

# HAZELWOOD COMMUNITY GREENSPACE PLAN

PREPARED FOR GROUNDED STRATEGIES REGEN  
AWARDEE : HAZELWOOD INITIATIVE

# grounded

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# Table of contents

☞ Introduction	—	4
☞ Hazelwood Community Profile	—	6
☞ Hazelwood Greenspace Action Plans	—	11
☞ Hazelwood Community Greenspace Goals	—	12
☞ YMCA Garden Profile	—	14
☞ Everybody's Garden Profile	—	22
☞ Glen Hazel Garden Profile	—	30
☞ Neighborhood Scale Vision	—	38
☞ Urban Agriculture Chairperson Protocols	—	47
☞ Potential Funders and 2019-2020 Calendar	—	49

# Introduction

## HAZELWOOD COMMUNITY GREENSPACE PLAN PURPOSE STATEMENT

TO DEVELOP A COLLABORATIVE, UNIFIED, AND SUSTAINABLE PLAN TO GUIDE AND SUPPORT  
THE COMMUNITY GREEN SPACES OF HAZELWOOD.



# Project Process

## GROUNDLED STRATEGIES RESILIENCE GENERATION PROGRAM

Resilient communities are comprised of both strong social networks and accessible resources enabling residents to address both chronic and acute shocks that may affect their health and well-being. For this reason, Grounded continues to build resources to aid communities in improving community health. Our entry point into vulnerable communities remains primarily vacant land but includes other land use issues and need for capacity building with partners.

Beginning in the Fall of 2016, Grounded launched the Resilience Generation Program (ReGen). This program offers a range of custom interventions in partnership with individual communities working to improve community health through a people and places approach. Grounded provides technical assistance and direct financial support through targeted land use interventions, strategic data collection, community capacity building and ongoing partner collaboration in the effort to increase resilience of vulnerable communities.

## THE HAZELWOOD GREENSPACE PLAN PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Hazelwood Initiative applied to Grounded's ReGen program in early 2018. The goal of their application was to develop a collaborative, unified, and sustainable plan to guide and support the community gardens of Hazelwood. The plan for Hazelwood's community gardens is designed to complement broader planning efforts represented in the Greater Hazelwood Neighborhood Plan.

## HAZELWOOD GARDEN PLAN PROJECT GOALS

- Building a network of gardens and stakeholders
- Pursuing a unified maintenance strategy
- Identifying sustainable funding streams
- Creating and sustaining a Garden Stewardship Program
- Elevating garden awareness and engagement

Stakeholder Network Review  
& Activation



Site Visits & Evaluation



Stakeholder Interviews



Pop-Up Outreach &  
Interactive Garden Activities



Findings Review & Goal  
Setting



Stakeholder Comment &  
Editing



Final Hazelwood Community  
Greenspace Plan  
Completion & Celebration







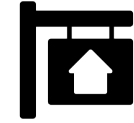
### 4,329 Hazelwood Residents

Hazelwood residents make up 1.4% of the entire population of Pittsburgh.



### 1 in 4 Hazelwood Residents Are Under 18

24% of Hazelwood residents are children. Youth are a key stakeholder group to consider when promoting community gardening in the neighborhood.



### 85% Increase in Average Residential Home Sales Price ('12 - '15)

Between 2012 and 2015, average residential home sale prices rose by \$37,717. This suggests considerable development pressure in Hazelwood.

## Hazelwood Community Profile

Beginning the Community Greenspace Plan with a snapshot of the community will provide context and help to better understand the needs of Hazelwood's gardens.



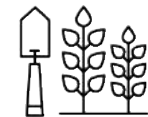
### 387 Acres of Tree Cover

38% of the land in Hazelwood is tree canopy. Mature trees enhance the quality of streetscapes and local environmental health.



### 215 Acres of Open Green Space

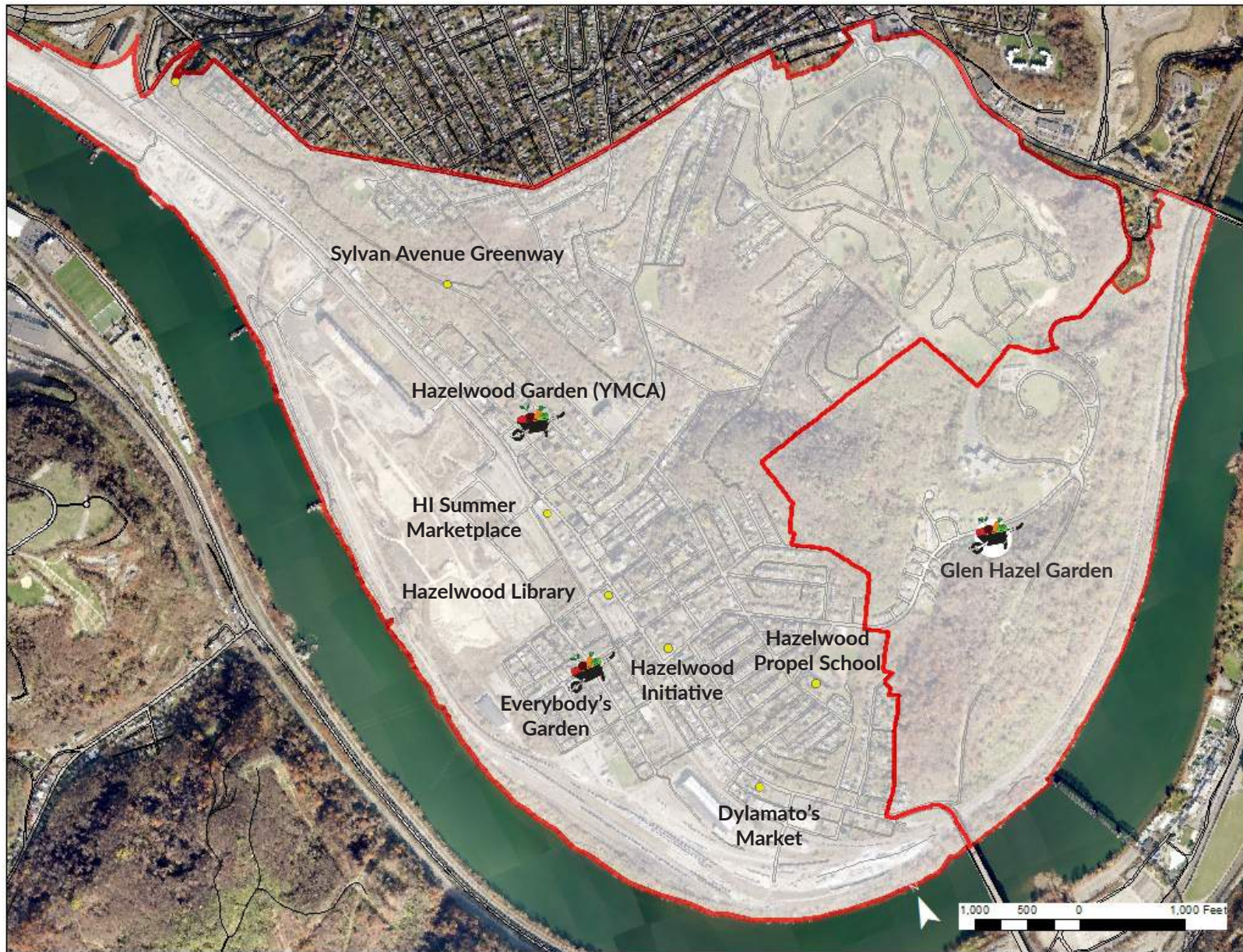
21% of the land in Hazelwood is open green space. This is equal to a green space the size of 11 parking spaces for every resident.



### 3 Community Gardens

Hazelwood is home to three community gardens. The Hazelwood Garden (YMCA), Everybody's Garden, and Glen Hazel Garden.

