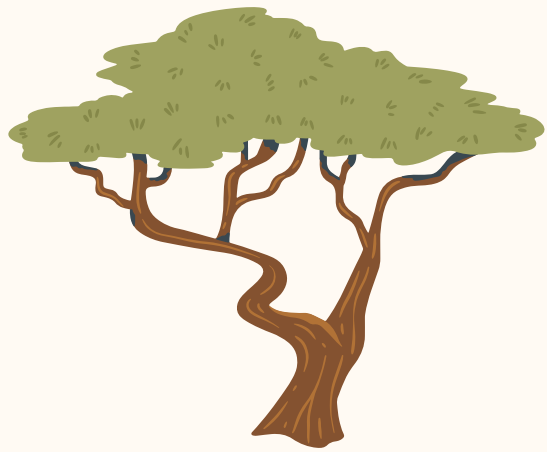


Hot, water-stressed environments, expanding urban greenery comes with an additional challenge: how do cities increase vegetation while conserving limited water resources?

Phoenix, Albuquerque, and Austin are using different strategies to build greener, more heat-resilient communities while considering long-term drought and water needs.



**Scroll to learn more!**



# Phoenix

Through Shade Phoenix, Phoenix is working to expand shade while prioritizing native and drought-tolerant trees and vegetation suited to the city's desert climate. The plan recognizes that expanding tree canopy must be balanced with water conservation and long-term plant survival.



**Scan to read more  
about Shade Phoenix!**

 Desert-adapted vegetation can provide shade while conserving water.



# Albuquerque

The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Xeriscape Rebate encourages customers to replace high-water-use turf with xeriscaping—landscaping designed to reduce supplemental watering. The program promotes low-water-use plants and efficient irrigation for landscapes suited to Albuquerque's dry climate.



**Scan to read more  
about xeriscaping  
rebates in Albuquerque!**



Financial incentives can encourage water-wise urban landscaping.



# Austin

Austin is working toward 50% citywide tree canopy by 2050 while preparing its urban forest for increasing heat and drought. The city promotes native and adapted, drought-tolerant trees and uses equity measures to help prioritize tree investments in communities with greater canopy needs.

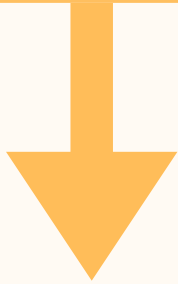


**Scan to read more about the tree canopy expansion!**

 Climate-resilient trees can support both shade and water conservation.

Heat protections vary widely across cities — with major gaps in coverage and enforcement.

Do you know if your city has heat protection laws? Tell us!

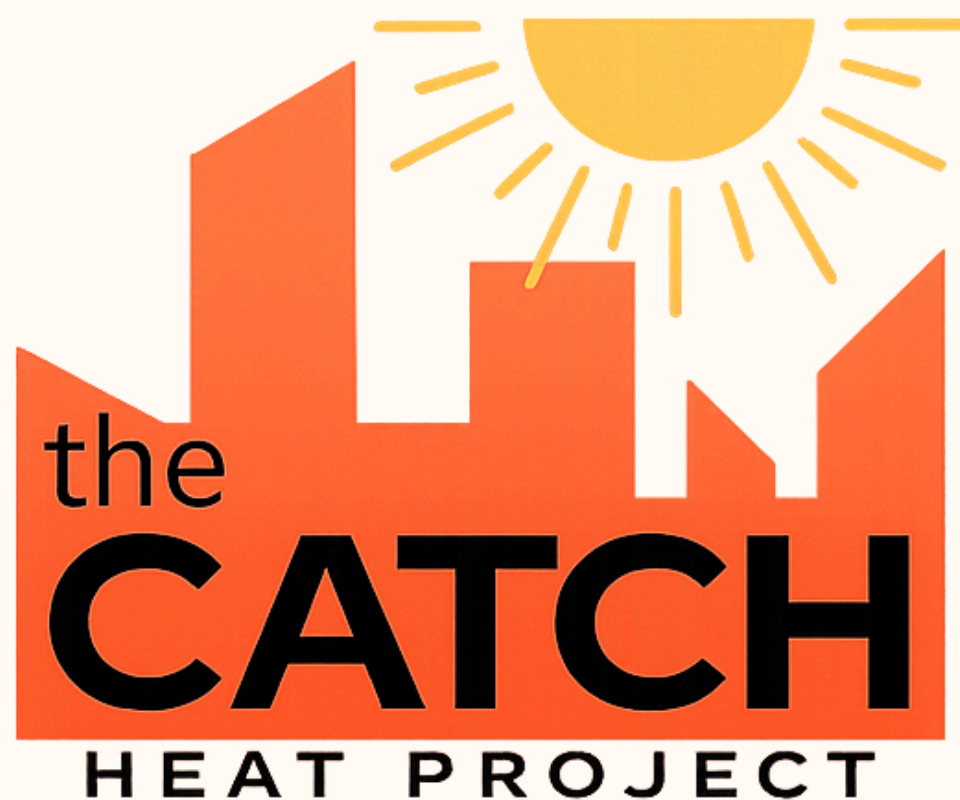


Check out our database to learn more about heat action and policies!



Making **extreme heat** impacts  
visible in **frontline communities**.

Working in Boston, Phoenix, and  
New Orleans.



A project at Boston University School of  
Public Health funded by a Climate Impact  
Award from Wellcome Foundation.



<https://www.catchcityheat.org/>