

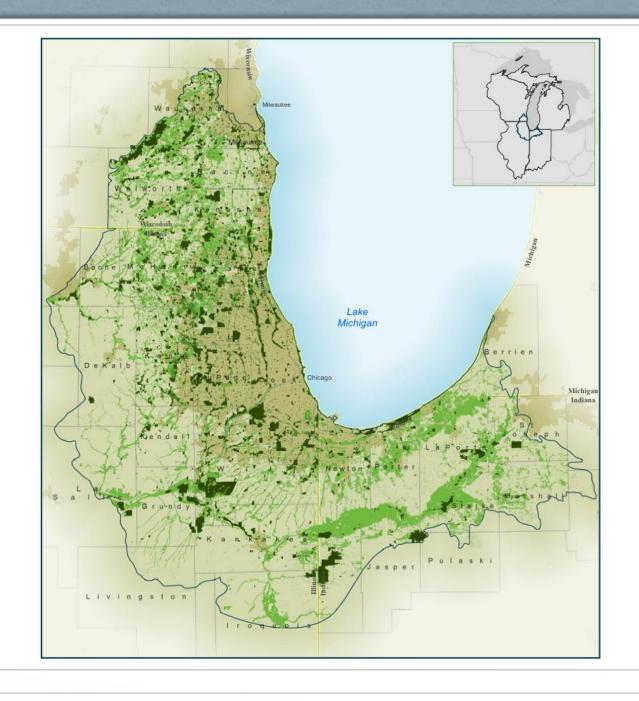
Climate Adaptation for Urban Nature

Abigail Derby Lewis
The Field Museum, Science Action Center
Chicago Wilderness











Chicago Wilderness Climate Action



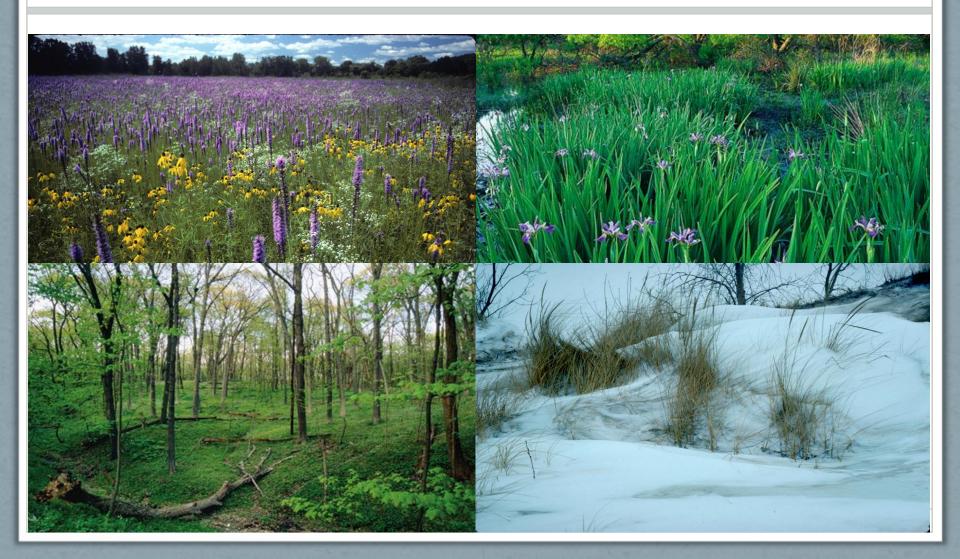


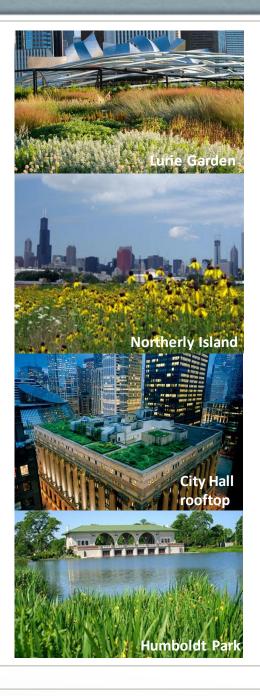
climate.chicagowilderness.org



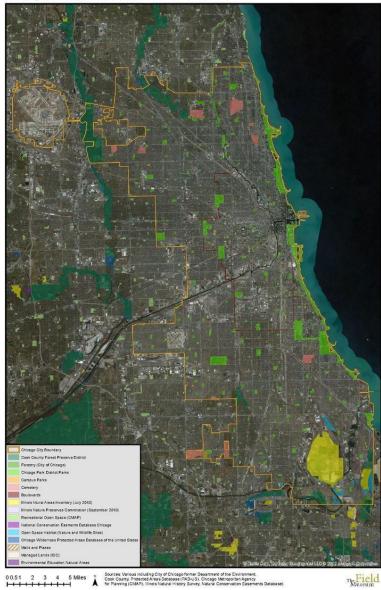
Chicago Wilderness Climate Action







Chicago Green Infrastructure



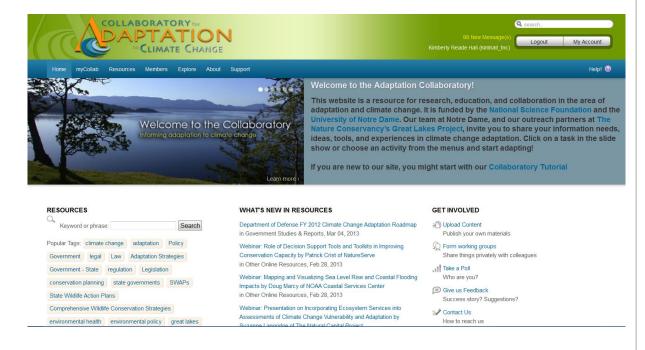








- Convened based on need expressed by resource managers
- 27 people, 15
 organizations, 9
 City Departments
 (AKA "Climate
 Fellows")
- 3 Climate Clinics



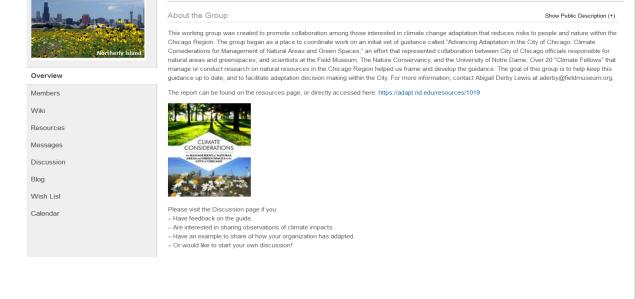


myCollab Resources Members Explore About Support

Chicago Adaptation Working Group



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- 27 people, 15
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3 Climate Clinics

