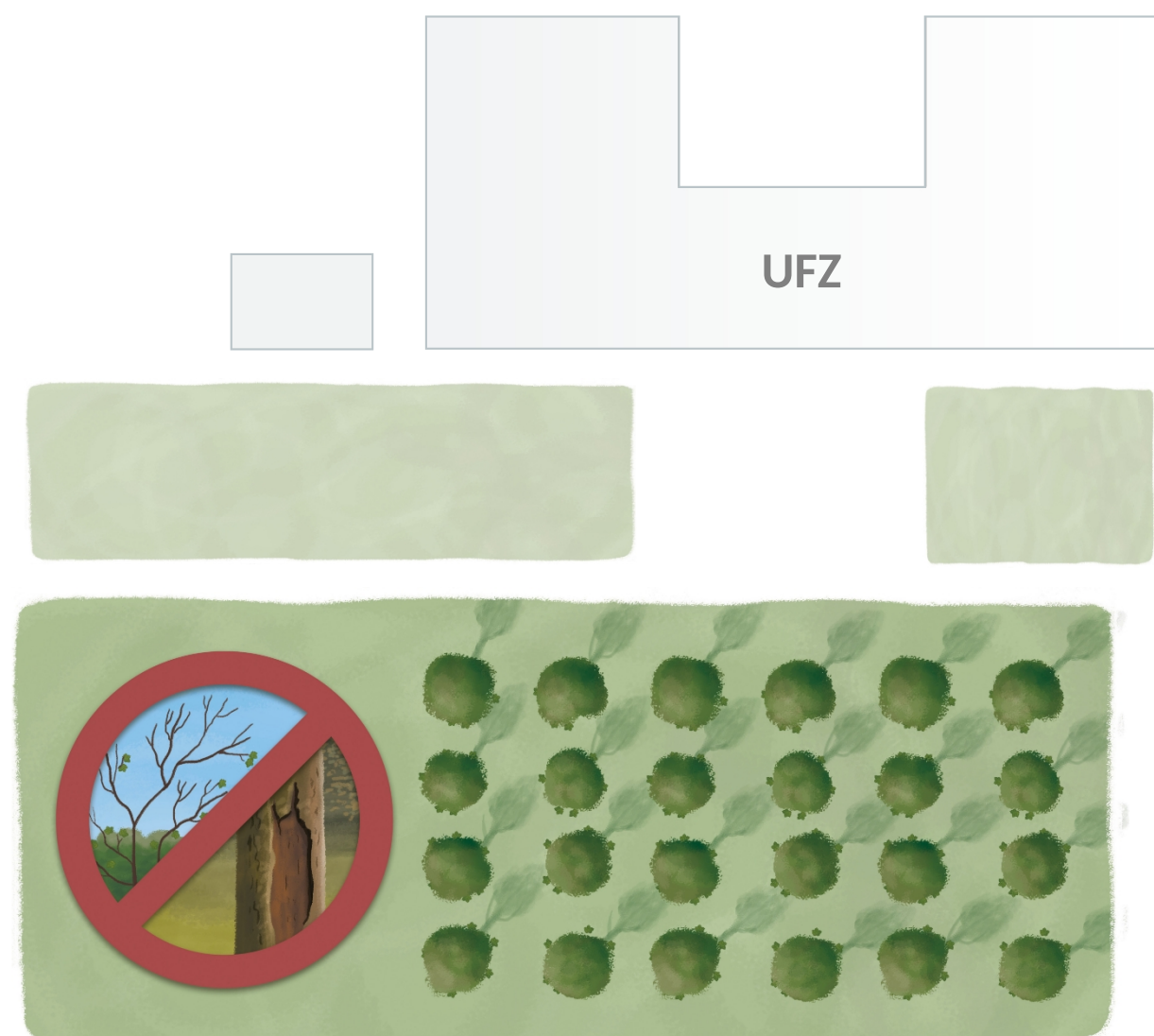
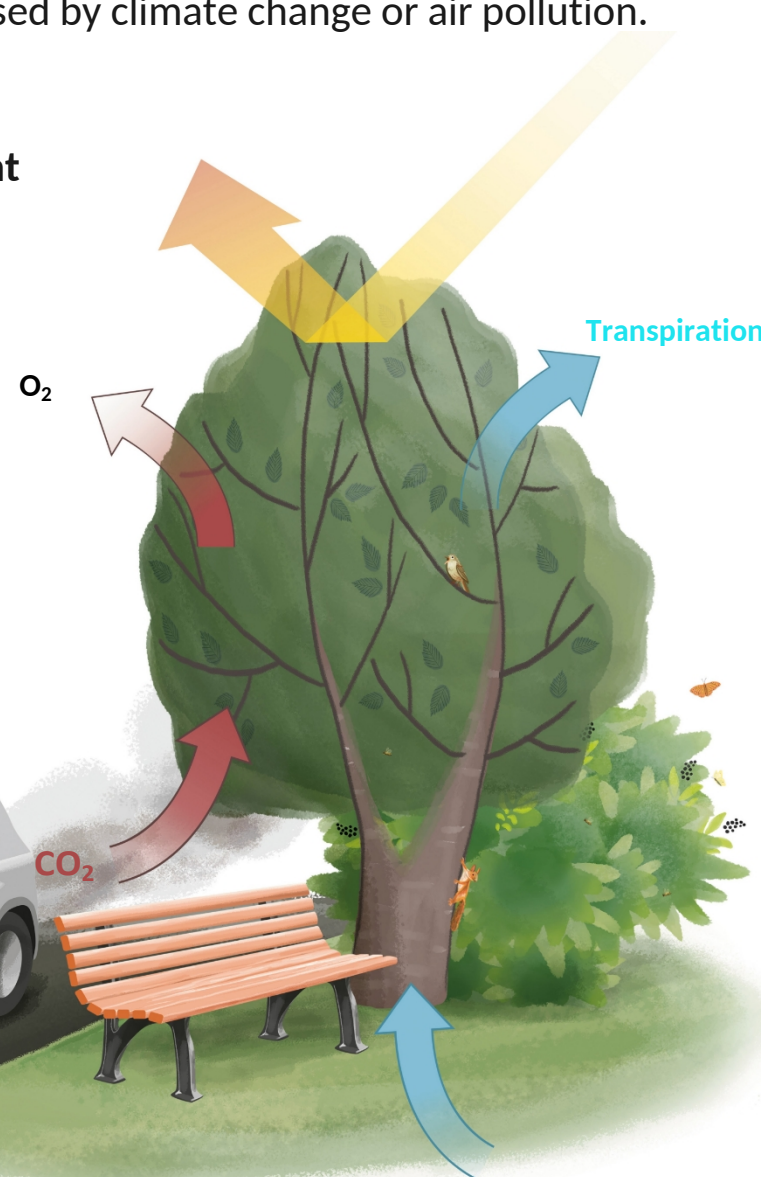


