

Go Wild.

Help us make New York City a healthier and more vibrant place to live.

Support the Natural Areas Conservancy.

naturalareasnyc.org

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What kinds of nature do we have in New York City?



New York City's forests and wetlands support an abundance of plants and animals:

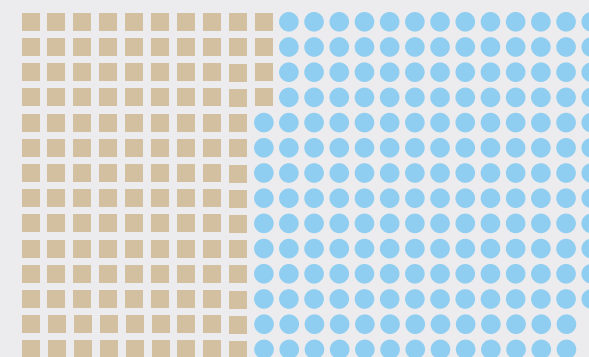
2,100 species of plants and trees

200+ species of native bees that pollinate our nature

180 species of rare animals

350 species of birds

Natural areas make New York City healthier each year:



Cleaner air:
1,300 tons of pollutants cleaned from the air and kept out of your lungs

10 tons

Cleaner water:
1.9 billion gallons of stormwater runoff kept out of the city's sewers and waterways

100,000,000 gallons

Natural Areas Conservancy

What we know:
New York City has more nature than you think.

What we believe:
New York City’s nature is for everyone.

The Natural Areas Conservancy is a champion of New York City’s more than 20,000 acres of forests and wetlands for the benefit and enjoyment of all.

Our team of scientists and experts promote nature’s diversity and resilience across the five boroughs, working in close partnership with the City of New York.

Our work makes the city a healthier and more vibrant place to live and thrive.

Staten Island is the most remote and rural island of New York City’s urban archipelago, and also the most complex in natural ecology. At the northern edge of the Mid-Atlantic, it is a rare location where southern U.S. tree species, including tupelo and sweetbay magnolias, are part of the native plant repertoire.

Though few spaces are left undeveloped in **Manhattan**, Inwood Hill Park’s trees offer a glimpse into the past as the last historic forest in New York City. The remaining natural areas in Manhattan are uniquely positioned where New England meets the Mid-Atlantic, and along important bird migration routes.

Progressive planning in the 1800s led to creation of an “emerald necklace” of parks in **the Bronx**, including Van Cortlandt Park and Pelham Bay Park. Today the returning beavers, coyotes, alewife, and eel are evidence of the resurging health of the Bronx River, New York City’s only fresh-water river.

Before it was developed, the entire borough of **Brooklyn** was a giant floodplain divided by many creeks. Though little open space was set aside in Brooklyn’s rapid expansion, today some vestiges of its former life as a large wetland remain, including Marine Park’s maritime forest and the remnants of Jamaica Bay’s tributary creeks.

Over 10,000 years ago the glaciers receded, ending the Ice Age and depositing rocky debris across what is now **Queens**. The glacial legacy is evident today in the borough’s dramatic topography, rich soil, and abundance of natural areas.

- Natural Areas in NYC Parks (forests, wetlands, and grasslands)
 - National Parks Service
 - Other NYC Parks
- 0–5 acres ● 5–13 acres ● 13–26 acres

We work across New York City to restore forests and wetlands.

Planting native trees and shrubs, to make our forests healthier.



Protecting our city’s coastline by enhancing salt marshes and wetlands.



Researching our city’s ecosystems.



Engaging New Yorkers as volunteers and through public programming.