# Hazelwood Community Gardens in Context





# Hazelwood Community Greenspaces







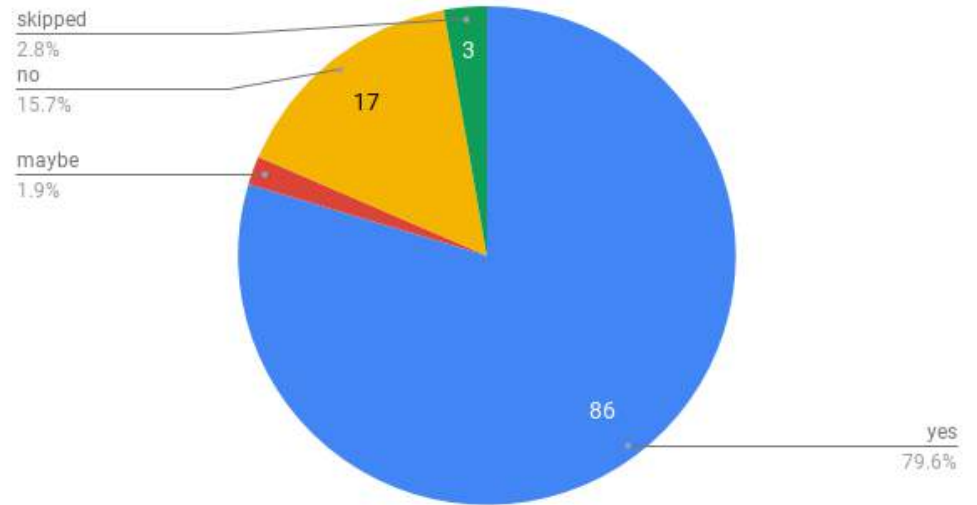
110

Total Survey Respondents

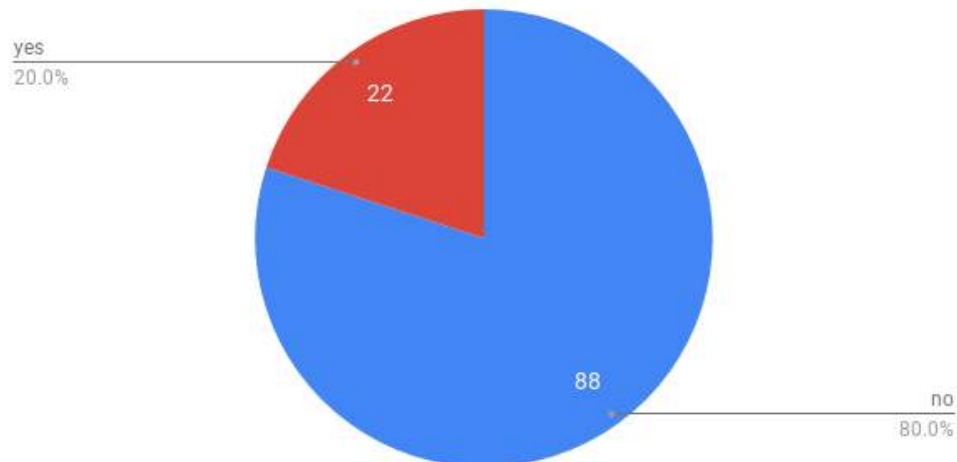
## Hazelwood Community Garden Survey

Grounded Strategies worked with Hazelwood Initiative to create and execute a community survey about Hazelwood's gardens. The goal of the survey was to understand how residents currently interact with gardens and how they prioritize greenspace in their community. Grounded executed the survey via a post card mailer and door to door canvassing.

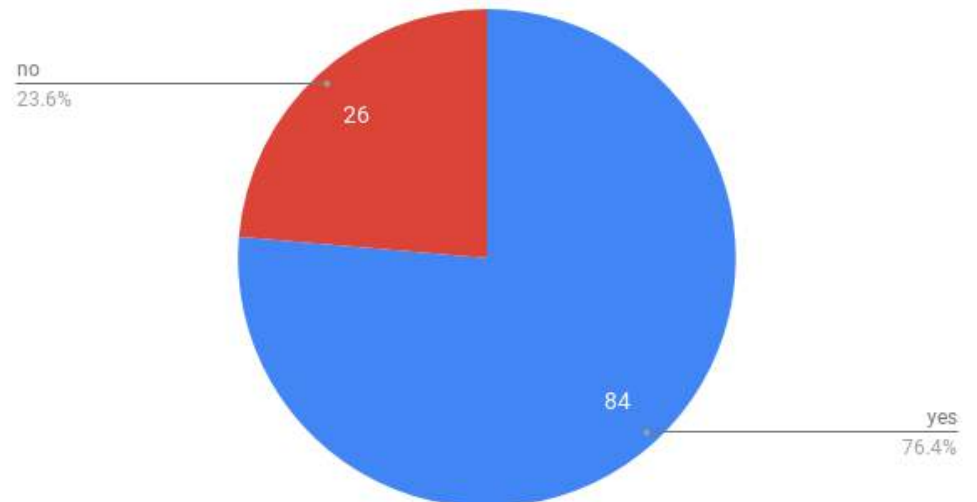
Is community gardening a priority in this neighborhood?



Count of Do you currently engage with Hazelwood's Community Gardens ?

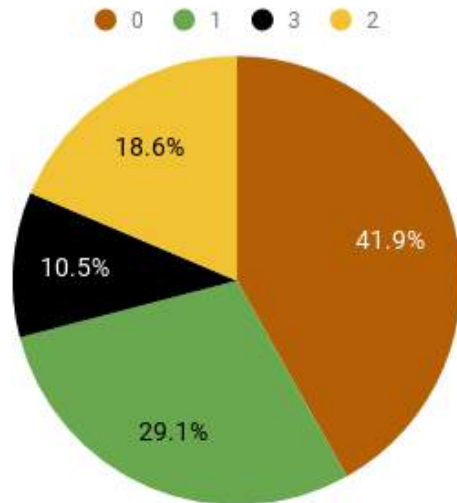


Are you interested in learning to garden?

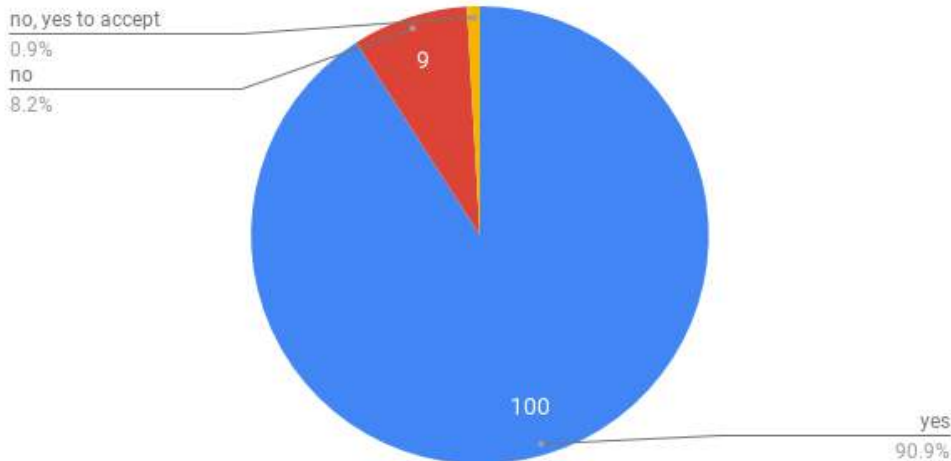


## Key Takeaways

I would spend \_\_\_\_ hours per week helping to maintain community gardens in Hazelwood



Would you supplement your food purchases with food harvested from a local community garden?



- 3 out of 4 respondents were interested in learning to garden
- 8 out of 10 respondents said that gardening is a priority for the Hazelwood community
- 42% of respondents said that they would not spend any time helping to maintain community gardens.
- 29% of respondents said they would spend 1 hour per week helping to maintain Hazelwood's community gardens. That is equal to 100 hours of volunteer potential a month.
- 19% of respondents said they would spend 2 hours per week helping to maintain Hazelwood's community gardens. That is equal to 128 hours of volunteer potential a month.
- 11% of respondents said they would spend at least 3 hours per week helping to maintain Hazelwood's community gardens. That is equal to 108 hours of volunteer potential a month.

# Hazelwood Greenspace Action Plans

## Site Profiles

A brief profile of each site has been compiled in the next section. Each profile contains details about the garden including its name and location, as well as a short interview conducted with the current garden steward (or a site review completed by a Grounded staff member in the absence of a garden steward).

## Steward Profiles

A garden is just an empty lot without a gardener to tend it. In recognition of their efforts, we've included a brief biography of the current garden stewards in order to inform the succession process when each of them steps down.

## Technical Analysis

Before generating any recommendations, Grounded performed an analysis of the physical parameters of the site (including extant valuable species, weed and pest pressure, slope, aspect, and a field soil assessment). The results of these analyses are included in the following section.

## Recommendation & Action Steps

Based on what we learned during our technical assessment and stakeholder interviews, we composed a series of recommendations and action steps unique to each garden, as well as

over-arching goals shared between them.

## 5 Year Action Timeline

After making recommendations about improving the sustainability of each site, we include a quarterly calendar with target dates for accomplishing each goal. This way, we encourage users of this plan to be realistic in terms of their expectations. Remember, this plan is about sustaining greenspaces throughout the Greater Hazelwood area. In order to sustain a site in this use, it is important to set sensible goals that are within reach, and that align with an overriding strategy of community engagement, environmental stewardship, and economic empowerment.

