Special Issue

Urban Heat Islands

Message from the Guest Editor

Towns and cities are generally a few degrees warmer than rural areas, as a result of the urban heat island (UHI) effect. This urban heat has negative impacts on health, interacts with air pollution, and puts extra pressure on energy systems to deliver cooling. The UHI phenomenon is well known, but the exact characteristics are particular to each city or urbanised area, and vary by geographical location. Globally, urban populations are rapidly growing, and temperatures are rising because of climate change. It is therefore important to fully understand the UHI if we are to be able to manage potential harmful impacts. We invite papers for this Special Issue on the following broad themes:

- Characterizing the UHI
- Impacts of the UHI and interactions with the environment
- Mitigation and adaptation

Submissions can include observational or modelling studies of the UHI for all parts of the world, and in different climatic zones. We welcome papers on interactions between urban climate and land surfaces, air quality, local weather, and extreme weather events.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2020)



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About the Journal

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 21.6 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

