

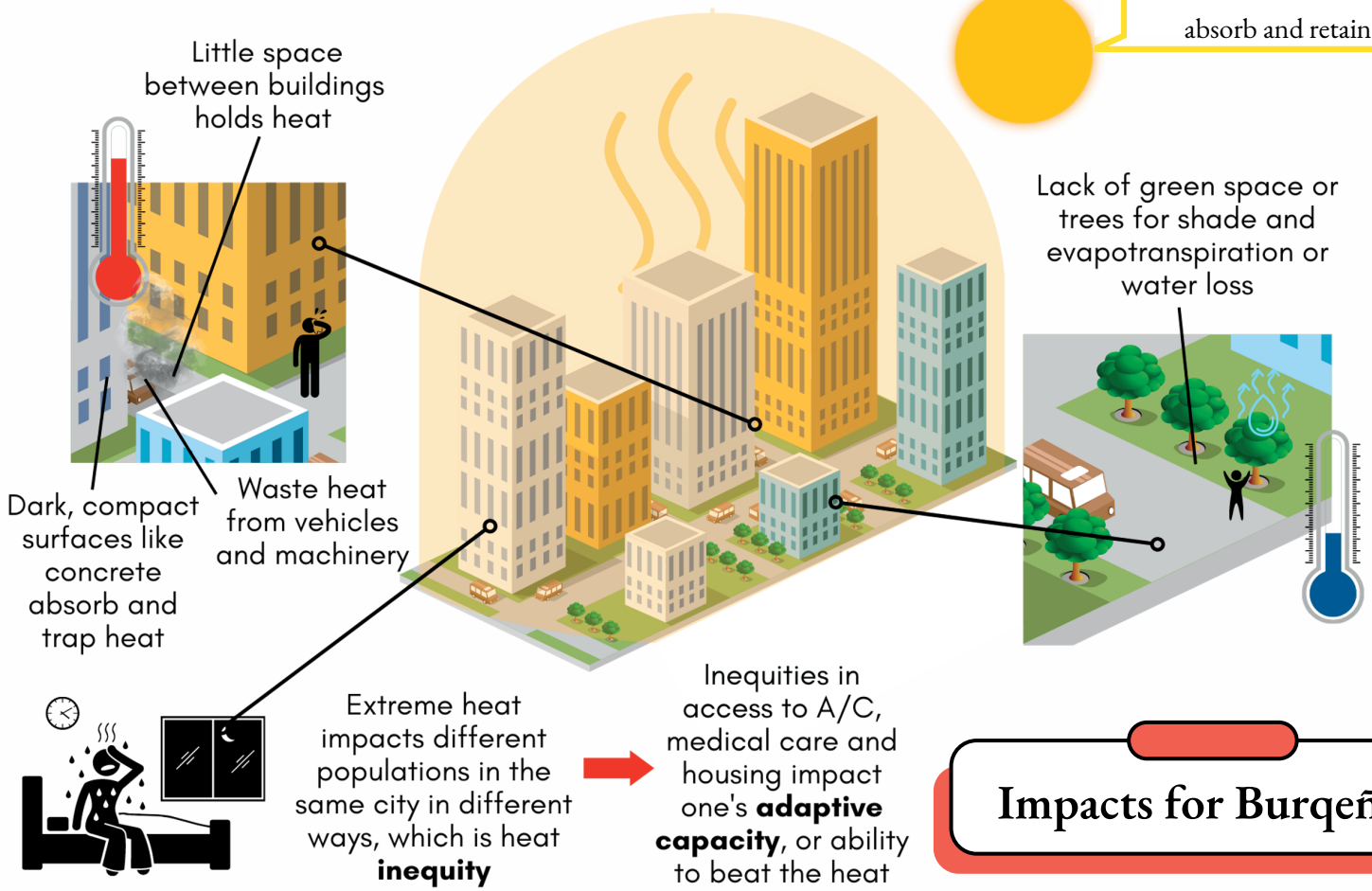


ABQ Heat-Brief

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What is an Urban Heat Island?

Urban Heat Island – an urban or metropolitan area that is significantly warmer than its surrounding rural areas due to how well the surfaces in each environment absorb and retain heat.