## Maintenance Timeline

Following the 5-year action timeline for each site, we include a calendar of site-specific maintenance interventions. These calendars include only a few items that stood out to Grounded as important to address for the site's sustainability. Actually, users of this plan should view these sections as more of a living document: a worksheet that garden stewards can use to catalogue their maintenance needs and coordinate efforts so as not to squander volunteer labor.

Furthermore, we've included a 'perennial calendar' which contains annually recurring events and garden needs.



## **Hazelwood Community Greenspace Goals**

These are archetypal strategies that can be employed to better sustain greenspaces within your neighborhood. Think of each goal as a distillation of a particular set of objectives meant to improve a site's sustainability in some way.

For instance: incorporating water harvesting on site may be as simple as deploying a rain barrel to capture the runoff from an existing roof, or as complex as planning and excavating a series of swales and capture ponds to meet a site's water needs.

Site specific strategies are included in each garden's section.

# Hazelwood Community Greenspace Goals

	GOALS	OVERVIEW
	ACTIVE NETWORK OF HAZELWOOD GARDENS AND GARDENERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform targeted outreach to activate gardeners proximal to greenspaces in-need.</li> <li>• Expand interest in gardens by biodiversifying planting strategies into themed areas               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicinal plantings</li> <li>• Fibre/dye arts</li> <li>• Pollinator friendly/apiculture areas</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cultivate and help to train a network of local landscape professionals for maintenance needs.</li> </ul>
	UNIFIED MAINTENANCE STRATEGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and utilize a shared maintenance calendar for all sites.</li> <li>• Start plants for garden spaces at a centralized location and distribute to gardens on an 'as-needed' basis.</li> <li>• Keep a running 'to-do' list of tasks across gardens in order to effectively mobilize volunteers during twice-annual cleanups of each greenspace in concert with the PGH Mobile Toolbox.</li> </ul>
	Dependable Funding Streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify funding sources based on specific site needs such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Pest Management (IPM)</li> <li>• Site Upgrades</li> <li>• ADA accessibility upgrades.</li> <li>• Water harvesting                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rain Barrels</li> <li>• Earthworks</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Elevate Garden Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create signage or art pieces to draw attention to garden sites.</li> <li>• Create 'special interest' (dye, hops+beer, salsa) gardens, and committees oversee them.</li> <li>• Host weekly garden events (mulching moshes, pickling parties, salsa &amp; salsa night, etc.).</li> </ul>
	Sustainable Garden Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform sustainable management practices and upgrades such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining a commitment to organic practices</li> <li>• Crop rotations to maximize fertility and soil building</li> <li>• On-site water harvesting</li> <li>• Expansive perennial plantings</li> <li>• Development of a distribution network for excess production</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Hazelwood Community Garden Profiles

## HAZELWOOD GARDEN (YMCA)



**NAME:** HAZELWOOD GARDEN (YMCA)  
**LOCATION:** 4713 CHATSWORTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15207  
**PARCEL NO.** 0056-B-00222-00  
**AREA** .3 AC  
**OWNERSHIP:** HAZELWOOD INITIATIVE  
**DESCRIPTION** THE YMCA CLOSED THEIR OPERATIONS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IN 2016. HI BOUGHT THE BUILDING AND THE GARDEN SITE, AND IN SPRING OF 2018 HIRED MATT PETERS TO SERVE AS GARDEN MANAGER TO ADMINISTER A BED-ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.



## Garden Steward Interview

**What sorts of refuse (if any) tend to accumulate near your site?**

Roadside litter is a minor/moderate level of nuisance.

**What kinds of noxious weeds have you noticed on your site?**

Canadian thistle. This year we are controlling it via removal with a broadfork, then smother-cropping with a mix of Oat and Sunn Hemp.

**Do you notice any negative effects on your site that correlate with weather related events?**

No

**What kinds of nuisance animals are most prevalent in the neighborhood of your site?**

Groundhogs!!!

**Are there any edible annuals that naturally occur or are cultivated on your site?**

Pigweed/Amaranth, Purslane, Lambs' Quarters, Cherry Tomato

**Are there any edible perennials that occur naturally or are cultivated on your site?**

Cultivated - orchard trees (peach, apple, pluot), hops, blueberry, thornless blackberry, mint, sage, asparagus. Wild/Volunteer - yellow dock, dandelion

**Does your site have adequate composting facilities to accommodate additional neighborhood wastes?**

Yes

**Does your site have sufficient seating for people to rest out of the sun/rain?**

Out of the sun, yes. Rain, not yet (shed under construction)

**Is your site ADA accessible?**

Not sure, probably easily modified.



**Of your engaged community members, how many routinely attend cooperative garden events?**

Hard to say, this is our first season of having engaged community members, this being our first year able to offer bed allotments. So far I'm pleased with participation, better than 50%.

**Does your site have trees that require pruning/removal?**

Pruning yes, removal no

**How robust is your communication network?**

I am pleased with our communication network, we have a FB page, Email list, Web page, and onsite signage!

**Does your site currently have areas that are challenging to utilize due to site conditions?**

No (well, sloped areas could be utilized as pollinator/perennials)

**Are there any plants that seem to consistently fail when grown on site (if so, what is the suspected cause)?**

No

**What is the chain of command/order of succession for the site, in the event that the current steward becomes unable to serve in that role?**

In the event I am "hit by a bus" or eaten by groundhogs, command would revert to HI staff (Alf DiRosa).

**Does your site produce/accumulate any resources/wastes in excess ?**

No

**What are the 5 most desirable elements/resources that would help your site flourish?**

- New site layout allowing for more bed space per grower and more growers;
- Rain barrel collection system;
- Woodchuck traps;
- Improved pollinator garden (old one was mowed/died out).
- We also have an underutilized Greenhouse/Hoop House that needs some sort of Plan to achieve its potential.



## GARDEN STEWARD - MATT PETERS

Matt Peters moved to Hazelwood in 2011, when he bought house with a big yard in the forests of the Hazelwood Greenway. He was contacted by the precursor to the current Urban Ag Team and was asked to serve as Garden Manager for the 2012 growing season. He worked with youths, teaching gardening and basic carpentry skills.

The current Urban Ag Team, which is supported by Hazelwood Initiative, elected Matt as their chair and he has served in this capacity since January 2014.

In the spring of 2018, HI hired Matt to serve as Garden Manager for the former YMCA site, an opportunity which allowed the Urban Ag Team to offer bed-allotments to residents for the first time.

Prior to moving to Hazelwood, Matt lived in rural Athens County, Ohio on an off-grid community farm growing much of his own food, and working with a wholesale daffodil producer. He also worked on a 2-acre organic CSA farm that provided vegetables to some 75 families in Columbus. He has raised earthworms for compost since 2001, offering the rich Worm Castings for sale, and he brought this cottage-industry with him to Hazelwood. Matt also provides garlic for Dylamato's Market. Additionally, he teaches an annual workshop for Phipps on culturing Mushrooms.

His ability to place a small empty-lot garden in a cultural and ecological context brings with it a vision that combines local food sovereignty with ecological sustainability.

# Hazelwood Garden (YMCA)

## TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

### PLANT SUITABILITY ANALYSIS

Criteria	Suitable For Trees	Suitable For Shrubs	Suitable For Annual Gardening
Physical Characteristics			
Soil Quality			
Assets			
Liabilities			
Aspect			

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

% Canopy Closure	5%
Slope (average)	4%
Proximity to Occupied Housing	0 Miles
Aspect	210

### SOIL QUALITY

Soil Texture	Loam
Soil Drainage	4
Soil pH	6.5
Soil Salinity	210

### ASSETS

Edible Annuals	●	Comfrey Thyme Milkweed Daylilies Iris Sunchokes Sunflowers Potatoes Tomatoes Peaches Apples Asparagus Figs Rose of Sharon Rose of Sharon Squash Fennel Strawberries Leeks Chives Garlic Apricot Nettle Burdock Yarrow Sage Cucumber Oregano
Edible Perennials	●	
Ornamental Plants	●	
Piped Water	●	
Access Trails	●	
Fencing / Hedge	●	
Access Road	●	
Composting Facilities	●	
Storage Facilities	●	
Seating	●	
Signage	●	
ADA Accessible		
# Of Engaged Residents	11	

### LIABILITIES

Noxious Weeds	●
Garbage	
Hazardous Materials	
Stagnant Water	
Erosion Gouges	
Nuisance Animals	●

