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THROUGH SCIENCE,  
POLICY, AND  
CITIZEN ACTION

USDA  
Forest Service



Pacific  
Northwest  
Research  
Station



## Urban Natural Resources Stewardship: Green Cities Research Alliance



### Alliance Goals:

- Establish a network of scientists, conservation organizations, and urban sustainability professionals;
- Understand and promote citizen participation in urban ecosystem restoration and stewardship;
- Develop stewardship organization, partnership, and motivation tools;
- Use map-based tools and analysis to assess stewardship needs and track socio-ecological outcomes;
- Develop approaches to understand and value urban ecosystem services and prioritize restoration activities;
- Investigate the relationships between urban nature and human health and well-being.

### Partners:

- Cascade Land Conservancy;
- University of Washington School of Forest Resources Remote Sensing and Geospatial Analysis Lab;
- King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks;
- EarthCorps;
- Institute for Culture and Ecology
- City of Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment;
- Oregon State University;
- International Forestry Consultants, Inc.;
- U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station: New York and Chicago Field Stations;
- Baltimore Ecosystem Study.

### What is the issue?

Green cities are more livable cities. To address this, cities need to plant trees, protect parks and green spaces, build green infrastructure, and restore watersheds. Large-scale, long-term research will help us learn how natural resource planning, restoration, and stewardship can improve urban ecosystems.

### Current Efforts

The U.S. Forest Service’s Pacific Northwest (PNW) Research Station is implementing the Green Cities Research Alliance in the broader Puget Sound region. Scientists are working with agencies, non-profit organizations, universities, and private sector firms to assess forest conditions, prioritize forest management programs, better understand stewardship activity, and integrate GIS and other geospatial tools to monitor long-term change.

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### Research Sponsors



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