



NATURE BASED
SOLUTIONS
INSTITUTE

Rethinking Urban Green Spaces:

From new planning standards to nature-based stewardship

Cecil C. Konijnendijk

cecil@nbsi.eu <http://nbsi.eu>

A NEW ERA FOR URBAN GREENING (A TIME OF UNREST?)



What Are the Latest Trends?

We are living in a world of change and unrest.

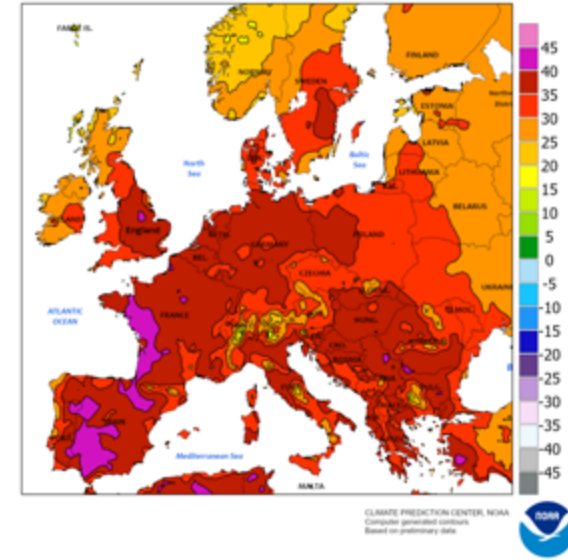
Grand challenges such as climate change, water scarcity, biodiversity loss, health challenge, poverty.

Immediate challenges such as Covid-19, extreme weather events, conflicts.

How Can We Capitalize on These?

- Reappreciation of **Nearby Nature** and **Re-entanglement**
- Green infrastructure for **climate change** adaptation and mitigation.
- **Mainstreaming** of urban nature – and Nature-Based Thinking.
- Need for **good governance** and leadership (and education & training).

EUROPE
Extreme Maximum Temperature (C)
July 17 - 23, 2022



Over 4% of summer mortality in European cities is attributable to urban heat islands



30%

Increasing **tree cover**
in cities to **30%**



can reduce the
temperature of
urban environments
by up to **1.3 °C**



and **prevent 1/3 of
premature deaths**
attributable to urban
heat islands in summer

Source: Iungman T., et al., *The Lancet*, 2023.





Administration

BRIEFING ROOM

FACT SHEET: Biden Administration Mobilizes to Protect Workers and Communities from Extreme Heat

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 • STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

Home > Press corner > Pioneering proposals to restore Europe's nature by 2050

Available languages: English

Press release | 22 June 2022 | Brussels

Green Deal: pioneering proposals to restore Europe's nature by 2050 and halve pesticide use by 2030

- No net loss of **green urban spaces** by 2030, a 5% increase by 2050, a minimum of 10% tree canopy cover in every European city, town, and suburb, and net gain of green space that is integrated to buildings and infrastructure,

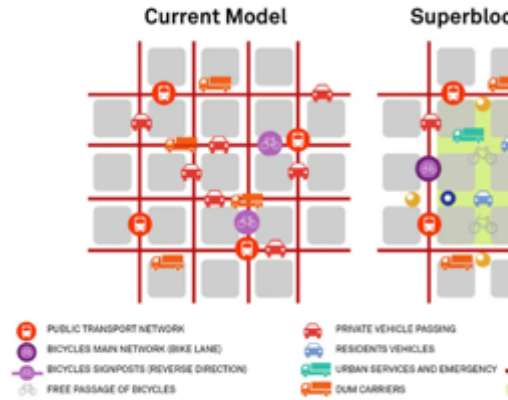
AGRICULTURE

MARS 2023 | July 2023

CLIMATE ADAPTATION ACTIONS FOR URBAN FORESTS AND HUMAN HEALTH



SUPERBLOCKS MODEL



Source: Barcelona City Hall

LOOKING FOR NEW (GREEN) PLANNING STANDARDS





Vision and Principles

Enhancing Nordic leadership in urban green space planning and management – fostering the Nordic Green City of the Future

This is done by working with the principles of:

- Proximity (including visibility)
- Connectivity
- Diversity
- Equity



Groenblauwe ruimtes als bouwsteen van veerkrachtige gezonde leefomgevingen

Onderzoeksrapport

DEPARTEMENT
OMGEVING AGENTSCHAP
ZORG & GEZONDHEID

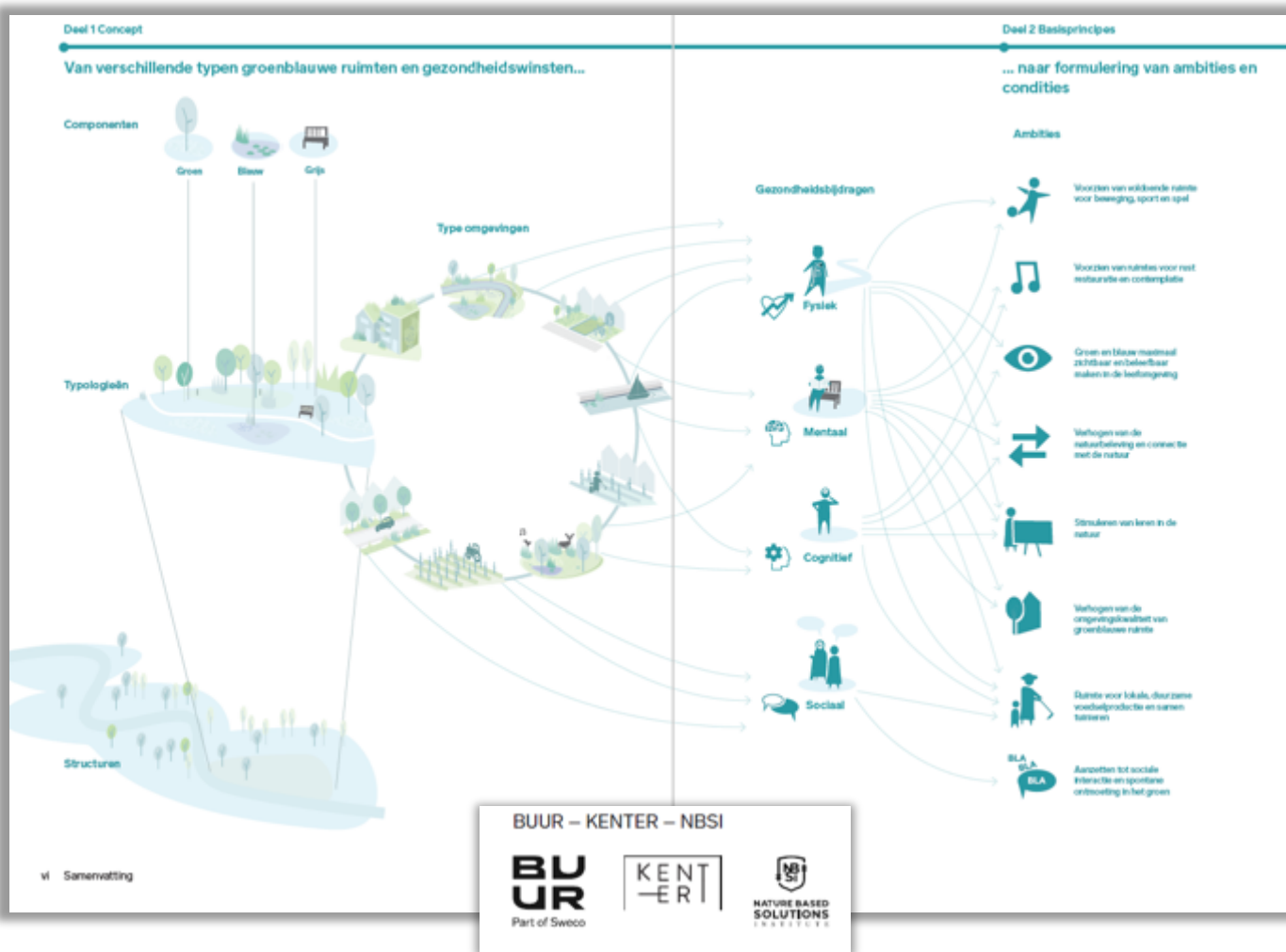
www.vlaanderen.be



Groenblauwe ruimtes als bouwsteen van gezonde en veerkrachtige leefomgevingen

Handboek voor planning, inrichting en beheer

DEPARTEMENT
OMGEVING AGENTSCHAP
ZORG & GEZONDHEID





30% TREE CANOPY
COVER IN
EVERY
NEIGHBOURHOOD



300m
FROM THE NEAREST PARK
OR GREEN SPACE



3:30:300 TREES!