# Hazelwood Garden (YMCA)

## RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION STEPS

	GOALS	RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION STEPS
	ACTIVE NETWORK OF HAZELWOOD GARDENS AND GARDENERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for ADA Accessible Upgrades</li> <li>• Organize and execute seed saving workshop</li> <li>• Recruit new gardeners within 5 block radius to maximize attendance and utility</li> <li>• Involve returning gardeners in site design planning</li> </ul>
	UNIFIED MAINTENANCE STRATEGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design new garden layout</li> <li>• Install additional garden beds</li> <li>• Develop plan to utilize the on-site greenhouse more fully</li> </ul>
	Dependable Funding Streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify funding for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional garden beds</li> <li>• HI Garden Manager to run and expand garden bed program</li> <li>• Pest traps</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Elevate Garden Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target survey respondents living around YrGardn to participate in garden bed program and/or garden cleanups</li> <li>• Include signage at the front of the YMCA building and along Minden Street to increase visibility of the garden space.</li> </ul>
	Sustainable Garden Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase and install pest traps</li> <li>• Install rain water harvesting system attached to shed/greenhouse</li> <li>• Plant more area to pollinator friendly species</li> <li>• Include more fruit/nut bearing trees on sloped areas.</li> </ul>



# Hazelwood Garden (YMCA)

## 5 YEAR ACTION TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Plan for ADA Accessible Upgrades	●	●									
	Organize and execute seed saving workshop			●	●			●	●	●	●	●
	Recruit new gardeners	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Design new garden layout	●	●									
	Execute New Layout & Install additional garden beds			●	●	●	●					
	Schedule and execute 2 annual garden cleanups with the PGH Mobile toolbox and community volunteers		●		●		●		●	●	●	●
	Develop plan to utilize the greenhouse	●	●	●	●							
	Seek Funding for Additional garden beds				●				●	●	●	●
	Seek Funding for HI Garden Manager to run and expand garden bed program	●				●				●	●	●
	Seek Funding for ADA upgrades		●	●								
	Seek Funding for 2 Annual clean ups	●		●		●		●		●	●	●
	Seek Funding for Garden party event	●	●			●	●			●	●	●
	Seek Funding for Pest traps	●	●									
	Seek Funding for Rain barrel	●	●									

## Hazelwood Garden (YMCA)

5 YEAR ACTION TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Target survey respondents living around Hazelwood Garden to participate in garden bed program and/or garden cleanups	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Host an annual garden party event in Everybody's Garden			●				●		●	●	●
	Purchase and install pest traps			●	●							
	Install rain barrel collection system			●	●							
	Plant new polinator garden		●		●		●		●	●	●	●

Utilize this section to record your site-specific maintenance goals as they arise.

## Hazelwood Garden (YMCA)

### SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Host a mulching mosh in order to draw attention to the garden				●				●	●	●	●
	Train Local Landscapers in Proper Plant Care	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Pruning Workshop	●			●	●			●	●	●	●



Hazelwood Garden (YMCA)

SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Form a relationship with a new local arborist in order to secure ample mulch.	●	●	●	●			●		●	●	●
	Canning Workshop				●				●	●	●	●
	Seed Saving Workshop			●	●			●	●	●	●	●

# Everybody's Garden

## GARDEN PROFILE



NAME: EVERYBODY'S GARDEN  
LOCATION: 301 W. ELIZABETH ST.  
PARCEL NO. 0056-N-00005-0000-00  
0056-N-00006-0000-00  
AREA 5,500 SQFT  
OWNERSHIP: CITY OF PITTSBURGH: ADOPT-A-LOT  
DESCRIPTION SINCE 2008 THIS LOT HAS BEEN TENDED BY SAINT JIM THE COMPOSTER. HE HAS TRANSFORMED THIS SITE INTO A BEAUTIFUL AND PRODUCTIVE GARDEN, WITH NINE RAISED BEDS, FLOWERS AROUND THE BORDER, ALL CENTERED AROUND A BEAUTIFUL PEACH ORCHARD.



## Garden Steward Interview

**What sorts of refuse (if any) tend to accumulate near your site?**

Food containers, small amounts of medical waste, discarded toys/furniture

**What kinds of noxious weeds have you noticed on your site?**

Canadian thistle, bindweed

**Do you notice any negative effects on your site that correlate with weather related events?**

N/A

**What kinds of nuisance animals are most prevalent in the neighborhood of your site?**

Groundhogs, skinks, rats

**Are there any edible annuals that naturally occur or are cultivated on your site?**

(See Technical Assessment)

**Are there any edible perennials that occur naturally or are cultivated on your site?**

(See Technical Assessment)

**Does your site have adequate composting facilities to accommodate additional neighborhood wastes?**

It does not currently have such facilities, but has space within which to place them.

**Does your site have sufficient seating for people to rest out of the sun/rain?**

Shelter in the form of established trees, very little seating to speak of

**Is your site ADA accessible?**

It is not, but could be modified to be so

**Of your engaged community members, how many routinely attend cooperative garden events?**

5%

**Does your site have trees that require pruning/removal?**

Yes

**How robust is your communication network?**

Recently linked in with HI's network for messaging

**Does your site currently have areas that are challenging to utilize due to site conditions?**

Yes, some areas of the site are overgrown and need a back-to-baseline maintenance session. additionally, some areas of the site need to be leveled/filled

**Are there any plants that seem to consistently fail when grown on site (if so, what is the suspected cause)?**

No

**What is the chain of command/order of succession for the site, in the event that the current steward becomes unable to serve in that role?**

Hazelwood Initiative Staff (Matt, Alf, Sonya)

**Does your site produce/accumulate any resources/wastes in excess ?**

This site produces a large amount of food that goes unharvested. additionally, because the site is so well established, it generates seedlings/propagules in abundance each year.

**What are the 5 most desirable elements/resources that would help your site flourish?**

- Mowing
- Site levelling
- Shed repair and rainwater harvesting
- Signage
- Permanent, permeable surface for paths



## Everybody's Garden

### GARDEN STEWARD PROFILE

Founder and Sole member of the International Garbage Pickers Union (IGPU) Jim McCue is a whimsical fellow with a storied past. Having worked in farms and gardens from Brant Lake Ny to Miami Florida, Jim has gained a wealth of ecological knowledge that he has carefully applied to his work at Everybody's Garden. An excellent neighborhood resource who always has a tale to tell, Jim has contributed to the fabric of Hazelwood in myriad ways, including contributions to the Hazelwood Homepage (a local newspaper), Hazelwood Initiative, and the urban agriculture working group.

In Jim's words, "an ideal garden steward and green ambassador would:

- Have a desire to feed people;
- Have good health and strength;
- Have expertise in soils, [and]ecological principles such as encouraging quantity and diversity of life in a garden or region;
- Have recognition of the fact that a damaged piece of land CAN be healed;
- Have cooperation and organizing skill;
- Enjoy labor and teaching;
- Have a friendship rather than an 'enemy-ship' attitude toward fellow life forms;
- Know how to use all types of manure, including humanure, safely as a composting operator."

Never failing to consider even the most mundane of realities, Jim succinctly strikes at the heart of what it means to think sustainably in day-to-day life.

# Everybody's Garden

## TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

### PLANT SUITABILITY ANALYSIS

Criteria	Suitable For Trees	Suitable For Shrubs	Suitable For Annual Gardening
Physical Characteristics			
Soil Quality			
Assets			
Liabilities			
Aspect			

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

% Canopy Closure	25%
Slope	1%
Proximity to Occupied Housing	0 Miles
Aspect	270

### SOIL QUALITY

Soil Texture	Loam
Soil Drainage	4
Soil pH	6
Soil Salinity	750

### ASSETS

Edible Annuals	●	Comfrey Thyme Milkweed Daylilies Iris Sunchokes Sunflowers Potatoes Tomatoes Peaches Apples Asparagus Figs Rose of Sharon Rose of Sharon Squash Fennel Strawberries Leeks Chives Garlic Apricot Nettle Burdock Yarrow Sage Cucumber Oregano
Edible Perennials	●	
Ornamental Plants	●	
Piped Water		
Access Trails	●	
Fencing / Hedge	●	
Access Road	●	
Composting Facilities		
Storage Facilities	●	
Seating	●	
Signage		
ADA Accessible		
# Of Engaged Residents	6	

### LIABILITIES

Noxious Weeds	●
Garbage	
Hazardous Materials	
Stagnant Water	
Erosion Gouges	
Nuisance Animals	●



