

Superstorm Sandy: Learn & Adapt

James Kaechele

Program Manager, Tree Time

NYC Parks & Recreation

Superstorm Sandy October 29, 2012



Superstorm Sandy's Strength

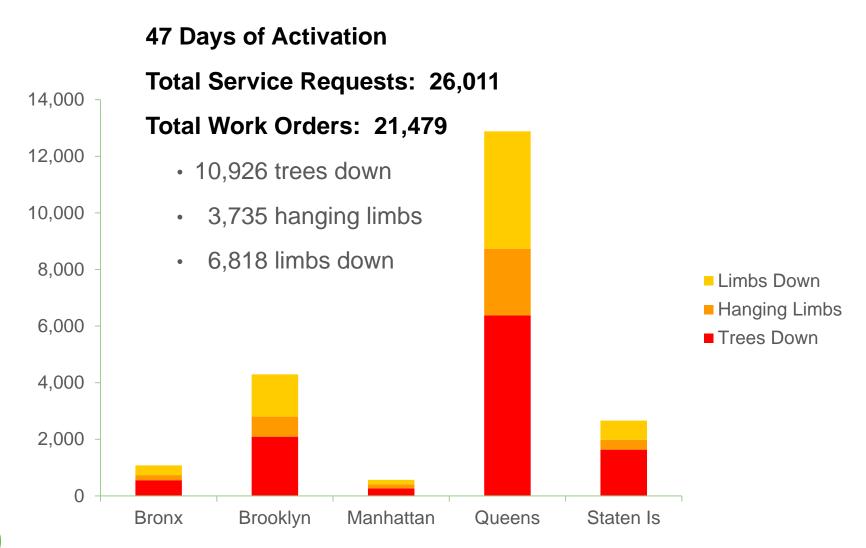
- Storm surge was 13-14 feet above Mean Low Water
- Massive power and transportation suspensions
- Second-costliest storm in U.S. history (after Katrina)







Sandy vs NYC Trees





Damage - Aerial Salt Spray - Citywide















Hurricane Sandy

Work order data is drawn from the Forestry Management system for the period beginning on 10/29/2012 at 00:00 and ending 11/7/2012 at 12:00.

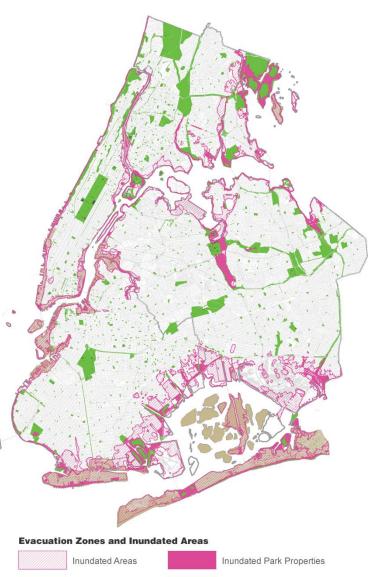
Blocked Streets data is from Sunday, November 4, after data from the Situational Awareness update was entered.

Evacuation zone data provided by NYC OEM.

Hindcast inundation areas data provided by FEMA.

Map prepared by Peter Tiso Forestry, Horticulture, and Natural Resources GIS





Evacuation Zone A

Park Properties

Damage – Late Leaf Out of Inundated Trees





London Plane With Salt Damage

The New York Times

Bare Trees Are a Lingering Sign of Hurricane Sandy's High Toll



Todd Heisler/The New York Times

A branch on the Lower East Side should have many more leaves at this time of year.

By KIA GREGORY

Published: August 18, 2013



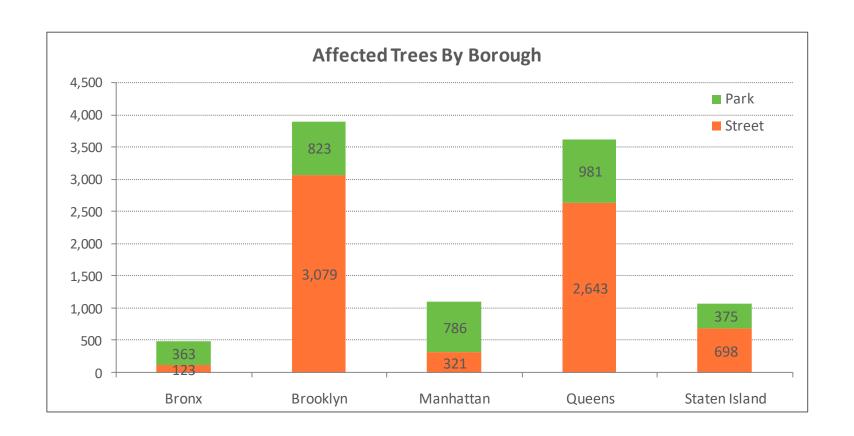
Affected Street Trees Compared to Street Tree Population in the Inundation Zone

