



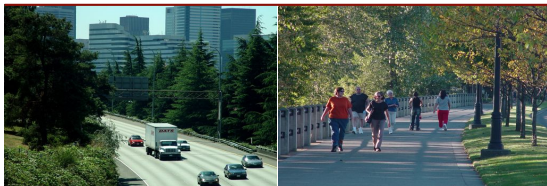
URBAN NATURAL RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP

science about the trees, parks,
and ecosystems where people
live, work, learn, and play



USDA Forest Service

Pacific Northwest
Research Station



Research Projects

Partnering for sustainable cities through science, policy, and citizen action

Residential Location Choices and Natural Resources

Study Objective:

Understand the factors leading to growth and development along the wildland to urban interface (with a special focus on suburban and exurban areas). Describe the implications for natural resources and environmental planning, management, and stewardship.



Urban Gathering: Food Stewardship & Healthy Lives



Spring Beauty / Portland, credit: B. Schlegel

Study Objective:
Urban green spaces contain important plants & fungi. We'll learn about the social, economic and cultural importance of fruits, fungi, and material found in urban ecosystems, and about the roles of gathering and stewardship practices in supporting healthy ecosystems.

Forested Parks, Walkability, & Public Health

Study Objective:

The U.S. is facing an obesity epidemic, with huge public health costs. One solution is frequent moderate activity. Do parks and open spaces encourage activity? This project will be a walkability assessment and management plan.



Stewardship Motivations & Effectiveness



Study Objective:

More and more citizens and organizations are volunteering on behalf of the environment. How do we make the most of their commitment of time and effort? This project is a program assessment and evaluation, to learn more about stewardship motivations, in an effort to involve more people in making sustainable cities.

Mapping Stewardship Footprints



Study Objective:

There are hundreds of organizations that do resource stewardship projects across most metro areas. What are the effects of such work? Comprehensive mapping will reveal the "footprint" of ecological benefit, and show where citizen action is most effective. Other data will reveal additional social and economic benefits.

Forest Assessment & Public Value (i-Tree Eco)



Study Objective:

An inventory and assessment of a park's vegetation is the first step in good resource management. Using GIS and analytic software, we will calculate the ecosystem services of forests (such as air and water quality, and fish habitat).

For more information:

Dale Blahna, USDA Forest Service, Pacific NW Research Station; email: dblahna@fs.fed.us

Kathy Wolf, University of Washington, College of the Environment; email: kwolf@uw.edu