# Everybody's Garden

## RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION STEPS

	GOALS	RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION STEPS
	ACTIVE NETWORK OF HAZELWOOD GARDENS AND GARDENERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch community garden bed program</li> <li>• Install additional seating on site</li> <li>• Plan for ADA Accessible Upgrades</li> </ul>
	UNIFIED MAINTENANCE STRATEGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a rain barrel on site</li> <li>• Upgrade and add garden beds</li> <li>• Contact PWSA regarding on-site water tap</li> </ul>
	Dependable Funding Streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify funding for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garden bed repair</li> <li>• Levelling and revamping the section of the parcel between Lytle Street and Chaplain way to improve site access</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Elevate Garden Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take advantage of the open-access model this site has adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program this site with plenty of learning opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Composting</li> <li>• Apiculture</li> <li>• Canning Workshops</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Since this site is very family friendly (with convenient playground access) consider programming this site with that in mind <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Block parties</li> <li>• After-school learn-to-garden programs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Sustainable Garden Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand on-site composting facilities</li> <li>• Plan for long-term ownership through lot purchase</li> <li>• Expand on existing food forestry practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand orchard section</li> <li>• Plant edible shrubs such as hazelnuts or serviceberries</li> <li>• Create a mushroom fruiting area where logs can be processed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Everybody's Garden

## 5 YEAR ACTION TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Launch community garden bed program	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
	Install additional seating on site	●				●						
	Plan for ADA Accessible Upgrades	●	●	●								
	Contact PWSA concerning a water hookup on site		●									
	Upgrade and add garden beds	●				●						
	Schedule and execute 2 annual garden cleanups with the PGH Mobile toolbox and community volunteers		●		●		●		●	●	●	●
	Seek Funding for site purchase through Adopt-A-Lot Program	●	●									
	Seek Funding for Garden bed repair	●				●						
	Seek Funding for Additional garden paths and beds		●	●								
	Seek Funding for Public Art and signage	●	●			●						
	Seek Funding for additional perennial plantings			●	●			●	●			
	Seek Funding for ADA upgrades			●				●				
	Seek Funding for 2 Annual clean ups	●		●		●		●		●	●	●
	Seek Funding for Garden party event		●				●			●	●	●

# Everybody's Garden

## 5 YEAR ACTION TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Install garden art and/or impermanent signage in line with adopt-a-lot regulations	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Target survey respondents living around Everybody's garden to participate in garden bed program and/or garden cleanups	●	●	●	●							
	Host an annual peach preservation event in Everybody's Garden			●				●		●	●	●
	Install additional composting facilities on site				●				●	●		
	Plant additional edible perennials		●				●			●	●	●
	Plan to harvest and distribute garden bounty surplus			●	●			●	●			

Utilize this section to record your site-specific maintenance goals as they arise.

## Everybody's Garden

### SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Utilize bricks and other construction debris on site	●	●	●	●							
	Prune and process excess vegetation		●		●		●		●	●	●	●



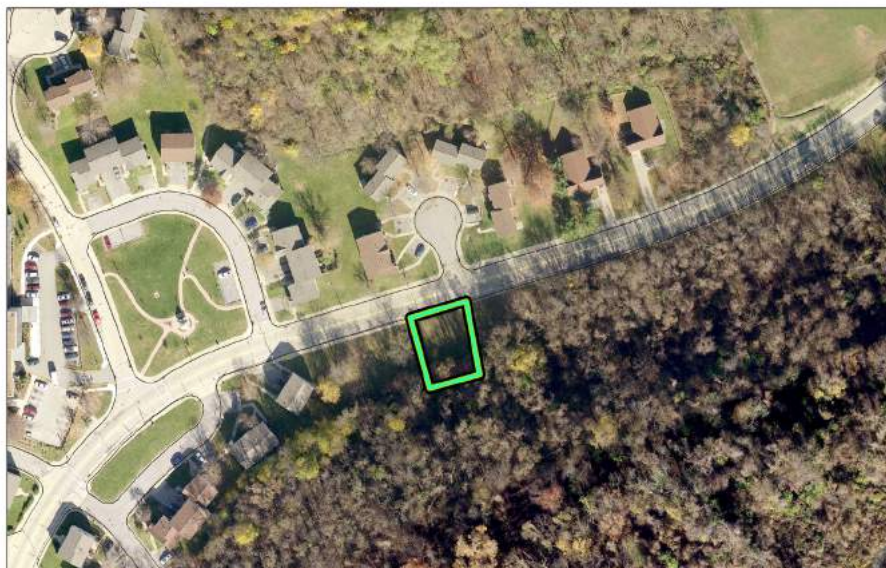
# Everybody's Garden

## SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Create a mushroom fruiting area for woody biomass volume reduction			●	●							

# Hazelwood Community Garden Profiles

## GLEN HAZEL GARDEN



NAME: GLEN HAZEL GARDEN

LOCATION: COORDINATES 40.406047, -79.931279

PARCEL No.: 0089-N-00026-0000-00

AREA: 2,500 SQFT

OWNERSHIP: CITY OF PITTSBURGH

DESCRIPTION: GROUNDBREAKING TOOK PLACE IN THE SUMMER OF 2012.

MIKE WILSON SECURED FUNDING FOR THE DEER-FENCE SURROUNDING THE SITE.

IN 2018 A CONCERTED OUTREACH EFFORT BY HI AND THE URBAN AG TEAM TO FIND NEW PARTICIPANTS HAS GENERATED NEW INTEREST IN THE SITE.

## Garden Site Review

**What sorts of refuse (if any) tend to accumulate near your site?**

Cigarette butts, discarded toys/furniture, broken tools.

**What kinds of noxious weeds have you noticed on your site?**

Japanese Stiltgrass, Canadian Thistle, Tree of Heaven

**Do you notice any negative effects on your site that correlate with weather related events?**

N/A

**What kinds of nuisance animals are most prevalent in the neighborhood of your site?**

Groundhogs, raccoons, rats

**Are there any edible annuals that naturally occur or are cultivated on your site?**

No, the site was recently grubbed down to soil in preparation for next season.

**Are there any edible perennials that occur naturally or are cultivated on your site?**

See above.

**Does your site have adequate composting facilities to accommodate additional neighborhood wastes?**

It does not currently have such facilities, but it has space within which to place them.

**Does your site have sufficient seating for people to rest out of the sun/rain?**

Shelter in the form of established trees. No seating.

**Is your site ADA accessible?**

It is not, but it could be modified to be so.

**Of your engaged community members, how many routinely attend cooperative garden events?**

1%

**Does your site have trees that require pruning/removal?**

Yes

**How robust is your communication network?**

Grounded has recently linked this garden with Hazelwood Initiative to improve its messaging capability.

**Does your site currently have areas that are challenging to utilize due to site conditions?**

The site is in prime condition. It only requires gardeners to run it.

**Are there any plants that seem to consistently fail when grown on site (if so, what is the suspected cause)?**

No

**What is the chain of command/order of succession for the site, in the event that the current steward becomes unable to serve in that role?**

Michael Wilson → Matt → Alf → Sonya

**Does your site produce/accumulate any resources/wastes in excess ?**

The site has lain fallow for some years. As such it produces miscellaneous biomass in abundance.

**What are the 5 most desirable elements/resources that would help your site flourish?**

- Regular site programming to draw attention
- Shed installation and tools
- Signage
- Wood-chips (or gravel) for paths
- A pavilion/gazebo on the garden side of the street for gardeners to rest.

## Glen Hazel Garden

### GARDEN PREPARATION LIST

Items required for 2019 Season Start

- » Shed
- » Tuber forks (2)
- » Hoes (4)
- » Rakes (4)
- » Garden Forks (2)
- » Wheelbarrow (1)
- » Garden Steward (1)
- » Pest exclusion skirt for fence (1)

This site offers a very significant opportunity to create a link with the local ecosystem in order to promote food forestry practices.

The forest which surrounds the Glen Hazel Garden can be purposefully managed in order to allow for communal access to tree crops such as persimmon, walnut, hickory, pawpaw, jujube, and many others.

Additionally, as woody debris accumulate from revisions to the ecology of the forested area, any cut logs or chips can be inoculated with edible or medicinal mushrooms, such as Oyster (*Pleurotus ostreatus*), Elm Oyster (*Hypsizygus ulmarius*), Winecap (*Stropharia rugosoannulata*), Shiitake (*Lentinula edodes*), or Enoki (*Flammulina velutipes*).

Ideally, this site will serve as the seed from which the Rivermont Drive food forest could eventually grow. By carefully managing the stewardship of these areas, eventually many of the needs of the Glen Hazel community could be met locally.

