

# Urban Ecology Checklist

Urban Ecology' covers flora and fauna in an urban setting including links between land, air, water and people.

There is value put on the role of both 'remnant' and 'novel' landscapes, indigenous and introduced species, natural and constructed landscapes, built and green infrastructure.

<b>How well does your site do for 'urban ecology'?</b> This tool is for awareness purposes only and does not provide performance criteria.	<b>Site does this well</b>	<b>Site can do more</b>	<b>Site doesn't do this at all</b>	<b>Comments</b> (eg: could this be easily improved at this site, or are there barriers?)
Are there some well-established trees at the site that provide habitat for fauna, shade for humans, and pollution removal for all? Do trees have full canopies? Or are the canopies cut back significantly due to powerlines, buildings and other constraints?				
Are the plantings in some sort of 'corridor' or 'pollinator pathway'? Are plantings connected (or almost) at ground level or canopy level? This includes trees, garden beds, green walls or green roofs. Could there be?				
Are the front gardens of business, industry and housing (as relevant) supporting much vegetation? Could they do more? Do you notice any buildings that could support a green roof?				
Are there a mix of plants and shrubs for habitat? Different species, heights, flowers, leaf density?				
Has the hard concrete and bitumen been limited to enable soil to access oxygen, water, fauna and nutrients? Is there mulch provided to retain soil moisture, and to later break down to help improve soil health?				
Is the landscape designed to allow rain to flow into garden beds and tree pits? Is there a 'raingarden' to slow stormwater and remove pollutants? Can you tell where the water flows across the streetscape? Can you tell where the drains in this street drain into to reach the nearby waterway?				
Can you see birdlife in the trees and open space? Different bird types? Small birds in the plants?				
Are there rocks and shelter above soils to provide habitat for invertebrates? Are there sunny crevices or rock walls to provide habitat for reptiles? Can you see different bugs, beetles, lizards in garden beds and open space?				
Is there aquatic life provided by a pond, wetland, water feature, raingarden, natural 'puddle' areas? Does it have sloping sides or emergent plants for access?				
Are streetlights avoided around the vegetated area so that nocturnal fauna is not disoriented and disrupted?				
Do the materials used in the open space look like they come from sustainable sources? Reuse materials? Low impact materials? Recyclable? Low toxicity?				
Are there nature connection for humans. Spaces for people to watch, relax, learn, hear, smell (but not to disrupt). Signage to raise awareness.				