

Tree Summit 2022

“Today we have gathered and when we look upon the faces around us we see that the cycles of life continue. We have been given the duty to live in balance and harmony with each other and all living things. So now let us bring our minds together as one as we give greetings and thanks to each other as people know our minds are one.”

Robin Wall Kimmerer





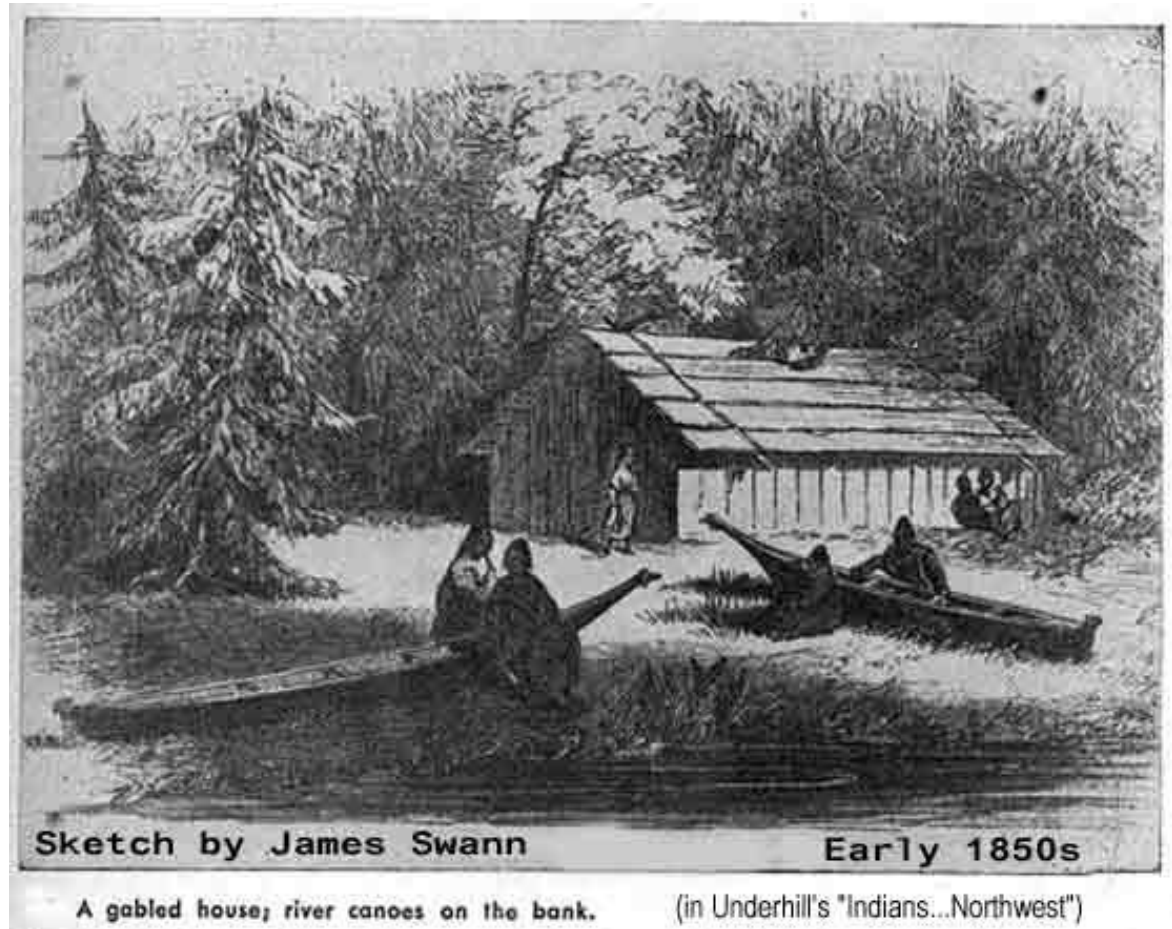
Renewing Our Relationship With Our Urban Forest

Stephanie Wagner
Oswego Lake Watershed Council

A Healthy Urban Ecosystem



The First People



Sketch by James Swann

Early 1850s

A gabled house; river canoes on the bank.