# Glen Hazel Garden

## TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

### PLANT SUITABILITY ANALYSIS

Criteria	Suitable For Trees	Suitable For Shrubs	Suitable For Annual Gardening
Physical Characteristics			
Soil Quality			
Assets			
Liabilities			
Aspect			

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

% Canopy Closure	5%
Slope	4%
Proximity to Occupied Housing	0 Miles
Aspect	280

### SOIL QUALITY

Soil Texture	Loam
Soil Drainage	4
Soil pH	6
Soil Salinity	1000

### ASSETS

Edible Annuals		
Edible Perennials		
Ornamental Plants		
Piped Water		
Access Trails		
Fencing / Hedge		
Access Road		
Composting Facilities		
Storage Facilities		
Seating		
Signage		
ADA Accessible		
# Of Engaged Residents	3	

### LIABILITIES

Noxious Weeds	
Garbage	
Hazardous Materials	
Stagnant Water	
Erosion Gouges	
Nuisance Animals	



# Glen Hazel Garden

## RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION STEPS

	GOALS	RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION STEPS
	ACTIVE NETWORK OF HAZELWOOD GARDENS AND GARDENERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct site-specific outreach to recruit new garden members in the Glen Hazel community</li> <li>• Expand HI's communications umbrella to incorporate Glen Hazel's greenspace staffing needs</li> </ul>
	UNIFIED MAINTENANCE STRATEGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite interested parties [identified through GS survey work] to seed starting and saving workshops</li> <li>• Prioritize expanding this site's area dedicated to propagating perennials</li> </ul>
	Dependable Funding Streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify funding for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shed construction and tool kit</li> <li>• Water harvesting</li> <li>• Perennial propagules</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Elevate Garden Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant a flashy perennial border in order to draw attention to the site during important seasonal events               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A living calendar utilizing ephemerals will passively raise garden awareness each year during the spring at very low cost.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Sustainable Garden Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fencing around this site offers many opportunities for climbing/vining plants including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grape</li> <li>• Hops</li> <li>• Potato Bean</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Incorporation of water-harvesting earthworks around the fenced area would not only increase productivity within the fence but offer the opportunity to culture perennial seedlings around the garden like:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apples</li> <li>• Plums</li> <li>• Hickory</li> <li>• Walnut</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Glen Hazel Garden

## 5 YEAR ACTION TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Expand HI's communication's umbrella to serve Glen Hazel	●	●			●	●					
	Conduct outreach within Glen Hazel community to boost support for greenspace		●	●			●	●		●	●	●
	Seed starting workshops	●	●			●	●			●	●	●
	Seed saving workshops			●	●			●	●	●	●	●
	Shed construction and outfitting		●									
	Fundraise for shed construction	●	●									
	Fundraise for perennial propagules			●	●	●						
	Fundraise for water harvesting earthworks	●	●	●	●	●						
	Fundraise for ADA accessibility upgrades	●	●	●	●	●						
	Fundraise for additional seating	●	●	●								
	Fundraise for a Food Forest expansion into the surrounding forests									●	●	●

## Glen Hazel Garden

### 5 YEAR ACTION TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Plant living calendar in order to boost awareness in subsequent years			●	●							
	Develop and implement youth oriented gardening workshops to ensure a pipeline of activated community members	●	●	●	●							
	(S)elect a garden 'mayor' to organize the site	●										
	Plant climbing perennials around the fence to maximize productivity	●	●			●	●			●	●	●
	Earthworks construction				●	●			●			
	Create a mushroom fruiting area to process woody biomass					●	●			●		

Utilize this section to record your site-specific maintenance goals as they arise.

## Glen Hazel Garden

### SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Populate garden with interested parties identified through GS survey	●	●	●	●							



## Glen Hazel Garden

### SITE-SPECIFIC MAINTENANCE TIMELINE

	ACTION	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021	2022	2023
	Host a salsa & salsa night to share out excess produce within the community			●				●		●	●	●

## **Hazelwood Community Greenspace: A Neighborhood Scale Vision**

The following section describes a long-term vision for improving the connectivity of and resident engagement with greenspace within the Greater Hazelwood area.

These neighborhood snapshots describe several spaces that stood out during Grounded Strategies' 2018 field research as low-risk, high-reward intervention points in sustaining greenspace in this region. Each intervention serves a particular district or subunit of the neighborhood.

Furthermore, most of these possible interventions fall along a transect of the neighborhood between Greenfield in the North and the Glenwood Bridge in the South. This particular section was chosen due to resident concerns about improving non-motorized access to the neighborhood: a goal that aligns well with improving or sustaining green spaces.

## Sylvan Avenue Greenway: Hazelwood-Greenfield Pedestrian Friendly Access

Sylvan Avenue has been identified as a valuable portion of the long-term greenspace vision for Hazelwood. This decommissioned road serves as a safe bicycle and pedestrian pathway between the neighborhoods of Hazelwood and Greenfield. Residents of each of these communities have repeatedly complained about the traffic patterns along Second Avenue (Irvine Street). This road is also known as PA-885, an important commuter conduit and access point to the commercial district of the neighborhood.

As an alternative to investing in infrastructure upgrades for pedestrian/cyclist safety along PA-885, resources could instead be dedicated toward shifting the neighborhood's focus toward walkability and resilience.

By introducing such an adjustment, the commuter traffic that relies on PA-885 for day-to-day movement would encounter fewer pedestrians (and thus possibilities for accidents).

Simultaneously, residents would gain improved pedestrian access (both within and outside of the neighborhood) resulting in a possible decrease in vehicular traffic.

All this, and we've not yet mentioned the manifold modifications that could be made to the greenspace that is Sylvan Avenue. A huge opportunity exists for food forestry along this corridor. Smartly planted, this narrow strip could go a long way toward locally meeting the fresh-fruit needs of the Greater Hazelwood community.





## Gladstone Green District: Environmental Engagement for the North Section of the Neighborhood

The grounds of the former Gladstone School offer a significant platform upon which to build a sustainable greenspace vision into the northern portion of Hazelwood.

Aside from ample land area for utilization in agroforestry, the building itself is a strong foundation into which any number of ecologically friendly value-added production chains could be installed.

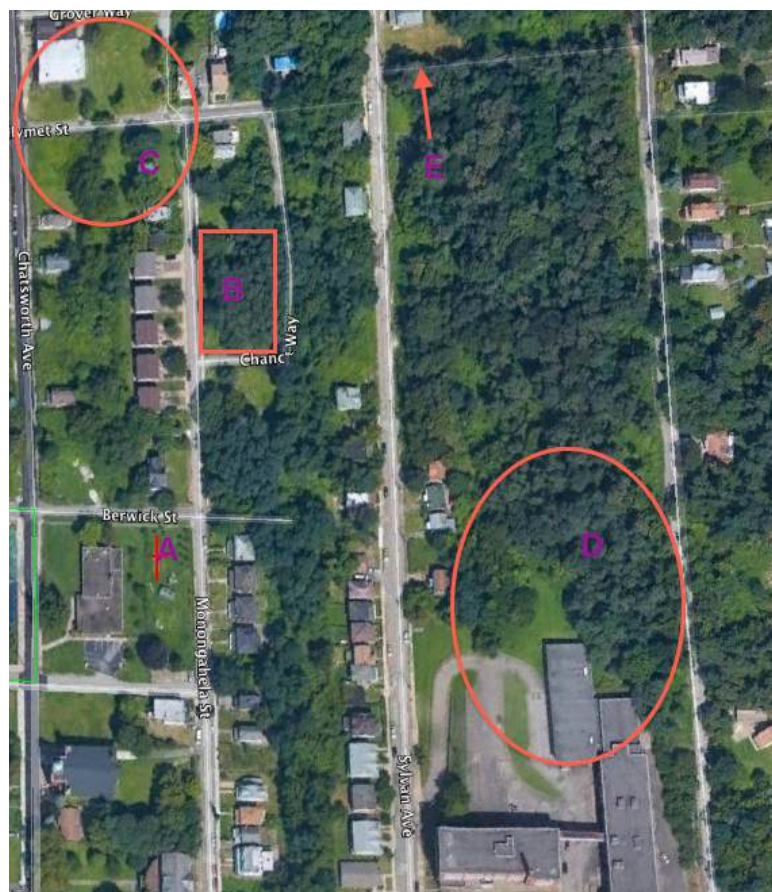
For instance: with the installation of rooftop solar, this site could become a centralized processing facility for the majority of agricultural goods produced in the Greater Hazelwood area, in addition to potentially becoming a net-producer of electricity. A facility such as this would go a long way toward improving the resiliency of the neighborhood by providing a powerful local economic engine tied directly to the preservation of the green spaces and neighborhood networks.

Currently, the swath of forest north of the Gladstone grounds represents an excellent opportunity to begin an agro-ecological shift. This patch of woods is rife with invasive understory vegetation: valuable browse that could be converted to cash via goat meat and milk production.

All of these suggestions are centered around Zone D on the map to the right. Zone A represents current work: the YMCA Garden. Zones B and C are past endeavors: one of the Project

Picket Fence lots from one of the City's revitalization plans, and the aforementioned Sylvan Avenue. Zone C represents the John Woods house: a site deeply rooted in Hazelwood's history, and (hopefully) a significant site in the future.

