


biodiverse *City* — st. louis —

*A community-wide network to increase
nature in our everyday lives.*



BGCI-Education Congress 
May 1, 2015

 MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Biodiversity – “Global” Why

Along with climate change, the loss of biodiversity is humanity's great environmental challenge of the 21st century.

1992 Rio Earth Summit – Objectives:

- conservation of biological diversity
- sustainable use of components of biodiversity
- fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources

2010-2020: U.N. International Decade of Biodiversity



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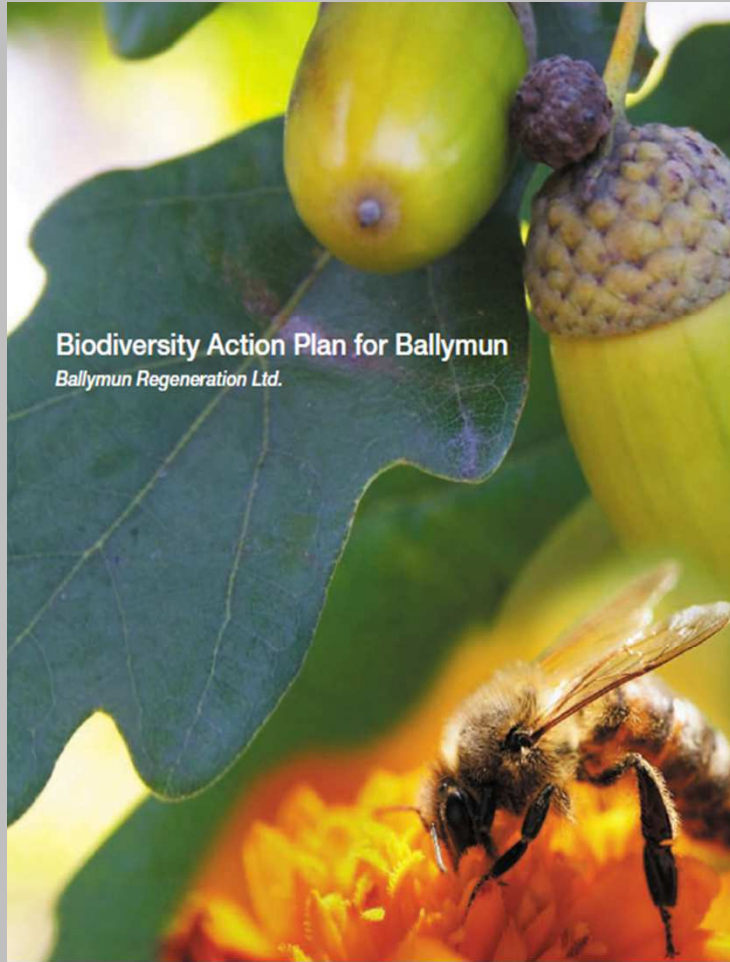
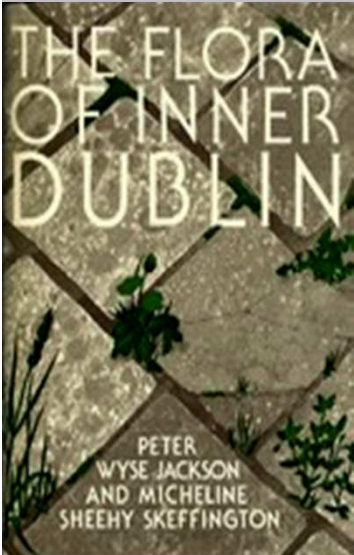
Why Urban Biodiversity?

- Urbanization is a leading factor in biodiversity loss.
- Loss of biodiversity reduces nature's ability to provide goods and services.



Why Urban Biodiversity?

Dr. Wyse Jackson's interest in **urban biodiversity**



biodiverseCity

— st. louis —

A community-wide initiative to promote, protect and plan for biodiversity throughout the greater St. Louis region



Our Vision:

A thriving, healthy, vibrant St. Louis community that understands and values biodiversity and serves as an urban/suburban model for the world.

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Missouri Botanical Garden to convene,
connect, facilitate and propel efforts forward.

Collaborative efforts taking shape in...



Strategic
planning,
development,
& leadership



Public
awareness,
engagement,
& education



Research
& data
gathering



Economic
& policy
incentives &
opportunities



Biodiversity
restoration
action
projects



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

NEXT PRESENTATION

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Missouri Botanical Garden to convene,
connect, facilitate and propel efforts forward.

