

# Tools for assessing and managing Community Forests



**i-Tree Newsletter—March 2011**

## Upgrading to i-Tree v4.0

Current i-Tree users working with i-Tree version 3.x can select the **Check for Updates** option available from the **Help** menu of any application to install the version 4.0 upgrade package. If you are working with an existing project, the individual application will walk you through necessary steps to update your data as needed.

New users wishing to install i-Tree v4.0 for the first time will need to [register](http://www.itreetools.org) at [www.itreetools.org](http://www.itreetools.org) and then [request and install the software](#). The new online analysis tools (Design & Canopy) do not require registration or software installation.

## i-PED—Pest Evaluation & Detection Module within i-Tree Streets

The i-PED (Pest Evaluation and Detection) module within the i-Tree Streets v4.0 application is enhanced with advance pest reporting and analysis functionality. In addition to pest summary and symptom reports, users now have the ability to dynamically query and review pest and symptom data records for more in-depth analyses of their inventory records. A sample project with i-PED data is now available within Streets.

The i-PED protocol is designed to be compatible with any inventory system—i-Tree or not—and will be integrated into i-Tree Eco as an optional module in a future version. Numerous [online resources](#) are available to assist IPED users with all project phases and further pest and disease investigation.

Check out the [IPED Integrated Pest and Evaluation Detection Module](#) webpage or visit the [IPED Wiki online resources](#) page to learn more.

## i-Tree version 4.0 now available!

The i-Tree Team is excited to announce that i-Tree v4.0 is now available. In addition to significant upgrades to existing applications, i-Tree v4.0 offers three new tools: i-Tree Hydro, Design and Canopy.

As always, the i-Tree Team thanks users for their support and feedback, as it continues to help us improve i-Tree functionality and direct development. Below is a snapshot of some of the new tools and features now available in i-Tree v4.0:

**i-Tree Design** (beta) is a simple online tool that provides a platform for assessments of individual trees at the parcel level. This tool links to Google Maps and allows you to see how tree selection, tree size, and placement around your home effects energy use and other benefits. This beta tool is the first stage of development for more sophisticated options that will be available in future versions.

**i-Tree Canopy** offers a quick and easy online tool to produce a statistically valid estimate of land cover types (e.g., tree cover) using aerial images available in Google Maps. The data can be used by urban forest managers to estimate tree canopy cover, set canopy goals, and track successes.

**i-Tree Hydro** (beta) is a new application designed for natural resource managers, planners and others interested in modeling the watershed-scale effects of vegetation on local hydrology. It is the first vegetation-specific urban hydrology model and is designed to model the effects of changes in urban tree cover and impervious surfaces on hourly stream flows and water quality.

**i-Tree Vue** provides users with several key enhancements. Users can superimpose transparent national land cover data (NLCD) maps (30 m resolution) on top of Google aerial images to improve orientation and allow for evaluation of differences between the 2001 NLCD data set with more recent aerial images. In addition, Vue users are now able to make regional adjustments to NLCD canopy and impervious estimates based on recent research. Vue also features a new simple image "clipping" function to define or modify an area of interest from within the application.

**i-Tree Eco** offers two particularly significant upgrades over earlier versions. First, U.S. projects that make use of standard weather and air quality data will no longer need to be sent to the U.S. Forest Service for processing. An automated system is now available that typically completes data analysis within one day. Second, updates have been made to the air quality model, including improved leaf area index simulations, weather and air pollution data processing and interpolation, updated monetary values for reduced pollutant levels, and improved charts and tables. Dynamic pollution reports now display yearly, monthly, or hourly results. Due to these changes, users can expect more refined calculations of air pollution effects when compared with earlier versions of Eco.

