Integrating Local “Green” Assets into Brownfields Redevelopment: Tools and Examples

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Abstract

Eco-Health Relationship Browser

The browser is a tool that visualizes relationships between key ecosystem, ecosystem services, and human health concepts. The Eco-Health Relationship Browser leverages data and tools by:

- Identifying issues of concern for assessment
- Illustrating the evidence-based connections between health and ecosystem services
- Highlighting the potential outcomes of different intervention scenarios
- Providing examples of how relationships between ecosystems, ecosystem services, and health have been previously assessed

Recommended EnviroAtlas Resources for Each Step of the HIA Process

1. Screening:

- Environmental Health Compass
- Health Relationship Browser

2. Scoping:

- Interactive Map
- EnviroAtlas Data Explorer

3. Assessment:

- Eco-Health Relationship Browser
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

4. Reporting:

- Health History Browser
- Report generator

5. Evaluate:

- Health Impact Assessment (HIA)
- Health Relationship Browser
- Interactive Map

EnviroAtlas Case Studies and Use Cases

Fire Planting: As part of the project Green Door, Durham, EnviroAtlas community data for Durham, NC, were used to identify prioritizing planting locations to minimize the environmental, social, and economic benefits for the public.

Green Infrastructure and Select 2015 Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grant Awardees

City of New Bedford, MA

Brownfields site: Payn’s Corner Neighborhood, a former industrial and rail housing area

Goal: Build upon initial planning for the reuse of the former Payn’s Corner Mill site and surrounding land in the neighborhood, plan for short-term recreational uses of the former State Coast Railway site

- Also consider maps to help select potential remediation scenarios for Paul’s Cove, Red Cedar, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant

City of Milwaukee, WI

Brownfields site: Grungrud Avenue Sub-District in Milwaukee’s Huber District: 36 acres of vacant and underdeveloped brownfields surrounded by some of Wisconsin’s highest density, most predominately minority, and lowest income neighborhoods

Goal: The planning process will provide market analysis and land use recommendations, mesoscale conflict in prior plans, and address road and freight connectivity for the entire industrial area.

The development and success of this plan are expected to help the city continue implementing its economic and cultural strategy for sustainable infrastructure redevelopment along the Lake Michigan waterfront. Redevelopment plans also emphasize revitalizing the ecosystem and economy.