

# The Value of a Tree

Around Chicago this Arbor Day you may see value tags on trees. These value tags are intended to help people understand the dollar value and many benefits of an individual tree.

The trees will have tags that look like this:



back

front

## Make your own value tags!

1. Walk around the school grounds and identify different trees. This is a great small group activity— assign each small group one tree to identify and research. Then each group can be responsible for creating one tree tag.
2. Go to the website <http://www.davey.com/ask-the-expert/tree-calculator/national-tree-benefit-calculator.aspx> to get some awesome value facts about the benefit of your tree.

To get accurate information through this website, you will need to know:

- 🌳 Your zip code
- 🌳 The species of the tree
- 🌳 The diameter of the tree at 4 ½ feet (measure the circumference and then use the calculation  $\text{Diameter} = \text{circumference} / \pi$  to determine the diameter)

On the website you can discover:

- 🌳 The estimated dollar value of the tree
- 🌳 How much storm water your tree will intercept
- 🌳 How much energy your tree can save
- 🌳 How many pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> your tree will sequester
- 🌳 And much more!

3. Use cardboard or poster board to create a value tag for each tree. Use ribbon to tie each tag to the appropriate tree (make sure to get permission from the appropriate people before doing this). Have students include specific details about their tree on the value tag... there are TONS of great facts on the website!
4. Make sure not to litter – after a few days or a week, return to your trees and collect your tags!