AN ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE & CLIMATE-STABLE FOREST ISLAND IS PLANTED HERE

URBAN TREES ARE IMPORTANT,

because they have a variety of functions. They produce oxygen, provide shade, are a habitat for numerous animals, bind water and CO₂ (long-term) and filter fine dust from the air. At the same time, they are very important for the urban climate, as they contribute to cooling the environment through evaporation and transpiration. For this reason, existing trees in cities should not be felled if possible, or only after intensive consideration of the advantages and disadvantages. Unfortunately, many tree plantations are not adapted to the new challenges posed by climate change or air pollution.

For this reason, when re-modeling the area, we focused on selecting plant species suitable for the location.



CURRENTLY GROWING HERE

ornamental maple trees (a cultivated variety of the Norway maple) planted in rows in monoculture according to horticultural aspects. **Some of them are infested with fungi and show severe drought damage ("treetop drought").** Numerous trees have already had to be felled and attempts to replace them with maple trees have not been successful. For reasons of traffic safety, it will be necessary to cut down more trees in the coming years. In order to develop an ecologically sustainable, climate-stable alternative for this area, the UFZ, as the owner of the area, has decided to cut down the trees on a third of the area and replant site-appropriate shrubs and perennials in a new form.

NEWLY CREATED HERE

A forest island with a forest-like core zone, a layer of shrubs around them and a layer of herbaceous plants. The planting is based on ecological aspects. The focus is on native tree species that are adapted to the environmental conditions prevailing here. Shrubs that are typical in our area are planted in a circle around the trees. The outer circle of the planting consists of herbaceous perennials. This creates a gentle transition from the core zone to the open space. The area around is a species-rich wildflower meadow that is mowed once or twice a year and provides food and habitat for many insect species, especially bees, bumblebees and butterflies.

In contrast to the current trees on the site, the new planting is species-rich, ecologically sustainable and climate-stable.