(in Underhill's "Indians...Northwest")

Land Acknowledgement



Manifest Destiny

Resources are to be used by white American individuals to promote capitalism throughout the country.



A Land Ethic

A land ethic, then, reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of land.

Aldo Leopold



An Environmental Ethic

Only within the moment of time represented by the present century has one species -- man -- acquired significant power to alter the nature of his world.

Rachel Carson





Man as a Part of Nature

Knowing that you love the
earth changes you,
activates you to defend
and protect and
celebrate.

Robin Wall Kimmerer

Community Mindset:

Understanding and working with natural systems to protect and enhance our natural resources



A Sustainability Lens for Natural Resources

How will these actions effect:

Soil healthy and biodiversity of microorganisms

Air quality

Water quality - stormwater infiltration and water storage

Terrestrial biodiversity - both plants and animals

Human health and safety

Climate



Nature Based Solutions

Landscaping - summer drought resistant plants

Promote biodiversity

Protect existing trees and other biomass (including impact from storm damage)

Enhance soil functionality

Reduce/Eliminate use of pesticides and artificial fertilizers

Integrated Pest Management Plan



Natural Infrastructure

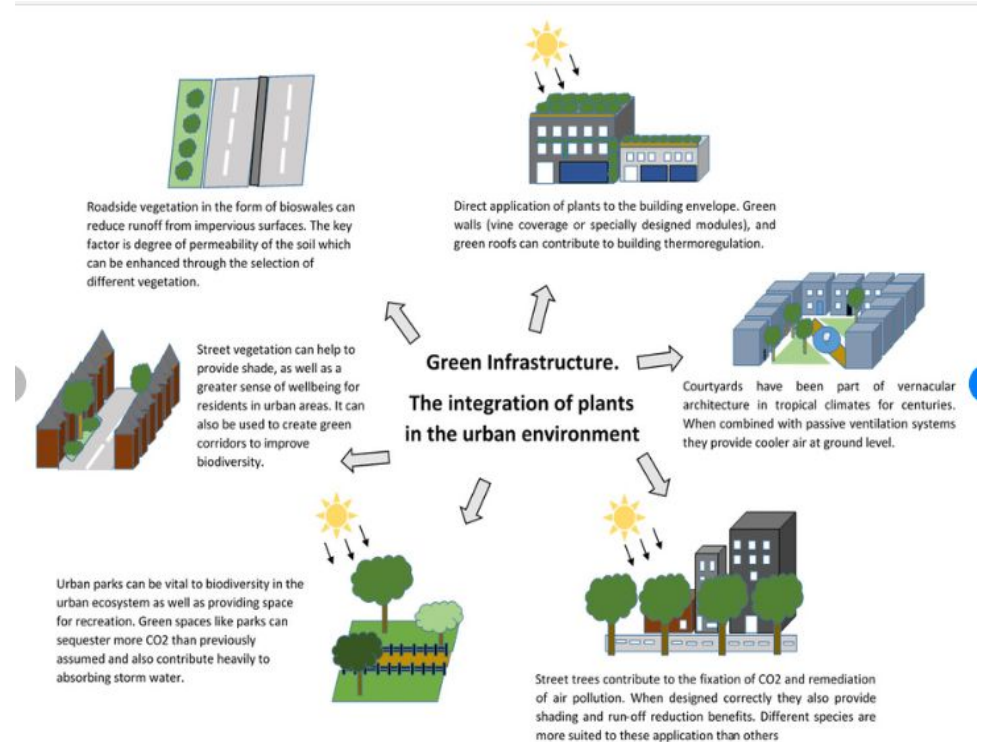
Water harvesting

Stormwater management -
bioswales and rain gardens

Permeable surfaces

Landscaping to maximize
natural cooling and passive
solar warming and reduce
wildfire risk

Building design and
orientation to maximize
passive solar heating and
cooling



As we move forward we need to remember to trust nature and embrace the complexity of our urban ecosystem.



Reciprocity



Knowing that you love the earth changes you, activates you to defend and protect and celebrate.

But when you feel that the earth loves you in return, that feeling transforms the relationship from a one-way street into a sacred bond.

Robin Wall Kimmerer
Citizen Potawatomi Nation



Discussion Question:

How do you know “the earth loves you back”?

