

Biophilic Cities

Nature + Cities Together





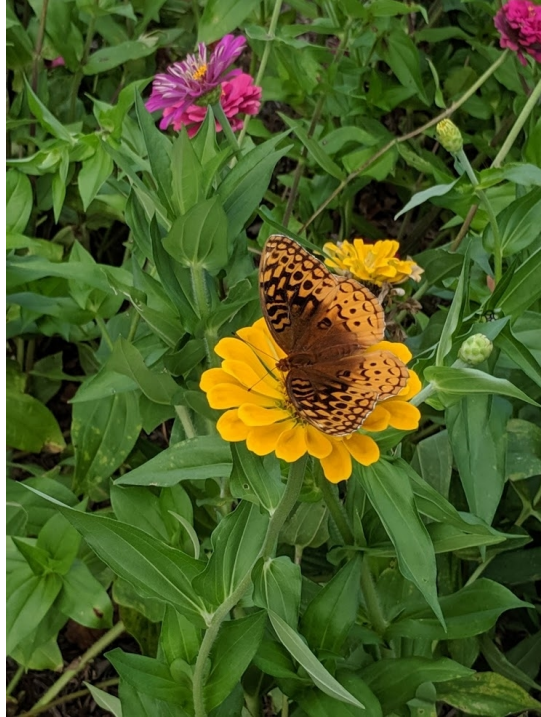
Biophilia: "...the innately emotional affiliation of human beings to other living organisms. Innate means hereditary and hence part of human nature."

—E.O. Wilson













City Comprehensive Plan Priority Area

“Keep Charlottesville green, make it greener, and protect the natural environment and the many benefits it provides.”

Chapter 7 (Environment, Climate, and Food Equity) Community Vision Statement

“Charlottesville will be an environmental leader, with healthy air, water, and ecosystems, as well as ample, high-quality, and accessible open space and natural areas, and a preserved and enhanced tree canopy. The Rivanna River and other waterbodies will be celebrated and protected, and environmentally-sound community access will be enhanced”.



Charlottesville & Biophilia

- Commitment to a healthy and robust urban forest as well as its network of water resources
- Appreciation for native species and diversity
- Understanding of the role of nature in addressing and responding to the climate crisis
- Nature elements are found in 2,300 acres of parks, school grounds, natural areas, landscape beds, medians/rights of way and urban plazas/streetscapes
- Integration of biophilic design in various public projects
- Bike/pedestrian trail network
- Community gardens and urban farms
- Numerous community-based organizations involved in environmental conservation, restoration, education, engagement, stewardship, inspiration, sustainability, human and environmental well-being, and more.



- Partners with a global network of cities, scholars, and advocates to build an understanding of the **value and contribution of nature in cities to the lives of urban residents**.
- Facilitates this global network of partner cities working collectively to pursue the vision of **a natureful city** within their unique and diverse environments and cultures.
- Network partners are working in concert to **conserve and celebrate nature in all its forms** and the many important ways in which cities and their **inhabitants benefit from the biodiversity and wild urban spaces** present in cities.
- Acknowledges the **importance of daily contact with nature as an element of a meaningful urban life**, as well as the **ethical responsibility** that cities have to **conserve global nature as shared habitat** for non-human life and people.



- Biophilia Creates Deep & Powerful Connections
- Biophilia Benefits Economic Growth
- Biophilia Creates Healthier Cities
- Biophilia Positively Impacts Education
- Biophilic Cities are Happier & More Productive

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A biophilic city is “a green city, a city with abundant nature and natural systems that are visible and accessible to urbanites. It is certainly about physical conditions and urban design — parks, green features, urban wildlife, walkable environments — but it is also about the spirit of a place, its emotional commitment and concern about nature and other forms of life, its interest and curiosity about nature, which can be expressed in the budget priorities of a local government as well as in the lifestyles and life patterns of its citizens.”²

— Timothy Beatley

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Partner Cities (United States)

Arlington, VA

Kansas City, MS

Miami-Dade County, FL

Norfolk, VA

Pittsburgh, PA

Raleigh, NC

Richmond, VA

St. Louis, MO

Austin, TX

Los Angeles, CA

Milwaukee, WI

Phoenix, AZ

Portland, OR

Reston, VA

San Francisco, CA

Washington, DC

