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Question1:

Question2:

Question3:

Question4: Urban and community forestry in rural America is in dire need of funding in order to reduce energy cost and use.

Recent funding formulas have placed emphasis and funding in the hands of highly populated areas of the country. Large cities that already have professional foresters on staff, and dedicated urban forestry city budgets, are getting the lions share of the federal funding as well. The greatest efficiency and need for funding is in the smaller communities of rural America that have no dedicated funding and no professional foresters on staff.

It seems that larger communities are losing the amount of green canopy within their borders to intense development needs to slow urban sprawl. If funding is allocated to rural America, more acres of urban forest will be planted, especially in the Great Plains area, and increase the amount of green, or forested acres. Urban forestry studies show that an increase of three trees per building can save 10-15% in heating and cooling energy costs per building. With energy costs constantly rising, and our dependence on foreign oil, the money spent on rural urban forestry would decrease energy needs and be a long term, great investment.

Question5:

Question6: