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.

Photos 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

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Biodiversity Monitoring with Green Jobs Corp

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Schoolyard Habitat

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Bioswales

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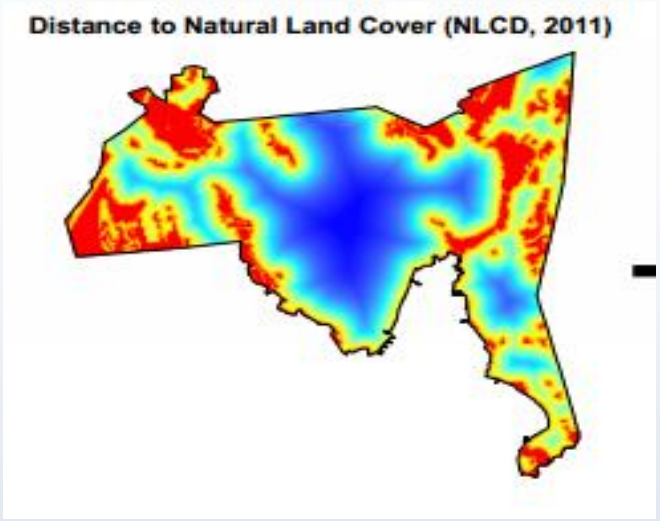
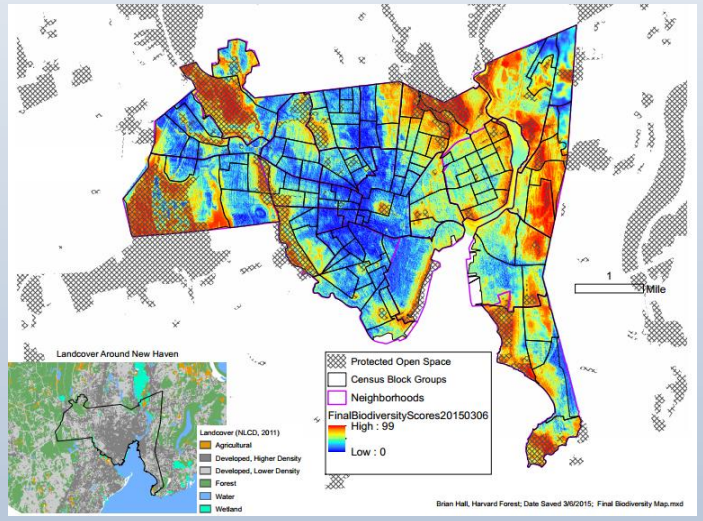
GIS Site Selection Tool



Connect • Restore • Inspire



New Haven Urban Wildlife Refuge
Full Team Phase II Planning Meeting

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Department of the Interior

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wildlife Refuge System

Yale University
Peabody Museum of Natural History

New Haven Public Schools

New Haven / URBAN RESOURCES INITIATIVE, INC.
URI

New Haven
Parks & Recreation

Long Island Sound Study
A Partnership to Restore and Protect the Sound

Southern Connecticut State University
SCSU

Audubon

COMMON GROUND
HIGH SCHOOL, URBAN FARM, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

New Haven Urban Wildlife Refuge Partners

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Yale PEABODY MUSEUM

New Haven Parks & Recreation

NEW HAVEN / URBAN RESOURCES INITIATIVE
URI

Audubon CONNECTICUT

Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

COMMON GROUND
HIGH SCHOOL, URBAN FARM, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

New Haven Public Schools

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