

ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT

Buffalo URP

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The Urban Resources Partnership of Buffalo is a team of federal, state, and local agencies and organizations formed to enhance the region's environment and quality of life through innovative public and private partnerships. This is accomplished by supporting community action and sustainable projects that preserve, restore, and revitalize the natural resources of Buffalo.

Buffalo URP natural resources goals:

- Use federal, state, and local resources effectively through a more efficient and sustainable delivery of technical, financial, and educational assistance.
- Assist community efforts to conserve, restore, and revitalize natural resources in urban areas.
- Expand and diversify natural resource partnerships.
- Encourage sustainable urban greening projects that improve and enhance community access and recreation opportunities, wildlife habitat, and ecosystem integrity.
- Demonstrate the relationship between environmental quality and the quality of life.

Accomplishments in 1998:

The Buffalo URP has been developing the organizational framework and the protocol necessary to support community-based environmental projects. The Buffalo URP has placed a strong emphasis on community partnerships in its first request for proposals (RFP). The RFPs were distributed to area community groups, government agencies, businesses, and non-profit organizations. The Buffalo URP is working with the 16 accepted proposals to help these new partners to finalize their projects for grant funding. These projects, when completed, will

- Add to the City's tree stock to help cool and clean the air.
- Improve soil quality and infiltration rates and minimize erosion.
- Add new, or restore existing, green space for passive and active recreational use.
- Supplement the area's wildlife habitat.
- Educate organizations and residents about the importance of natural resources in the city.
- Introduce school children to the environmental sciences and careers in natural resources.