The Woods house, properly restored, could serve as an attraction: perhaps framed as a neighborhood public house where residents could unwind after a day spent tending to a diverse array of crops produced just a stone's throw away on the Gladstone grounds.



Above: The roof of the Gladstone building offers an opportunity for solar energy farming, rooftop cropping, and/or rainwater harvesting.



Above: Situated comfortably within a neighborhood, Gladstone could serve as a locus of training and employment for the environmental sector within walking distance of the community it serves.

Right: John Woods' House: previously the home of one of the first surveyors of Pittsburgh. Currently a historic landmark. Eventually (perhaps) a bustling pub showcasing locally produced fare.





## Gate Lodge-Pawpaw Greenway: A Safe Segue for Students

As part of a comprehensive neighborhood greenspace vision, pedestrian conveyance is paramount. Gate Lodge Way and Pawpaw way offer means to tie-in directly with Hazelwood's storied past, in a low-vehicular-traffic calm zone.

In reimagining these streets as pedestrian pathways rather than corridors for cars, there exists a marvelous opportunity to provide safe passage for neighborhood schoolchildren to make their way to and from the Propel School.

Aside from serving as a route between school and home, this segment of neighborhood greenspace can be purpose planned to provide both historical and ecological lessons within walking distance of the school building.

Pawpaw Way could be reinvented using ethnobotanically appropriate species representative of the prior occupants of this river valley, the Monongahela people.

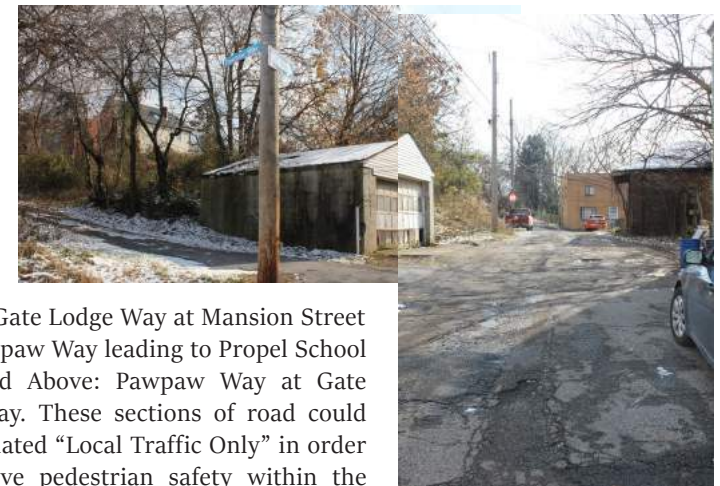
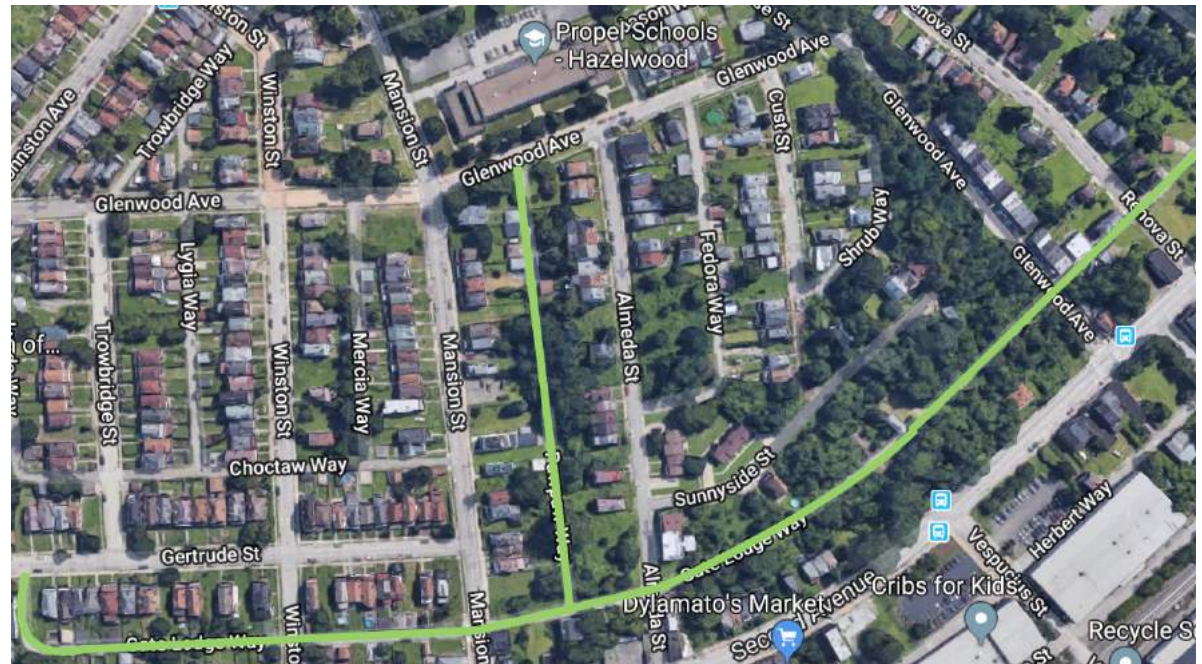
The adjoining Gate Lodge Way could be landscaped in the manner that might have been employed by the Blair family gardener (for whose dwelling this thoroughfare was named).

By proffering history to students in this context, it leaps from the page to life. Instead of a dry, dusty text filled with events divorced from the experiences of pupils in both space

and time, teachers would have an opportunity to more thoroughly root lessons in lived experience.

In addition to pages of reading, homework assignments might be supplemented with field investigations which could include ecological assessments and immersion in the natural world.

Aside from providing an outdoor classroom opportunity, bolstering the greenspace in this sector offers an added benefit of mollifying particulate pollution generated by the aforementioned PA-885 corridor. Thickening the vegetative barrier between Second Avenue and Gate Lodge Way would go a long way toward reducing the impacts of pollution on residents.



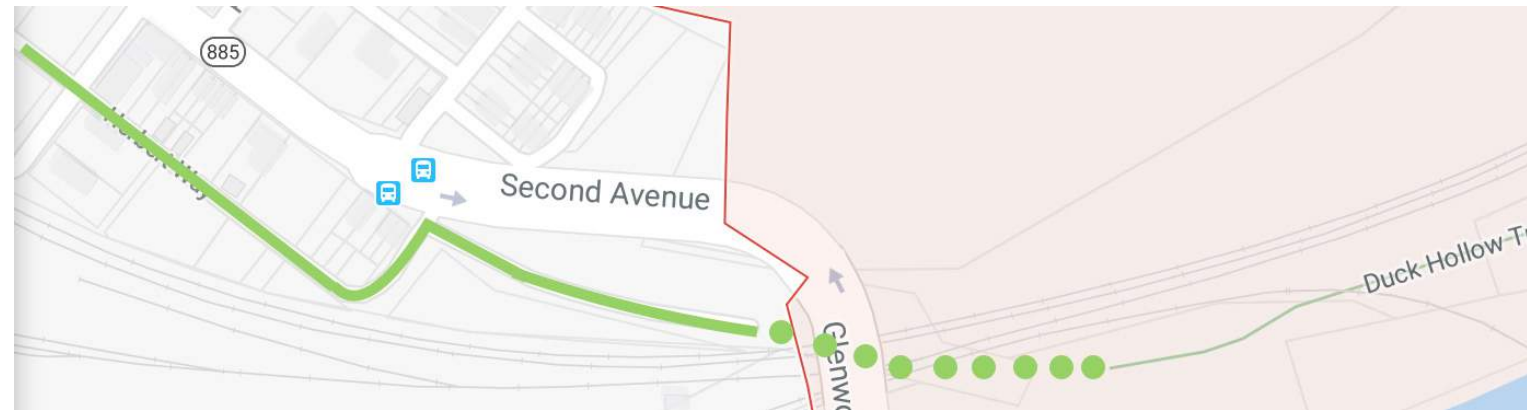
Far left: Gate Lodge Way at Mansion Street  
Left: Pawpaw Way leading to Propel School  
Right and Above: Pawpaw Way at Gate Lodge Way. These sections of road could be designated "Local Traffic Only" in order to improve pedestrian safety within the neighborhood.



## Duck Hollow Trail: Improved Cyclist Safety and Access for the Neighborhood's Southern Side

Many of the modifications suggested in this section are based on improving the connectivity of infrastructure investments that have already been made. Case in point: the Duck Hollow Trail. Formally stretching from Glen Hazel upriver to Duck Hollow (but realistically spanning all the way to Braddock), this path could conceivably convey cyclists more rapidly and safely between the Greater Hazelwood area and neighborhoods such as Rankin, Braddock, and Swissvale without forcing them to unnecessarily weave back and forth over the Monongahela River.

