

1998 USDA URBAN FORESTRY

New York City URP

Contact: Lisa Maller
16, East 34th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10016
tel: (212) 340-2948
fax: (212) 340-2908
e-mail: lmaller@cce.cornell.edu



In New York City, URP is working in partnership with six federal and state agencies to stimulate intra-governmental cooperation and community action by encouraging urban environmental revitalization efforts. The objective of this initiative is to improve the environmental quality of life in under-served communities in the city by providing technical and financial support to local community groups.

New York City URP natural resource goals:

- Promote environmental stewardship through awareness, involvement, and participation of community groups and residents.
- Respond to locally identified priorities and engage communities in program planning and implementation.
- Create a sustainable model of inter-governmental agency cooperation with an effective federal, state, and local partnership.
- Involve youth in experiences that will enhance their understanding of the natural environment.

Accomplishments in 1998:

Andrew Freedman Home Grounds Restoration

Site improvements and significant horticultural improvements are complete and project completion is expected by the end of this year.

Bronx River/Zooway

Progress continued on the school garden site, Zooway corridor, and river park; a new link was forged between the community and the Bronx River through a series of community cleanups.

Jamaica Bay

Jamaica Bay is a vast natural resource area. This project initiated the community building partnership process to enable residents, environmental organizations, and community groups to develop a wide array of environmental education and restoration projects.

Bronx River

The Bronx River project has facilitated the development of a working group of over 30 professionals and community organizations to discuss strategies linking activities and resources along the river. Results include a forestry study and community restoration activities designed to focus attention on the river.