Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership
Creating Urban Oases 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.

Photo courtesy of partners: Save the Sound and Common Ground

A partnership project of the U.S. 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
New Haven Project Overview

**CONNECT**

People and habitats in urban spaces
- 11 urban restoration projects link habitat across the city
- 4,000 students learn about connections to the Sound and habitat restoration
- Diverse community member advisory board informs future project direction
- Students visit the Sound to solidify connection between their actions & Sound health

**RESTORE**

Urban spaces to enhance biodiversity & improve water quality
- Bioswales reduce city runoff to LIS
- 6 elementary and high schools implement schoolyard habitat projects
- 5 public park and university sites expand riparian buffers and reduce runoff
- GIS site selection tool incorporates socioeconomic and ecologic factors to inform site selection
- Students and conservation professionals work together to monitor biodiversity response at restoration sites (3-4 year monitoring)

**INSPIRE**

The next generation of conservation leaders
- 32 students involved in Green Job Training
- 8-12th graders participate in career days lead by conservation professions
- 2-6 graders work with biologists to design and care for their Habitats
- Students work with Yale Peabody Museum to design signs that highlight restoration sites and the connection to the Sound

Photos courtesy of Save the Sound and Common Ground
Habitat Restoration

Connect • Restore • Inspire
Biodiversity Monitoring with Green Jobs Corp

Connect • Restore • Inspire
Schoolyard Habitat

Connect • Restore • Inspire
Bioswales

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GIS Site Selection Tool

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New Haven Urban Wildlife Refuge
Full Team Phase II Planning Meeting
The success of the New Haven Urban Refuge Initiative is due to our diverse partners who all have well-established reputations in the community and the technical expertise needed to implement the project.