Stadt Zürich



mijlpartiet de grino



Centerpartiet



Partij voor de Dieren

GROENLINKS



Malmö

Malmö ska bli grönare: "Äntligen överens"

9 mars 2023 18:00

En majoritet av bostadsområdena i Malmö har brist på träd, visar färsk siffror. Miljöpartiets vallöfte om att alla ska se minst tre träd från sitt fönster kan bli verklighet, efter att Malmöstyret kommit överens.

Text: Elinor Strand

Nu har Miljöpartiet fått med sig Socialdemokraterna och Liberalerna på den så kallade 3-,30-,300-regeln. Den ska skrivas in i Malmös nya översiktsplan, som väntas klubbas innan sommaren.

Canada's Urban Forests

Bringing the Canopy to All

September 2022



A better approach is the 3-30-300 rule, which states that everyone should be able to see at least three trees from their home, that all neighbourhoods should have at least a 30% tree canopy, and that all residents should have a greenspace of at least one hectare within 300 metres of where they live. While this principle can help substantially in advancing tree equity, we need to go further. In this report, Nature Canada proposes that equitable access should be thought of in terms of three variables—proximity to urban trees and forests, urban forest quality and the governance of urban forests.

Everyone should be able to see at least **3 trees** from their home

Communities should ensure a **30% tree canopy** in all neighbourhoods

All residents should have a greenspace of at least **one hectare within 300 metres** of where they're living



Inscription Connexion

Je m'abonne

Menu



COSMOPOLITAN



Mode Beauté Culture Lifestyle People **Spécial Glow** ...