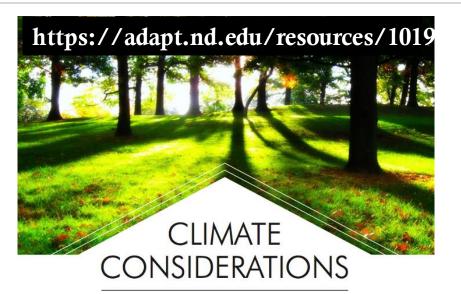




Identifying climate-sensitive decisions

What planning and management actions could reduce a site's vulnerability to specific climate-related impacts?

- Drought and heat stress
- > Extreme storms (e.g., precipitation flashiness and flooding)
- > Loss of key functional system or species











Protecting nature. Preserving life.™







Summer 2013: 4 undergrad interns, 6 pilot sites

<u>Urban Developed Sites</u>:

- The Field Museum
- Chicago Park District, 31st Street Beach
- Loyola University, Lakefront Campus

Urban Natural Areas:

- Loyola University, Retreat & Ecology Campus
- Cook County Forest Preserve, Eggers Woods
- The Nature Conservancy, Indian Boundary Prairies





General Adaptation Issues

<u>Urban Developed Sites and Natural Areas</u>:

- Managing connectivity for migrating bird populations
- Seed mixes
- Invasive species management