| Borough | Inundated Street Trees | Affected Street Trees | % Street Trees Affected | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Bronx | 749 | 123 | 16% | | |
| Brooklyn | 17,414 | 3,079 | 18% | | |
| Manhattan | 3,203 | 321 | 10% | | |
| Queens | 18,084 | 2,643 | 15% | | |
| Staten Island | 8,450 | 698 | 8% | | |
| Citywide Total | 47,900 | 6,864 | 14% | | |

^{*} estimated number of street trees within FEMA's Sandy inundation hindcast

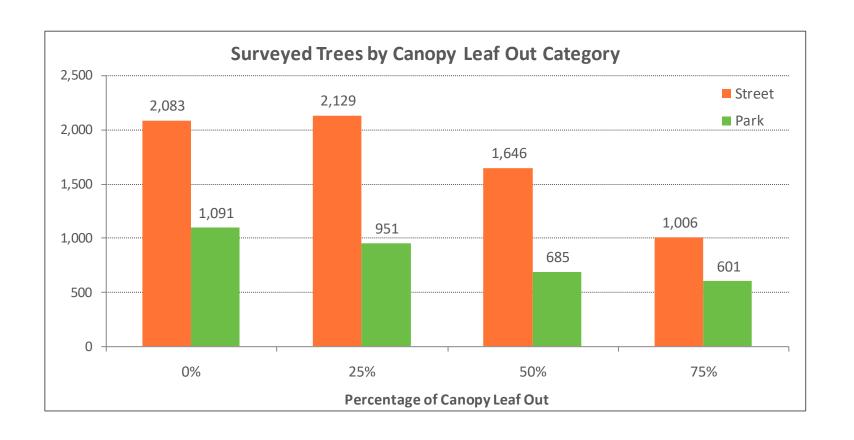


Late Leaf Out Survey Results



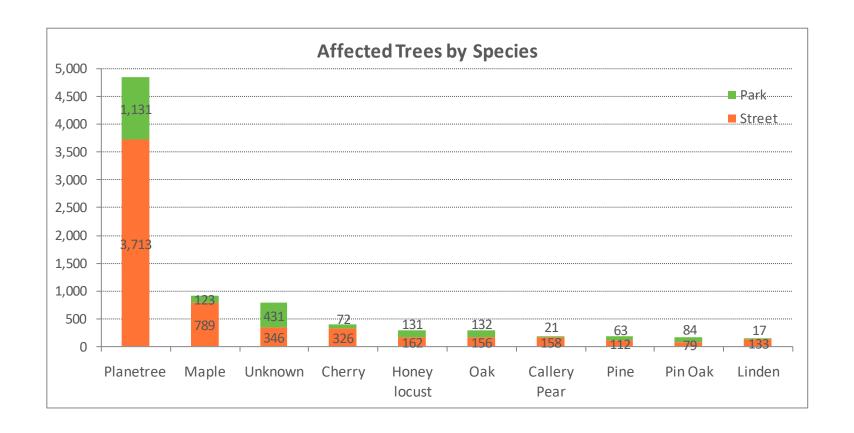


Surveyed Trees Canopy Leaf Out Distribution