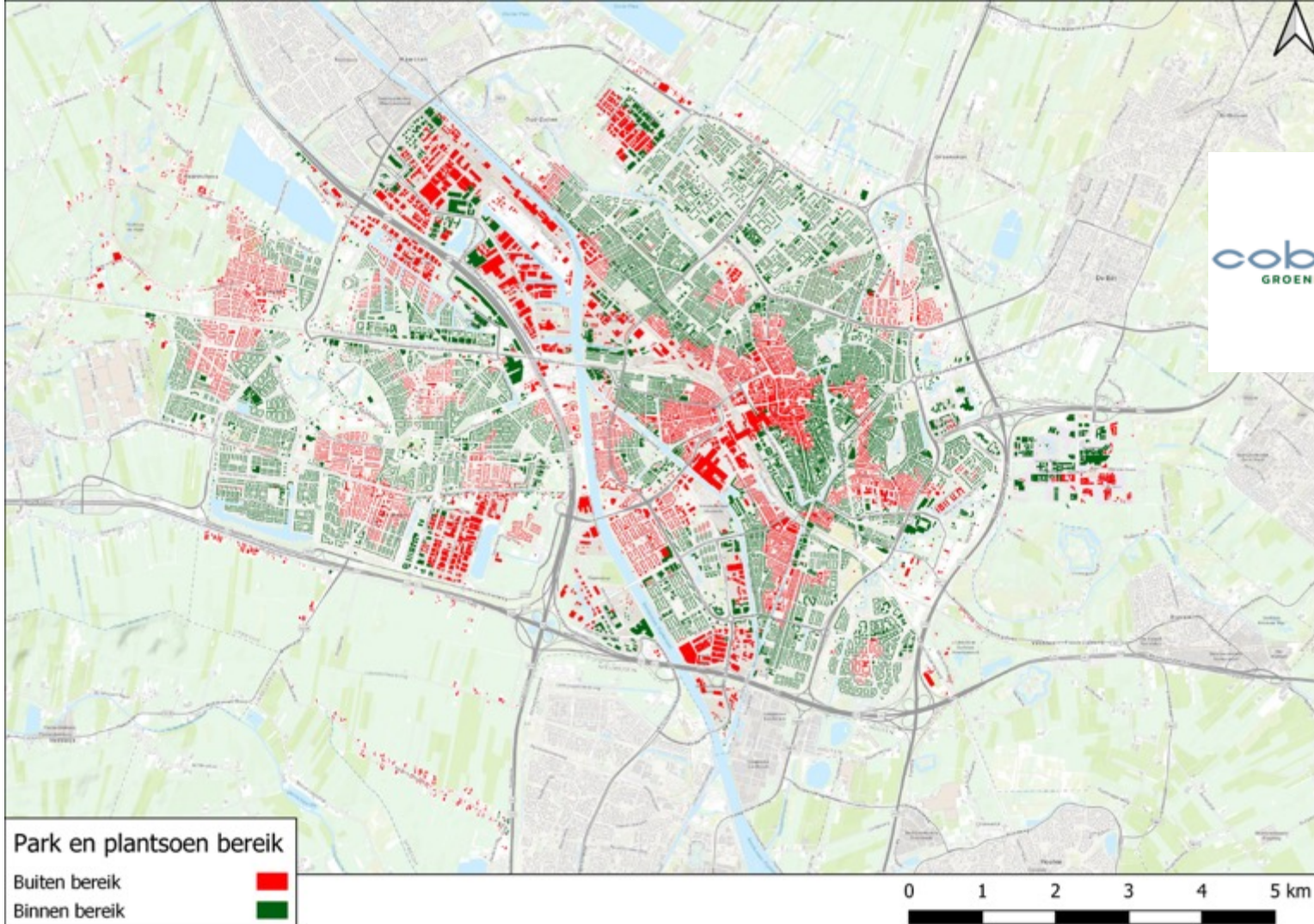
Cosmopolitan > Psycho > Actu psycho

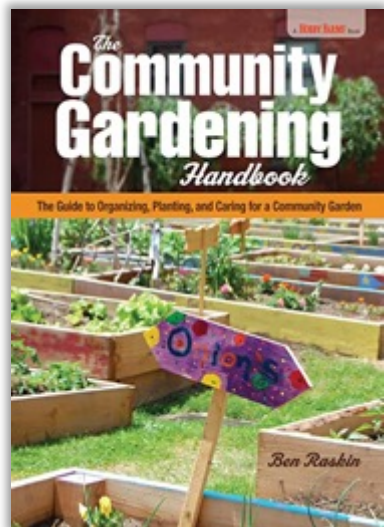
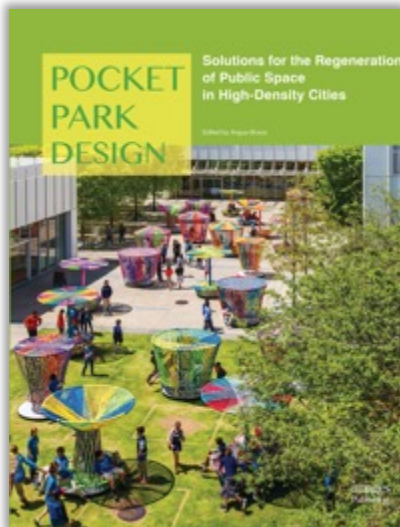
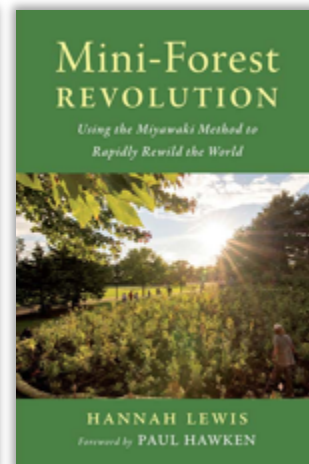
Une étude explique la règle imparable des 3-30-300 pour avoir plus de chances d'être heureux 24 heures sur 24

