

I am a tree.

I am alive.

I need oxygen.

When you step on my soil, my roots can't get oxygen, and I can get sick.

So please step around me, not on me.

Trees communicate.

When I am hurt or being attacked by insects or disease,

I can send chemical signals to other trees through my roots and leaves to warn them.

Those trees will then produce chemicals to defend themselves against the attack.

So we help each other.

Some older trees even help young trees grow by sending them nutrients through their roots.

If you break my branches, I can get an infection.

So be gentle.

When it is hot outside, I am hot too.

I need twenty gallons of water a week.

Please help take care of me by watering me, stepping around me, and not breaking my branches.

And I will grow, clean the air, and make oxygen for you.

Thank you, friend.