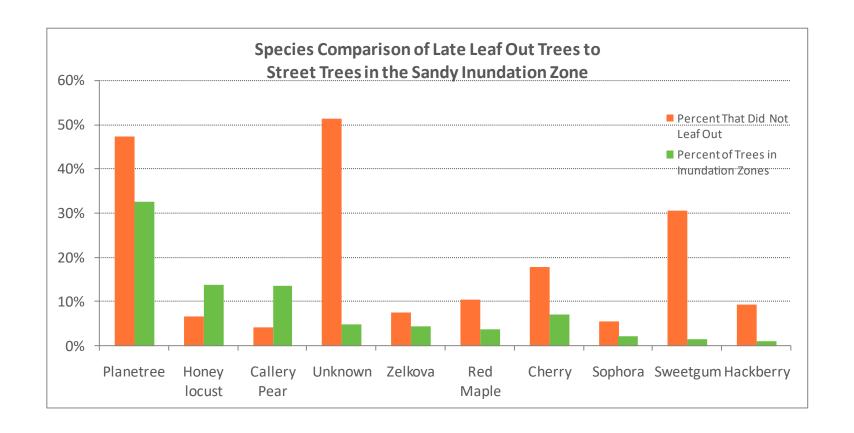


Late Leaf Out Affected Species



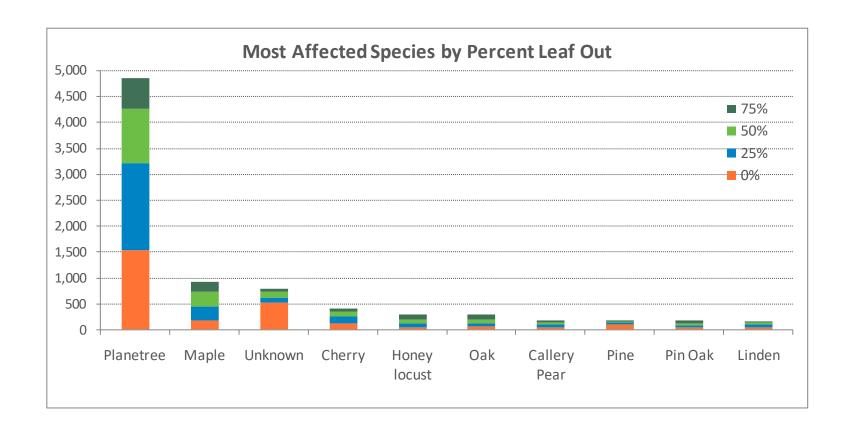


Late Leaf Out Affected Species



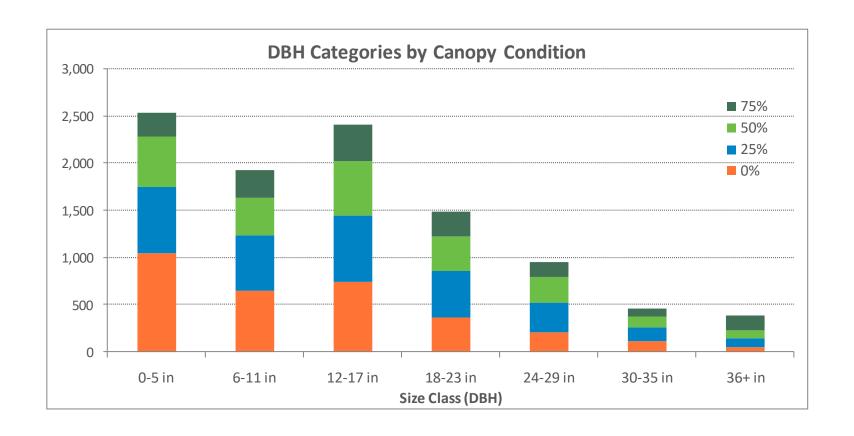


Affected Species by Canopy Condition



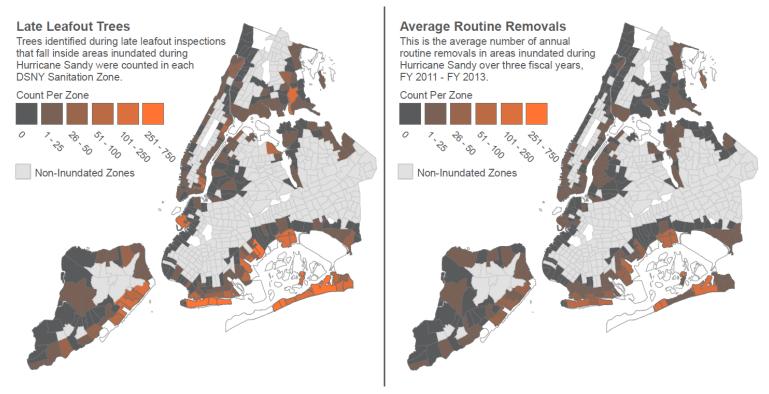


Affected Tree Diameter Distribution





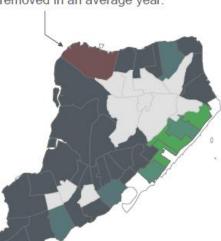
Comparing Salt Impacts to Routine Removals



We compared the Late Leaf Out salt impacted trees data with the average annual dead tree removals in the Sandy inundation zone from fiscal year 2011 to fiscal year 2013.