PAR SARAH CARNIER

MIS À JOUR LE 13/01/2023 À 17:12







MORE NATURE-BASED STEWARDSHIP



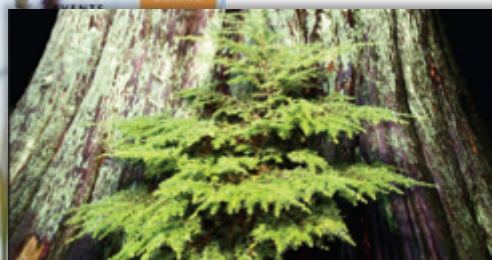
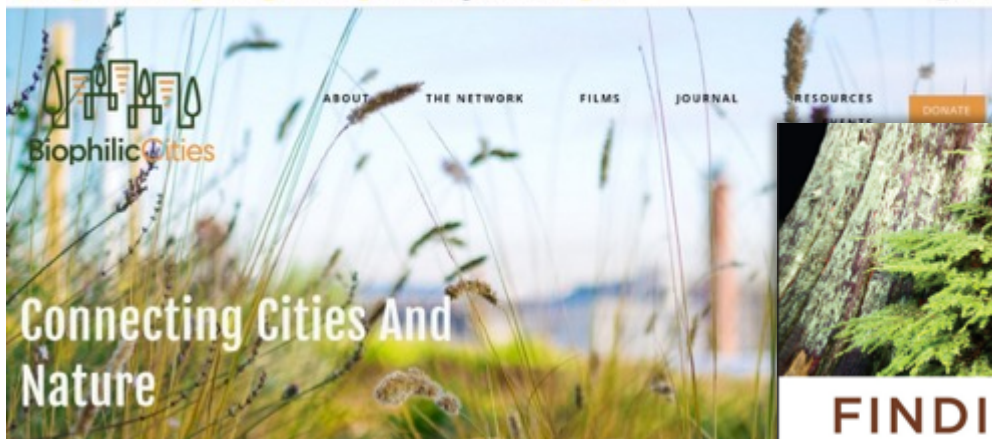
Nature Based Thinking

Embodying a broader mindset that works in a cyclical way across sectors, disciplines, and levels of governance.

Make space for nature also in the densest of urban areas.

Not only implementing NBS over conventional infrastructure with desired and set outcomes in mind, but also allowing for less predictable benefits and experiments to discover them in a long term perspective.



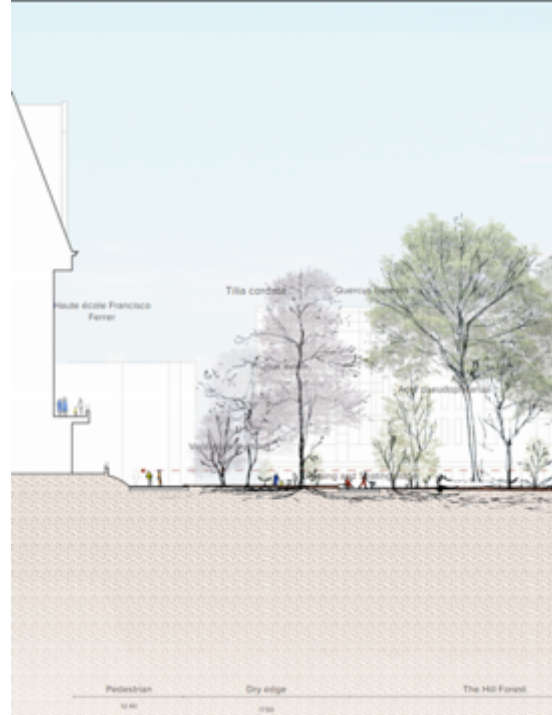


FINDING THE MOTHER TREE

Discovering the
Wisdom of the Forest

SUZANNE SIMARD





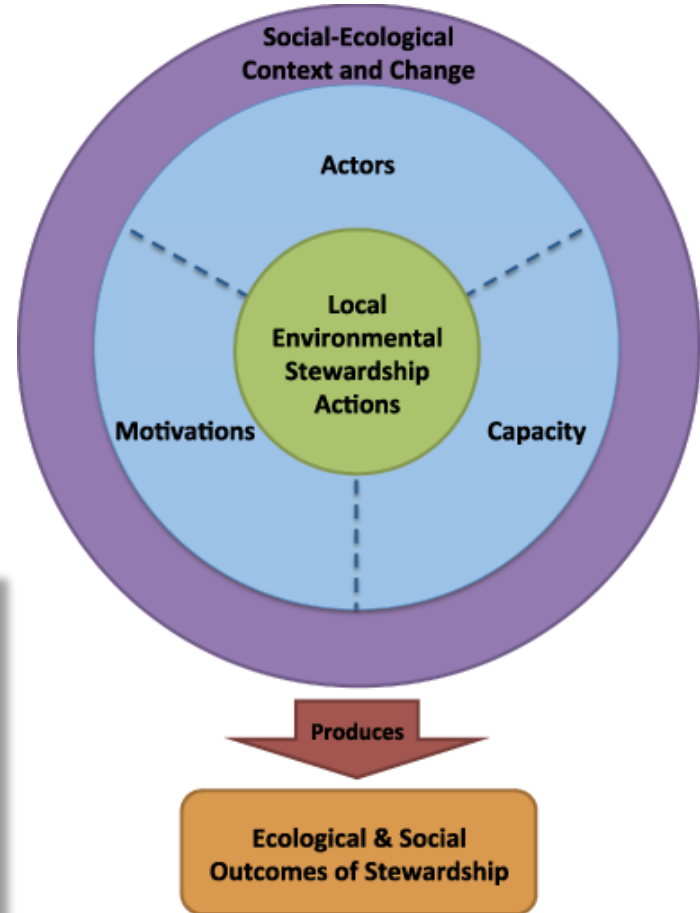
“we define local environmental stewardship as the actions taken by individuals, groups or networks of actors, with various motivations and levels of capacity, to protect, care for or responsibly use the environment in pursuit of environmental and/or social outcomes in diverse social–ecological contexts.”

