Special Issue

Designing for Urban Green Infrastructure: Mitigating Heat Islands and Enhancing Well-Being

Message from the Guest Editor

Heat waves are increasingly frequent, intense, and prolonged globally. Since the 1960s, frequency has tripled, with waves lasting longer, exceeding thresholds by ~1.4°C, and the heat season extending by 40+ daysraising environmental, economic, and health risks. Urban heat mortality is critical, hitting elderly, ill, and disadvantaged communities hardest. Cities can mitigate UHIs via green/blue infrastructure, green roofs, urban trees, and airflow-optimized design to boost comfort, air quality, and sustainability. This Special Issue integrates climate change, public health, urban ecosystems, and heat strategies—often studied in isolation. Drawing on diverse disciplines, it offers a comprehensive approach to sustainable urban heat management, bridging theory and practice. It addresses rising temperatures, serving as a resource for sustainability, climate resilience, and community adaptation to extreme heat. Topics include: UHIs; temperature extremes; heatwaves' socioeconomic impacts; effects on ozone/particulate matter; mitigation/adaptation; extreme temperature resilience; urban greenery; green/blue spaces; urban form/design/ventilation; heatproof design for public health.

Guest Editor

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I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in Sustainability, an international open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

Editor-in-Chief

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