Difference Between Routine Removals and Late Leafout By subtracting the count of average routine removals from the count of trees identified during the Late Leafout inspections, sanitation zones in which the greatest differences between routine tree removal and storm-related damage may exist are visible. Count Per Zone Non-Inundated Zones Negative numbers indicate zones where more trees were removed in an average year than are identified as insufficiently leafed out in post-hurricane surveys. Zone 5014C 1 fewer trees were identified as insufficiently leafed out than are removed in an average year.





insufficiently leafed out than are removed

in an average year.

Zone 2103D

118 more trees were identified as insufficiently leafed out than are removed in an average year.



Post-Sandy Late Leaf Out Survey

Where is the most coastal place I know?





Facing east in Fire Island

Extremely exposed yet still many trees





Facing southeast in Fire Island

Trees grow at the edge of the Great South Bay





Refined guidance for coastal tree planting



NYC Tree Planting Coastal Species List

This species list is to be used as a guide for tree planting within New York City coastal areas.

*Species currently not available at our nurseries.

Coastal areas are delineated in the Street Tree Planting Survey Map layer "DPR_CoastalTiers".

Tier 1: Along the coastline; High exposure to high speed winds, salt-water flooding, and salt spray

Tier 2: Farther inland from the coastline; Moderate exposure to high speed winds, salt-water flooding, and salt spray

Tier 3: Along urban setting and away from coastline; Low to Moderate exposure to high speed winds, salt-water flooding, and salt spray

| Species | Cultivar (s) | Native to NY | Planting under utility wires | Salt Spray Tolerance | Soil Salt Tolerance | Wind Resistance | Weighted Score | Weighted Avg (H/3) | Coverted Score (I+4) to remove negative values | Overali Tolerance | Coastal Tier |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------|--------------|
| Amelanchier canadensis* | | Yes | Yes | Moderate | Moderate to High | Moderate to High | 20 | 6.7 | 10.7 | High | 1 |
| Amelanchier laevis | | Yes | Yes | Moderate | Moderate | Moderate to High | 16 | 5.3 | 9.3 | Moderate | 2 |
| Betula nigra | | Yes | No | Low | Moderate | Moderate to High | 4 | 1.3 | 5.3 | Moderate | 2 |
| Betula populifolia | | Yes | No | High | Moderate | Moderate | 20 | 6.7 | 10.7 | High | 1 |
| Cedrus atlantica | | No | No | Moderate | Low | Low | -12 | -4.0 | 0.0 | Low | 3 |
| Celtis occidentalis | Chicagoland Magnifica | Yes | No | Moderate | Moderate | Low to Moderate | 4 | 1.3 | 5.3 | Moderate | 2 |
| Chionanthus virginicus | | No | Yes | Low | Moderate | Moderate to High | 4 | 1.3 | 5.3 | Moderate | 2 |
| Cornus florida | | Yes | Yes | Low | Poor | Moderate to High | -12 | -4.0 | 0.0 | Low | 3 |
| Crateagus crusgalli | | Yes | Yes | High | Moderate | Low to Moderate | 12 | 4.0 | 8.0 | Moderate | 2 |
| Diospyrus virginiana* | | Yes | No | High | Moderate | Moderate to High | 24 | 8.0 | 12.0 | High | 1 |
| Gleditsia triacanthos var. Inermis | Halka Imperial Shademaster Skyline Streetkeeper | Yes | No | High | Moderate | Moderate to High | 24 | 8.0 | 12.0 | High | 1 |
| Ilex opaca | | Yes | No | High | Moderate | Moderate to High | 24 | 8.0 | 12.0 | High | 1 |
| Juniperus chinensis | Hetzeii Kaizuka Ktleri Robusta green | No | No, check cultivar | High | High | Moderate | 28 | 9.3 | 13.3 | High | 1 |





Thank You

James Kaechele

Program Manager, Tree Time

James.kaechele@parks.nyc.gov

Parks