Challenges for Utility of Guidebook

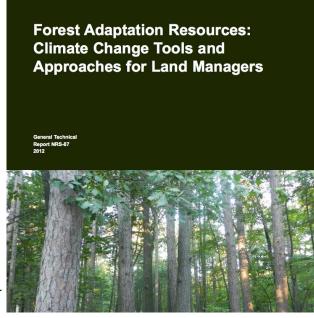
- > Authority: need to target high-level decision makers
- **Cost**: constrained by operations cost and annual budget; need:
 - Biodiversity benefit as starting point for discussion, and
 - Actions cost-benefit for long-term and short-term justification of changes



Urban Forest Adaptation



- ♦ Urban systems face specific challenges under climate change that differ from other landscapes
 - Social, Political, Ecological
- Developed Strategies, Approaches, Tactics adapting urban forests to climate change
 - Modeled on NIACS resource for NE forests
- Urban Forests defined as: all trees & tree-dominated ecosystems within a metropolitan region
 - Tactics in many cases were split into "Urban Developed Sites" and "Urban Natural Areas"





Urban Forest Adaptation



- > Urban Forest Climate Adaptation Chapter overview issues, strategies
- Vulnerability Assessment help us identify key issues based on our regional and local forest
 - identify how climate change will impact us specifically
 - identify management strategies based on our own urban forest
- ➤ 4 Case Studies implementation workbook

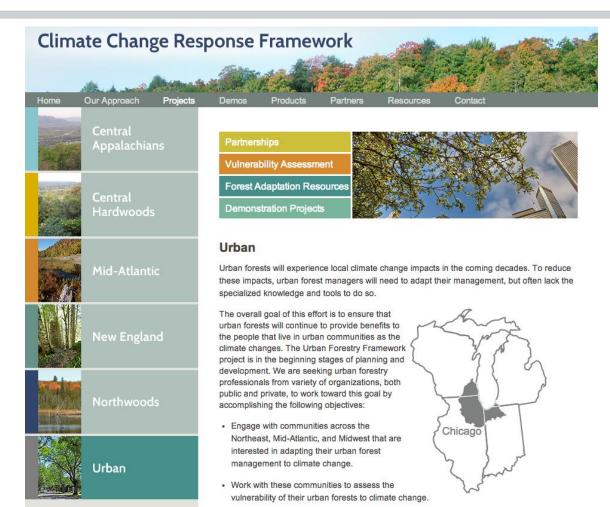


















- How will climate change affect urban forests?
 - Changes in temperature
 - Changes in precipitation
 - Increased severe weather



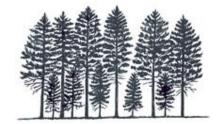


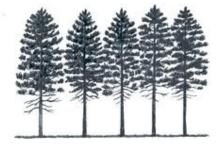




- Age structure
- Urban areas
- Natural areas
 - Forest succession
 - Future composition











- Age structure
- Urban areas
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- Age structure
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<u>Development</u>

- How will development decisions affect forests?
 - Fragmentation
 - Carbon storage
 - Stormwater management







SEARCH

TOOLS

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

CLIMATE ACTION MODELS

ABOUT

SHARE

Home » Tools » Tools for Learning



LEARN

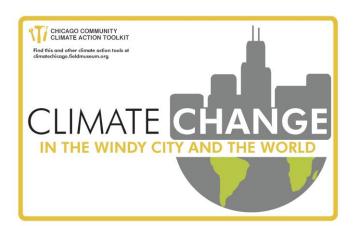
Climate change refers to shifts in weather patterns over long periods of time. Use the tools below to LEARN about climate change and climate action as they relate to the Chicago region.

CHICAGO CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The City of Chicago's roadmap to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR NATURE

Regional plan created by the Chicago Wilderness alliance to help local nature adapt to climate change.



http://climatechicago.fieldmuseum.org/

CHICAGO COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION TOOLKIT

The Field Museum worked with partners in four Chicago neighborhoods to develop and implement community-led climate action projects.

Each project builds on research conducted by Museum anthropologists, which identified local strengths and concerns that can serve as springboards for engaging communities in the region's two climate action plans.















Thank you!

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