Collaborative efforts taking shape in...



Strategic
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BiodiverseCity St. Louis



Community-wide network of more than 100 organizations working together to enhance nature in ways that improve health and well-being, increase native biodiversity, and ensure a more resilient, thriving St. Louis eco-region for generations to come.

MISSION: To cultivate connections and solutions across the greater St. Louis eco-region that enhance nature in ways that improve quality of life for all.

VISION: More people connected to nature in their everyday lives.

non-profit organizations  government agencies  municipalities
universities  corporations  teachers/schools/districts  citizens/other



BiodiverseCity St. Louis in Action

Join *BiodiverseCity St. Louis* and *Take the Pledge!*

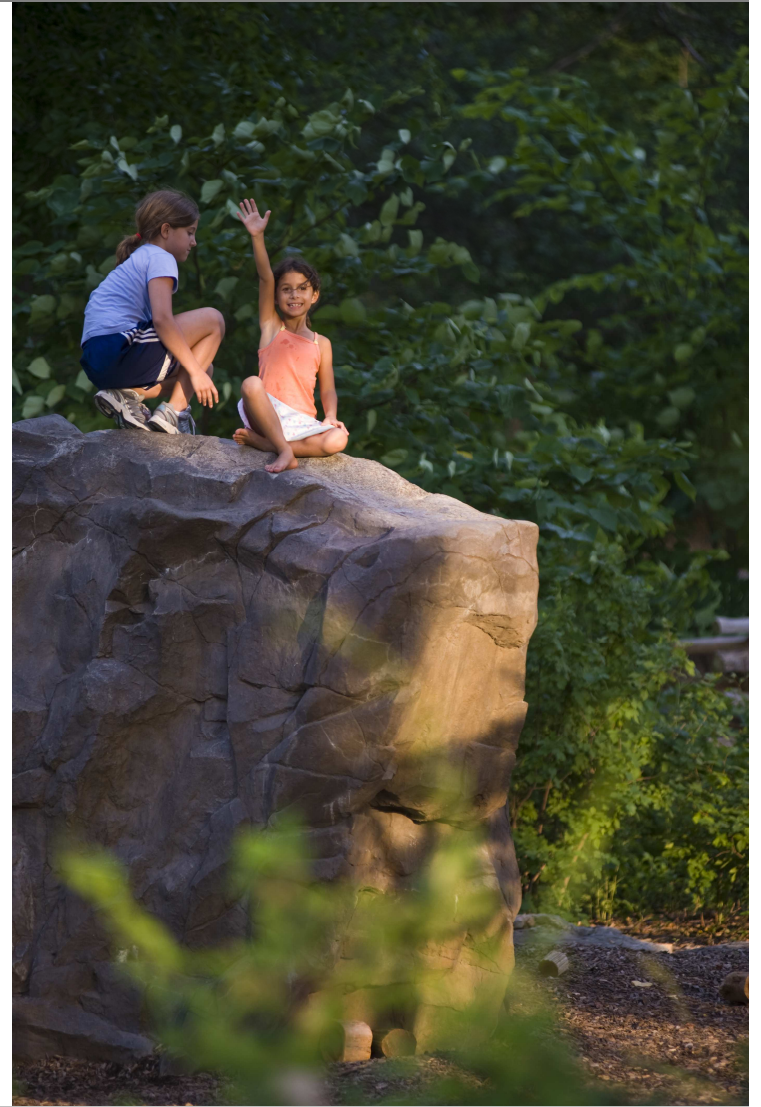
Milestones:

- Stakeholder Summit – May 2013
 - 100+ organizations engaged
 - Green Business Challenge
 - *Better Business Through Biodiversity*
 - Community Presentations & Speaker Series
 - *Wild Ideas Worth Sharing*
 - Monthly E- News
 - Partner events and achievements
 - Species and Map of the month
 - Intelligence Gathering
 - Chicago Wilderness; Heartland Conservancy
 - Metropolitan Greenspace Alliance, etc.
 - Working Groups plus
 - Core BDV STL Development Team
 - City of St. Louis & MDC
- Website: www.BiodiverseCitySTL.org
 - Email: BiodiverseCitySTL@mobot.org



2015 Priorities

1. **Baseline assessment and measures of success**
2. **Broad-based public awareness and engagement**
3. **Capacity-building**
 - Schools & Universities
 - Corporate Campuses
 - Municipalities
4. **Ecological restoration and enhancement**
 - Parcel/school
 - Neighborhood
 - Multi-municipality/watershed
 - Region



