



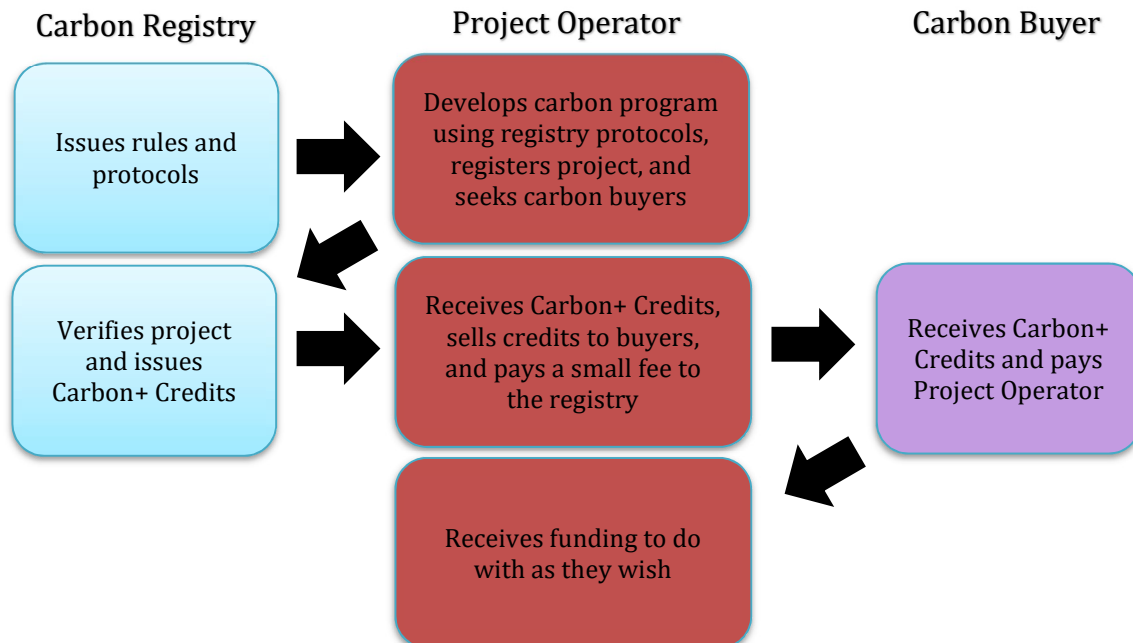
# Overview of City Forest Carbon Credits and City Forest Carbon Projects

## What's a carbon credit?

A carbon credit represents one metric ton of carbon dioxide. Some carbon credits pull carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and store it, as in a tree. Others reduce existing greenhouse gas emissions, as when a chemical plant installs systems to reduce its emissions of carbon dioxide. We call our credit a City Forest Carbon+ Credit™. Not only does it come from cities and towns where people live, it is truly Carbon+. It contains quantified storm water reductions, air quality, and energy savings expressed in Resource Units, in addition to a metric ton of carbon dioxide.

## How Does the City Forest Credits Registry Work?

Our non-profit organization is a registry. We have developed protocols and will register and issue credits to eligible projects. The diagram and explanatory text below show how the carbon credit process works.



Start at the top left of the diagram in the box under Carbon Registry.

1. The Carbon Registry issues a set of rules and protocols
2. The Project Operator follows the rules in the Registry's carbon protocols to develop a carbon program and seeks carbon buyers with the Registry's help.
3. The Registry provides project verification and issues Carbon+ Credits.
4. The Project Operator receives the credits, sells them to buyers, and pays a small fee to the registry for each credit sold.
5. The Carbon Buyer receives the credits and pays the Project Operator.
6. The Project Operator can use those dollars for any use – to defray planting and maintenance of project trees, to start other projects, or for anything else.

## Two Types of Urban Forest Projects: Planting and Preservation

Our group of urban forest stakeholders from many subject areas and many regions across the U.S. developed protocols, or rule-books, for two types of urban forest projects.

**Planting projects** involve the planting of trees that will store carbon dioxide and generate carbon credits for sale. These projects can take place anywhere within our definition of the urban areas, which is essentially metropolitan areas, city and town boundaries, source water protection zones, or transportation rights of way. The Registry has developed spreadsheets that guide a project manager to collect and enter data for their project. The spreadsheet then calculates carbon storage, co-benefits, and carbon credits.

**Preservation projects** involve the protection of existing trees that are at some risk of removal. The protection must take the form of an easement for trees on private land, or a management plan or protected status for trees on public land. Carbon storage in the protected trees is quantified through five steps described in the protocol. The quantified carbon then yields an amount of credits that can be sold.

## More Questions?

This is a new opportunity for urban forestry. It's simple in the idea – carbon credits for city trees! But complicated in all the details.

We can help you understand this. We can also provide some estimates on potential carbon revenues and costs to do a project as a carbon project.

One century's philosophy is the next century's common sense. We think every city or county should have a city forest carbon program to generate valuable credits for local buyers and bring in new private-sector funding to keep our cities green, healthy, and livable.