



# Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership

## CREATING URBAN OASIS IN THE NEW HAVEN HARBOR WATERSHED

New Haven, CT



A partnership to **CONNECT** students with the outdoors, **RESTORE** wildlife habitat in urban open spaces and **INSPIRE** the next generation of environmental leaders



## CONNECT

people  
and  
habitats in  
urban spaces.



## RESTORE

open spaces to  
enhance biodiversity,  
improve water quality  
in the Long Island  
Sound and increase  
habitat connectivity  
across the city.



## INSPIRE

the next  
generation of  
conservation  
leaders.

*Photos courtesy of partners: Save the Sound and Common Ground*



A partnership project of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Audubon CT, EPA Long Island Sound Study, Common Ground High School, Yale Urban Resources Initiative, Yale Peabody Museum, the City of New Haven and New Haven Public Schools

## **CONNECT** people and habitats in urban spaces.

- 4,000 K-8 students learn about the Sound, urban habitats and wildlife conservation through lessons delivered by Audubon, USFWS & Common Ground
- 3,000 adults hone environmental education skills and get to know local natural places through teacher and neighborhood workshops and interpretive walks

## **RESTORE** open spaces to enhance biodiversity, improve water quality in the Long Island Sound and increase habitat.

- 2 urban neighborhoods engaged in front yard and vacant lot planting
- 4 elementary and high school Schoolyard Habitat projects
- 3 public park habitat restoration sites
- All restoration sites within the Long Island Sound Study Area and strategically located between 8 units of the Stewart B McKinney National Wildlife Refuge

## **INSPIRE** the next generation of conservation leaders.

- 32 students involved in green jobs training
- 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders participate in career days led by conservation professionals
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders work alongside conservation professionals to design, plant and care for Schoolyard Habitats
- 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders monitor restoration projects with Audubon and USFWS biologists
- Guided by Yale Peabody Museum educators, students develop interpretive signage for Schoolyard Habitats and park restoration sites