St. Louis Combined Statistical Area

City of St. Louis + 16 counties

Urban, suburban, rural

2.9 million people

9,100 square miles



Home/lot

Block

Street

Neighborhood

Community

Region

Parcel Scale ← —————→ **Eco-Region Scale**

Nature Neighborhoods

a citizen action project of BiodiverseCity St. Louis

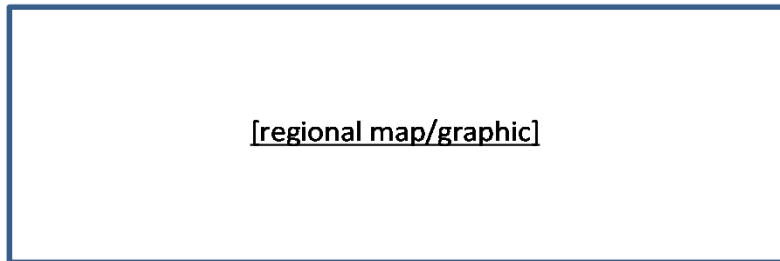
No matter who you are or where you live, *all* of us can do something to beautify, bio-diversify, and better the communities in which we live, work, learn, and play. In this spirit, the **Nature in Our Neighborhoods** project aims to encourage and equip the 2.9 million people who call the greater St. Louis region home to take action. From a balcony container garden to a multi-acre woodland, patches and parcels of our everyday urban, suburban, and rural communities can come to life in energizing, restorative ways. Far more than just a list of disparate actions, **Nature in Our Neighborhoods** embraces the many motivations all of us have to make our world a better place, thus invites project participants to declare and share the who, what, and why behind their project.

So what are you waiting for? Here are three easy ways to access expert ideas and resources, connect with others, and share your stories:



Select a starting place.

- Where you live
- Where you go to school
- Where you work
- Where we play
- Where we pray



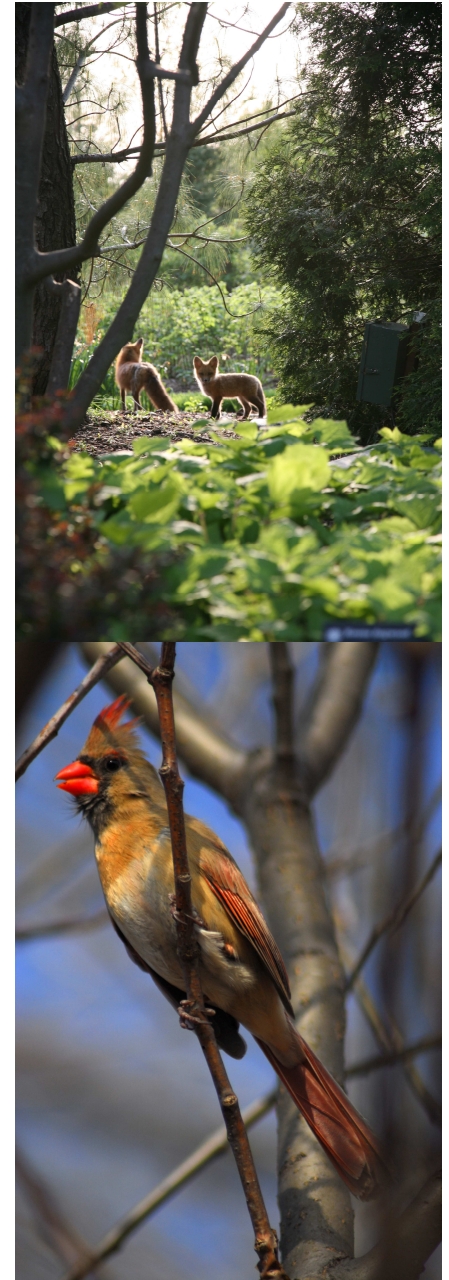
Explore the project possibilities.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • <u>native landscaping</u> | • <u>wildlife homes</u> | • <u>soil health & composting</u> | • <u>prairies/meadows</u> |
| • <u>invasive species removal</u> | • <u>edible gardening</u> | • <u>lawn/turf replacement</u> | • <u>wetlands/ponds</u> |
| • <u>pollinator gardening</u> | • <u>rainscaping</u> | • <u>trees/woodlands/forests</u> | • <u>riparian corridors</u> |
| | | | • <u>service opportunities</u> |



Share your project.

Submit your [Project Profile](#) [here](#).



To launch in May 2015...

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