

Special Issue

Beyond the Parks – Exploring the Potential of Informal Green Spaces for Ecosystem Services Provisioning

Message from the Guest Editor

Urban green spaces (UGS) have long been appreciated for their provisioning of multiple ecosystem services and their role in improving residents' health and well-being. However, in expanding cities, public parks and forests often remain underprovided; therefore, the role of other forms of green spaces, which would allow the citizens access and direct contact with nature, increases. Additionally, more attention has been given to the high cost of traditional UGS maintenance, e.g., frequent lawn mowing and its negative effects on biodiversity. Therefore, there is a need to promote more cost-efficient and environmentally friendly solutions to UGS that would allow decision-makers to expand the city's green infrastructure, ensure UGS availability to residents, and boost ecosystem services provisioning by those areas. This Special Issue will be used to shed light on the significance of natural green spaces in urban areas to influence everyday policy and practice. The Special Issue also invites researchers of disciplines that focus on urban research, including but not exclusive to urban planning and social and environmental science.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2021)



Sustainability

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



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