Special Issue

Protection and Management of Urban Parks and Nature Reserves

Message from the Guest Editors

Urban biodiversity conservation and sustainable green space management are critical challenges in an era of rapid urbanization. Urban and peri-urban green spaces - including parks, forests, and nature reserves - are crucial for conserving biodiversity, mitigating pollution, and improving human health. These ecosystems enhance urban resilience while providing valuable recreational benefits to city dwellers. However, growing human pressures on natural spaces require research into sustainable urban coexistence. This Special Issue analyzes strategies to quantify and mitigate ecological impacts like land encroachment and pollution, while improving management of urban forests, parks, and reserves. Key themes include

- Biodiversity conservation in urban/peri-urban ecosystems
- Ecological thresholds for sustainable green space management
- Balancing recreation and habitat preservation
- Innovative urban forest/park management
- Climate-resilient urban green infrastructure & ecosystem services
- Al applications for urban biodiversity monitoring
- Light/sound pollution impacts & mitigation
- Case studies: urban green spaces & human well-being
- Best practices for biodiversity-friendly urban green space management

Guest Editors

Dr. Xiaoqing Xu

Prof. Dr. Lei Wang

Prof. Dr. Yunlong Yao

Deadline for manuscript submissions

26 February 2026



Forests

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5 CiteScore 4.6



mdpi.com/si/247980

Forests
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
forests@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ forests





Forests

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5 CiteScore 4.6



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Forests (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and cross-disciplinary, scholarly forestry journal. The distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor and review of all published articles. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access. Our goal is to have Forests be recognized as one of the foremost publication outlets for high quality, leading edge research in this broad and diverse field. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global forestry community.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa

Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia, I-25121 Brescia, Italy

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, GEOBASE, PubAg, AGRIS, PaperChem, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Forestry) / CiteScore - Q1 (Forestry)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 17.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.4 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

