



CRC Public Service Campaign | Heat Safety & Awareness

Week 7 | Urban Heat Island Effect

TWITTER

@cap_climate UHI project modeled cooling strategies the region could utilize. It includes 🌳 tree canopy, 🏠 albedo (reflectiveness) of roads & buildings, & 🚗 EV use. Report: (<https://bit.ly/31U1jb4>). These strategies can be implemented NOW & will benefit us for decades.

(Image 7.1)

In Sacramento, and in already hot urban areas across the country like Phoenix and Tucson, August 2020 broke heat records. 😓 <https://cnn.it/3gXMecK> Urban Areas are typically hotter than their rural neighbors because of the urban heat island (UHI) effect.

(Image 7.2)

By the 2040 to 2070 period, the Sacramento Region will experience as many as 24 to 35 extreme heat days per year, up from 3-4 days historically. We are already seeing record heat waves this year. @cap_climate UHI mitigation report shares solutions: <https://bit.ly/31U1jb4>

(Image 7.3)

FACEBOOK

POST ON FRIDAY, OVER WEEKEND, OR MONDAY IF POSSIBLE

In a statewide Flex Alert, CAISO said energy conservation efforts were key to preventing additional power outages during the recent heatwave in August and urged Californians to rise to the challenge again.

“Conservation can lower demand and avoid further actions, including outages, and lessen the duration of possible power interruptions,” CAISO said. The Flex Alert starts on Saturday, Aug 3rd and extends through Labor Day, Monday, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Consumers can take these steps to prepare for the Flex Alert before 3 p.m.:

- “Pre-cool” homes, or lower air conditioning thermostats.
- Charge electric vehicles.
- Charge mobile devices and laptops.
- Run dishwashers, washing machines, and other major appliances.
- Set pool pumps to run in the early morning or late at night.

Between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m., CAISO is urging consumers to:
Set air conditioning thermostats to 78 degrees, if health permits.
Defer use of major appliances.
Turn off unnecessary lights.
Unplug unused electrical devices.
Close blinds and drapes.
Use fans when possible.

(Image 7.4)

Personal safety and conservation measures make a huge difference in adapting to extreme heat, but to make major changes as a region, large-scale activities also need to happen. CRC's Urban Heat Island Mitigation project identified the efficacy of potential measures.

The report found that if neighboring communities in the capital region coordinate and both implement cooling measures, the cooling relief felt will double compared to if just only one jurisdiction took action.

Actions that local communities can take include:

Cool Roofs: "Adopt a tax credit or other incentive program to encourage the adoption of cool and green roofs & develop fact sheets about cool roof manufacturers to distribute to homeowners".

Vegetation Cover: "Codify language related to urban forestry to ensure implementation of trees or other landscaping measures in projects" such as ensuring that parking lot tree canopy minimum are met and actually enforced. Residents can take advantage of tree-planting programs such as SMUD's: <https://www.smud.org/en/Going-Green/Free-Shade-Trees>.

Electric Vehicles (EV): When single occupancy vehicle travel is necessary, utilize existing or develop EV car-sharing programs, such as Gig Car Share and Our Community CarShare in the Capital Region. To encourage EV use, local governments can update local agency codes to require EV-ready or EV-installed spaces at parking lots, commercial buildings, garages, multifamily units, and other requirements.

Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/31U1jb4>

(No Image)

CRC's Urban Heat Island report (published Feb 2020) modeled how effective various cooling strategies would be in the region. It includes increasing tree canopy, increasing albedo (reflectiveness) of roads and buildings, increasing EV use, and urban land use planning. All of the proposed strategies are available using materials and technologies available on the market today. For exact details, please see the report: <https://bit.ly/31U1jb4>.

The modeling done in the study found "the cooling measures can significantly reduce or completely erase the number of heat-wave days during several excessive-heat event periods identified in the study." These strategies can be implemented NOW if our region takes action, both at a community level and at a government level through policy and ordinances. These actions will benefit us immediately and for decades to come.

(No Image)

Image 7.1



Image 7.2

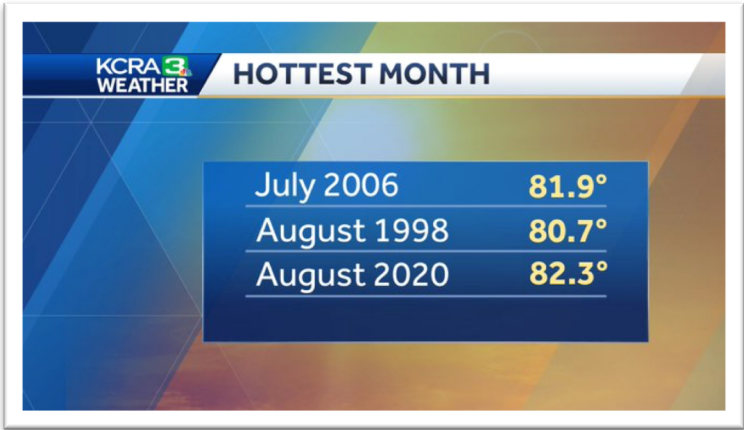


Image 7.3

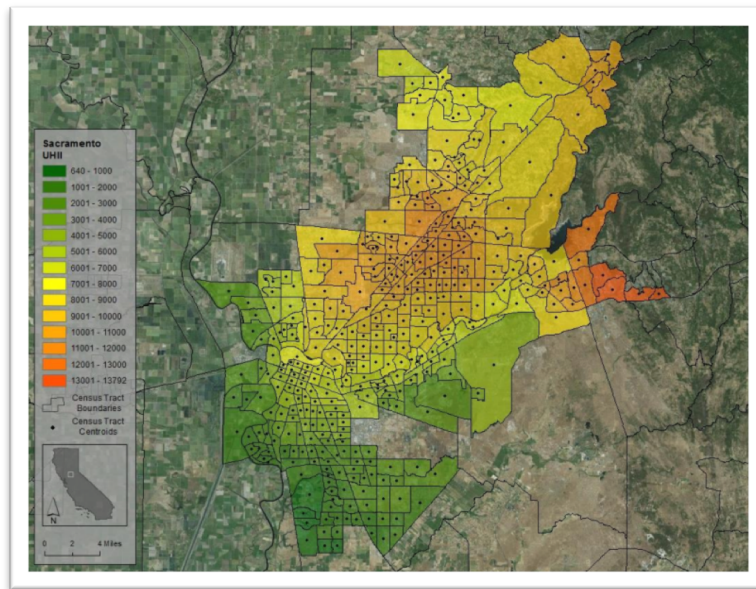


Image 7.4

