
Cities and the Environment

2008 *Volume 1, Issue 2*

Introduction from the Editor

Welcome to Issue Two of Cities and the Environment (CATE). This issue is devoted to a series of papers from a recent conference on ecological landscaping that was held in late October 2007 in Cleveland, Ohio. This conference represents a critical interface between researchers and practitioners that will help lead the quest for urban sustainability. The Cities and the Environment Journal is proud to present the findings and be an outlet for this work. The electronic nature of this publication allows us to respond quickly to important topics in the field of urban ecology. As such, these papers and the conference from which they sprang, are still the topics of conversation. We are bringing these papers to you in an effort to capitalize on the rising tide of sound ecological planning and research taking place in this expanding field.

The body of work presented in this volume was fully peer-reviewed – not once, but twice. First, the presentations were reviewed before they were presented at the conference. Following the conference, some of the authors presenting their research were then invited to submit their work to the journal with the understanding that the papers would go through full peer review and that acceptance to CATE was not guaranteed. What we have presented in this volume are the fruits of that process.

CATE is fortunate to have a guest editor for this issue. Dr. Loren Byrne is an Assistant Professor at Roger Williams University and was one of the conveners of the conference. His efforts and oversight are clearly borne out in this volume, as the research papers presented are both a significant contribution to the field and a delight to read. I am particularly grateful for the energy and capacity Dr. Byrne brought to this effort. Working in close collaboration with our Editor Dr. Paige Warren, Managing Editor Anne Cumming and Copy Editor Jess Schmierer, he has captured the robust scholarship and enthusiasm that took place at the conference.

The editors of CATE invite additional ideas that you might have for special editions of the journal. Upcoming editions will feature breakthroughs in urban ecology education, frontiers of urban forest ecology and programs in long-term urban ecological research.

As we go to press, we are once again reminded of our debt of gratitude to Boston College, The USDA Forest Service and our editorial staff for their commitment to this mission. Enjoy this volume and may it inspire you to respond with your own submission to Cities and the Environment.

Best wishes,
Eric G. Strauss, Senior Editor, Cities and the Environment