Impacts for Burqueños

Heat-related morbidity and mortality

Overwhelmed healthcare systems

Poor Air Quality

Reduced quality of life

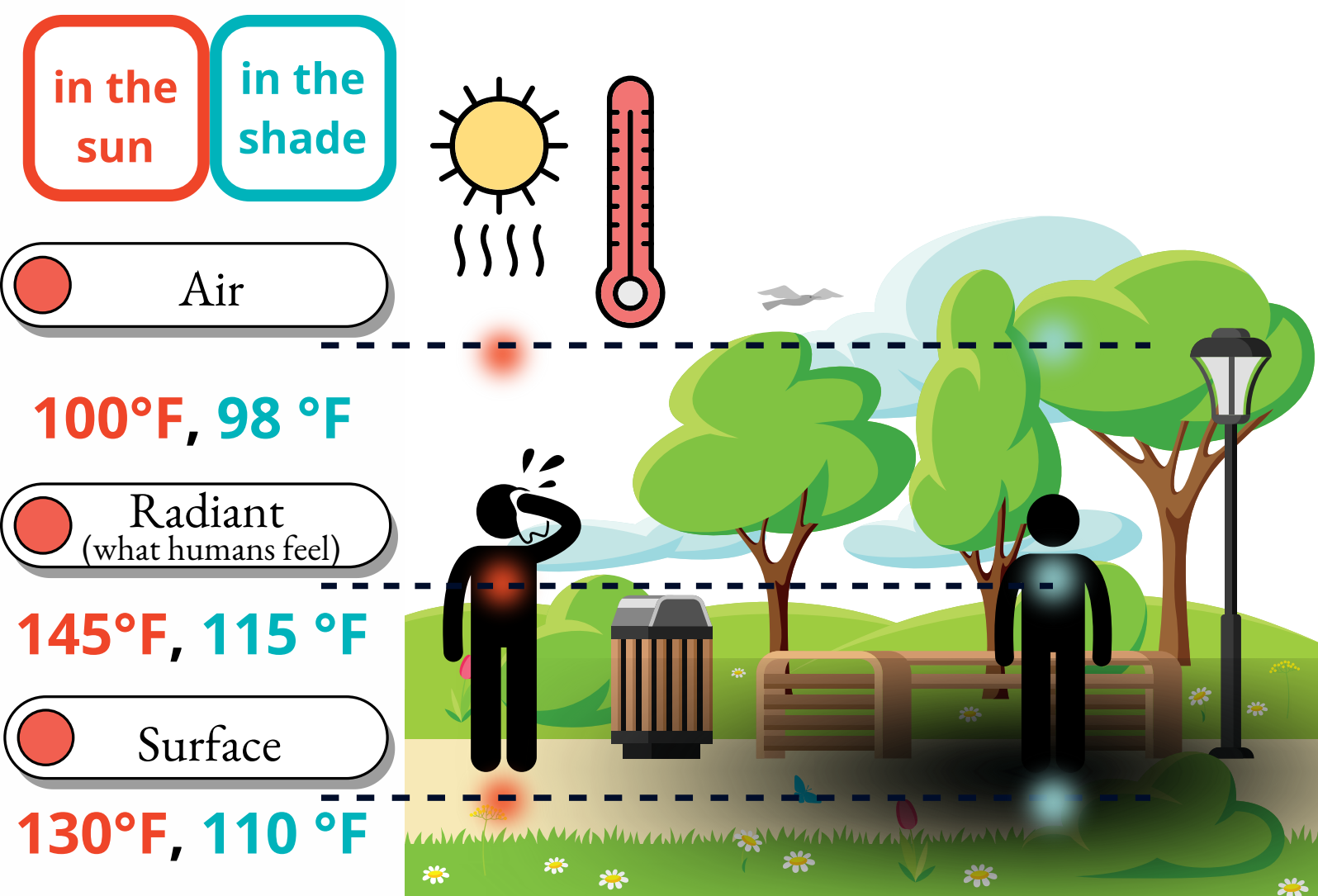
Absence of shade

Higher summer electricity bills

How does shade and planting trees combat the urban heat island effect?



Shade Reduces Air, Radiant, and Surface Temperature





Increasing the urban canopy is an effective and cost-efficient methodology for heat mitigation. Through shading and evapotranspiration, a strong urban canopy provides more benefits than altering the albedo of impervious surfaces alone.

Benefits of increasing the urban tree canopy



Economic development opportunities

Higher property values

Improved air quality

Increased quality of life for citizens

Reduced storm water runoff

Lower summer electricity bills

Resources:

<https://letsplantabq.org/>

<https://www.cabq.gov/sustainability/climate-action-plan#dashboard>

Get involved with Let's Plant ABQ

- **Organize** a tree planting project
- **Research** climate-ready trees that qualify for County Water Authority's Treebate program
- **Donate** a tree, or two, or three!

More than 100,000 Trees!

Trees are a fantastic way to help mitigate UHIs, but Albuquerque will need more than a large urban canopy to beat the heat.

Replacing outdated appliances reduces energy consumption

Cooler building design retains less heat and reduces temperatures

Alternate funding vehicles:
FEMA -Building Resiliency in Communities
Infrastructure Investment Act - Healthy Streets

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