Open Access | [Published: 31 January 2018](#)

Environmental Stewardship: A Conceptual Review and Analytical Framework

[Nathan J. Bennett](#) , [Tara S. Whitty](#), [Elena Finkbeiner](#), [Jeremy Pittman](#), [Hannah Bassett](#), [Stefan Gelcich](#) & [Edward H. Allison](#)

[Environmental Management](#) **61**, 597–614 (2018) | [Cite this article](#)

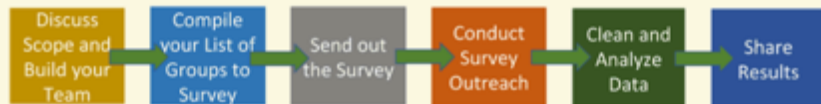


STEW-MAP: The Stewardship Mapping and Assessment Project



STEW-MAP Step-By-Step

STEW-MAP has been successfully implemented in many places over the last decade. The methodology can be adapted for a range of budgets, for cities or regions of various sizes, and in urban, suburban, and rural areas. The six main steps are described briefly below. For additional information, see the list of resources for download below.

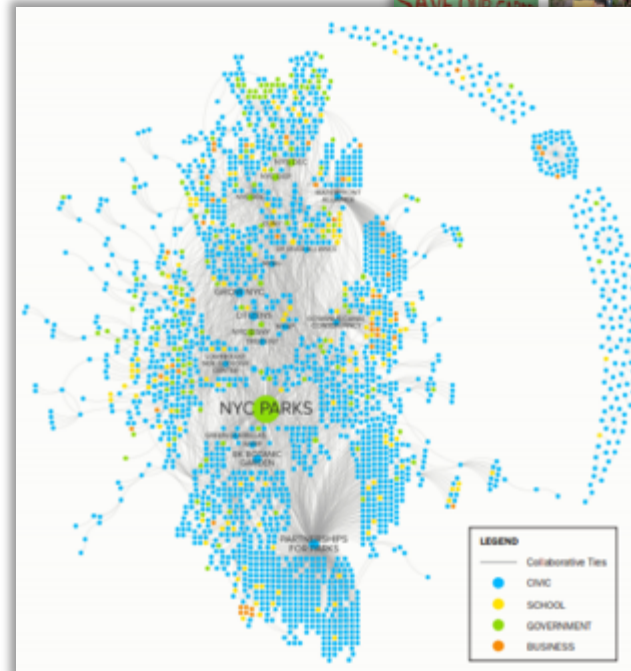


United States Department of Agriculture

STEW-MAP in the New York City Region

Survey Results of the Stewardship Mapping and Assessment Project, 2017

Laura Landice
Lindsay K. Campbell
Michelle Johnson
Erica Swenson
Holly Bernstein



Place Keeping



- Just MAKING a place is not enough to ensure longer-term sustainability, use, success – place also has to be MAINTAINED / KEPT
- The concept of ‘place-keeping’: first coined by Wild et al. (2008)
- **Long-term management** which ensures that the social, environmental and economic **quality and benefits** the place brings can be enjoyed by **future generations**

Urban Groves



Streetwoods

*Upcoming book: Rethinking
Urban Green Space*





- Times of unrest - but exciting times for urban green spaces and trees
- Case for evidence-based standards and guidelines for planning – see the case of 3:30:300
- Green infrastructure should be seen as critical infrastructure
- Need for more nature-based stewardship and place keeping – e.g. through urban groves and streetwoods