

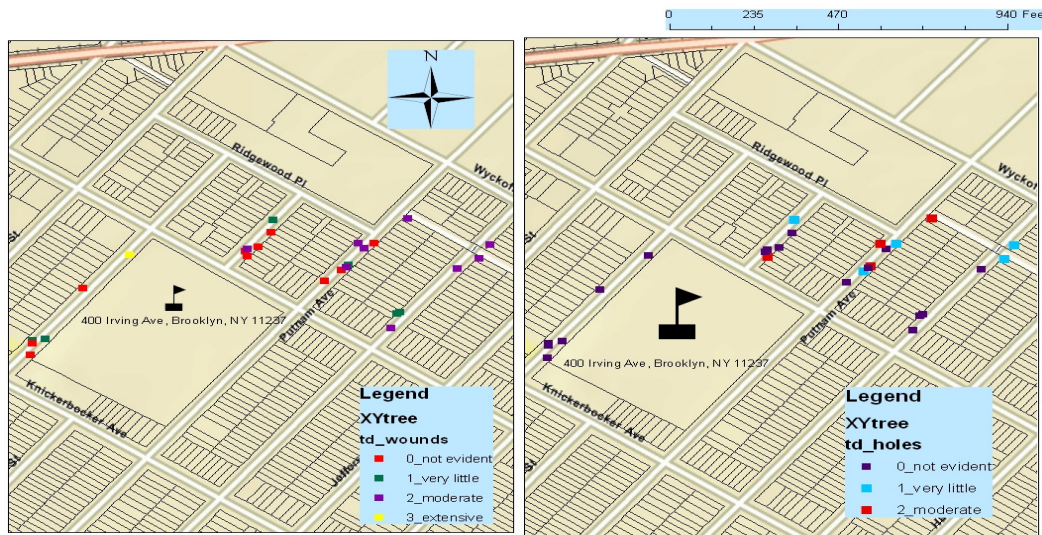
Healthy Trees

By Elizabeth Cameriero and Greg Sosa

Initial Observations:

- Many trees only last for about 8 years
- There's a lot of pollution in the city from all the trucks and factories releasing CO₂
- Some trees can not get enough water because the tree pit is covered in cement.
- Some insects help the soil. They decompose the organic matter.

MY TREE MAP



Initial Research: Why do Street Trees have such young life spans?

- **Poor soil.** Street trees lose their nutrient rich topsoil.
 - **Compaction.** The soil in a tree pit can get compacted and stop the growth of the tree. The roots can't grow and the soil can't absorb water.
 - **Inadequate drainage.** If the soil around and below the tree is clay, water has a hard time dispersing. The tree may, in effect, drown.
 - **Utility trenches.** Underground subways, pipes and cables that are underneath the roots can damage the roots.
 - **Girdling.** This is when a tree is strangled from something wrapped around it.
 - **Tree grates.** People decorate the trees with fences and the trees expand and the fence stops the flow of water and chemicals from the bottom to the top of the tree.
 - **Excessive paving.** The roots grow and it cracks the cement.
- The fundamental solution to most city tree problems is simple: Give each tree access to more and better soil.

Hypothesis:

I think that the trees from the forest are more healthy than the trees that are in the city.

Experiment:

Test soil from Park trees and compare it to soil from street trees.

