



Portland State  
UNIVERSITY



Metro



Forest Park  
Conservancy  
*Protect. | Restore. | Inspire.*

# TREES & HEALTH:

## *Growing the Solution*

*Come learn about exciting new nature and health research that impacts our community! Local experts will share their fascinating work on how trees can both diagnose and treat many of the community health challenges we face.*

**Geoffrey Donovan** of the US Forest Service will dive into his study on how tree moss uncovered air pollution hot spots in Portland. He'll also talk about other local and national research that show trees can help us have healthier babies and live longer.

**Vivek Shandas** will discuss how mapping our tree canopy can help us better plan for health when planting trees. His work provides a better understanding as to what areas are vulnerable to larger health concerns due to lack of trees and where to focus tree planting efforts to address this need.

..... *Join us!* .....

LEARN HOW WE CAN CREATE HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES BY PLANTING TREES TOGETHER!

SEPT. 28th • 7–9 PM • LINCOLN HALL

1620 SW Park Ave, Portland ORE.

..... VISIT OUR EVENTBRITE TO PRE-REGISTER: .....

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trees-and-health-growing-the-solution-tickets-27444201345>

### **Vivek Shandas** *Portland State University*

Portland State University professor Vivek Shandas specializes in integrating the science of sustainability to citizen engagement and decision making efforts. As an urban studies and planning professor, he studies how these urban spaces and their inhabitants impact the natural environment—and how innovative approaches through design, policy, and community involvement can actually improve a city's environmental and social conditions. As the Principle Investigator for the Healthy Trees, Healthy People project, Dr. Shandas works with the U.S. Forest Service, the American Lung Association, and State and County health departments to research how trees improve human health by mitigating urban heat island and improving air quality.

### **Geoffrey Donovan** *US Forest Service*

Geoffrey Donovan has quantified a wide range of urban-tree benefits. These have ranged from intuitive benefits—reduced summertime cooling costs, for example—to less intuitive such as crime reduction. More recently, he has focused on the relationship between trees and public health. He found that mothers with trees around their homes are less likely to have underweight babies, and when trees are killed by an invasive pest, more people die from cardiovascular and lower-respiratory disease. He has a number of ongoing projects including his ground-breaking research using tree moss to identify air pollution hot spots in Portland.



**FriendsOfTrees.org**