

Vegetation & Heat Islands in Lexington

Could more trees in the right areas alleviate heat stress?

August 28, 2024 was a hot day in the city. Parking lots and built areas in Downtown and in North Lexington endured surface temperatures exceeding 113° F.

This map serves as a tool to help identify the complex relationship between the built environment, green infrastructure, and heat pockets. It helps identify areas underserved with green areas & trees canopy. While trees alone cannot solve the issue by themselves, they form an important pillar of heat mitigation strategies.

Legend

NDVI (Vegetation Index)

0,3847 - 0,4012

0,4012 - 0,4184

0,4184 - 0,4412

> 0,4412

Urban Heat Islands (>113° F)

Waterbody

Urban Service Area (2024)

Buildings

Council Districts

Streets

Final project by Daniel Dilger for TreeCATS 2025 – UHI & NDVI derived from Landsat 8 satellite imagery (08/28/24).
All other data provided by Lexington's Data Hub.