Many times, this cycling route could actually be faster than the more convoluted motorized vehicle pathing options, conveniently incentivizing physical activity and immersion in green space, both of which have demonstrable physical and mental health effects. Integrating this bike path into the larger



neighborhood transportation scheme would allow for more exogenous traffic at local businesses, thereby encouraging opportunities for tourism related endeavors. Creating the space for slower forms of human conveyance (bikes, roller blades, skateboards, and pedestrians) generates additional opportunities for both messaging ("Come check out Historic Hazelwood!") as well as opening the door for the movement of monies and goods. After all, each of the aforementioned means of locomotion is relatively Calorie intensive: by allowing more people with healthy appetites to move through the neighborhood, it is possible to profitably showcase the bounty of goods grown and processed within the neighborhood. The act of bringing the customers to the goods can help to minimize distribution costs, allowing for greater reinvestment in resilience building endeavors.



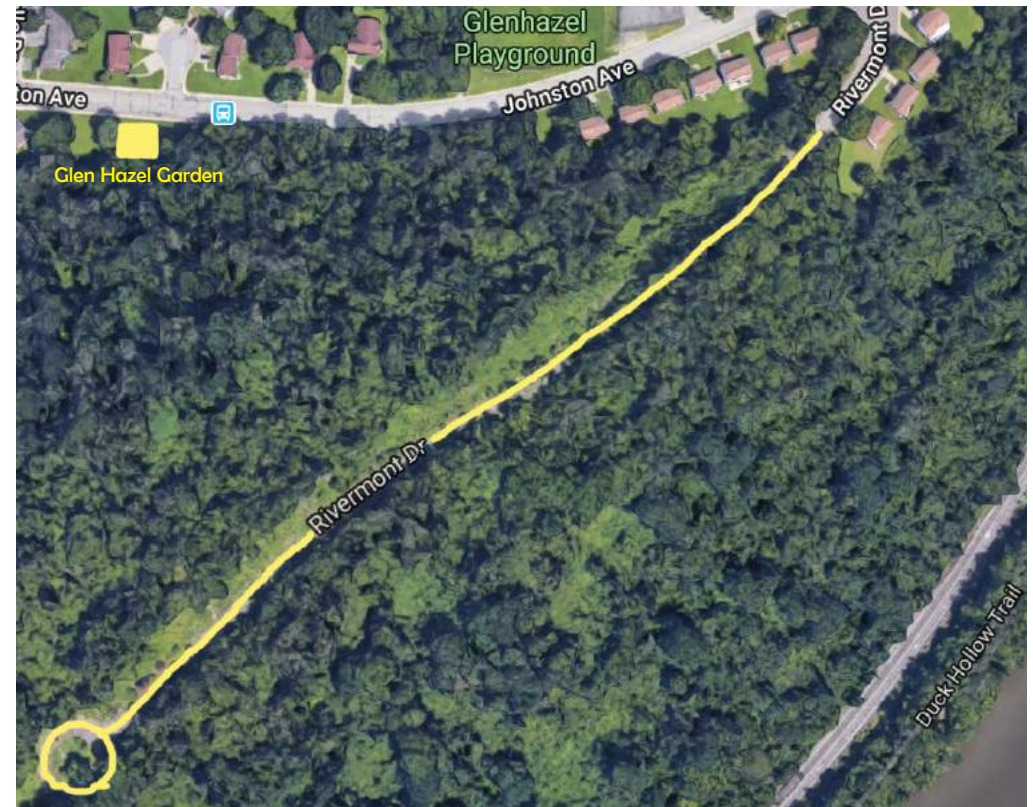


## Rivermont Drive: A Foundation for Food Forestry in the Neighborhood's Southern Section

Just as the area around Gladstone represents a possible production center for the northern section of the Greater Hazelwood area, so too does Rivermont Drive represent a past infrastructure investment that can be salvaged and repurposed to benefit the neighborhood in the future.

Utilizing the Glen Hazel Garden as an intensive propagation zone, this decommissioned street could be lined with productive tree species. Over time, Glen Hazel could incorporate sustainable forest goods production, including such commodities as fruits, nuts, timber, and mushrooms. Eventually, as the system matures, it could even produce some animal products such as meat, milk, or eggs.

By embracing a long term prioritization of greenspace and neighborhood resiliency over traditional development strategies, the valuable ecosystem services (stormwater management, air filtration, food production, etc.) provided by this large patch of forest could be augmented. This neighborhood can certainly do better than damaging valuable habitat for the local bald eagle population: by boosting the degree of human interaction with this site in ecologically positive ways (tree planting, forest management, habitat generation/preservation) it is possible to improve this region both for its human and non-human inhabitants.





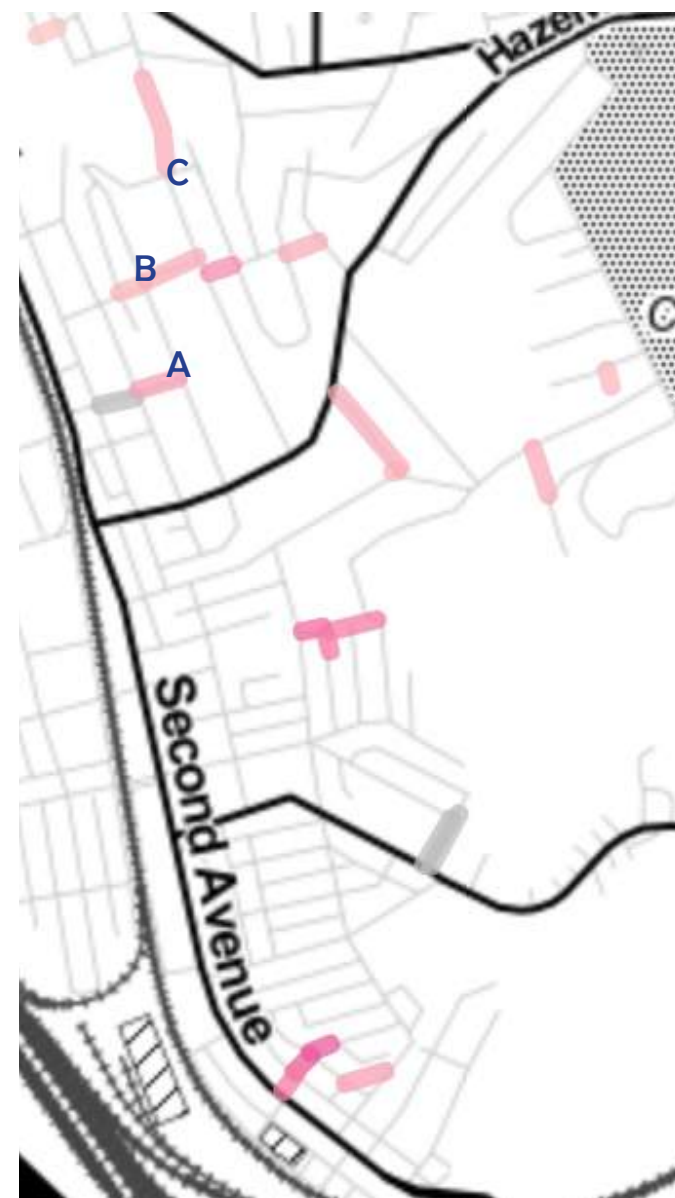
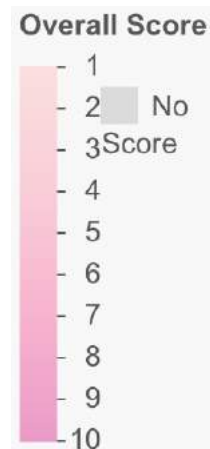
## Pittsburgh City-Steps: An Inheritance of Interconnectivity

Pittsburgh's city steps represent a significant investment in pedestrian infrastructure that has, of late, been woefully underutilized. Rather than allowing this trend to continue, Grounded recommends timely interaction with the City of Pittsburgh in order to formulate a maintenance agreement. By taking advantage of the work that the city has already to prioritize this large scale infrastructure project, it might be possible to encourage more thorough consideration of non-vehicular travelers within the Greater Hazelwood Neighborhood. At right are three particularly salient sets of steps at Berwick Street [A] (conveniently allowing access to the YMCA Garden from Sylvan Avenue), Tullymet Street [B] (between Sylvan Avenue and Chance Way), and Gladstone Street [C] (a convenient pedestrian shortcut to the Greenfield neighborhood).

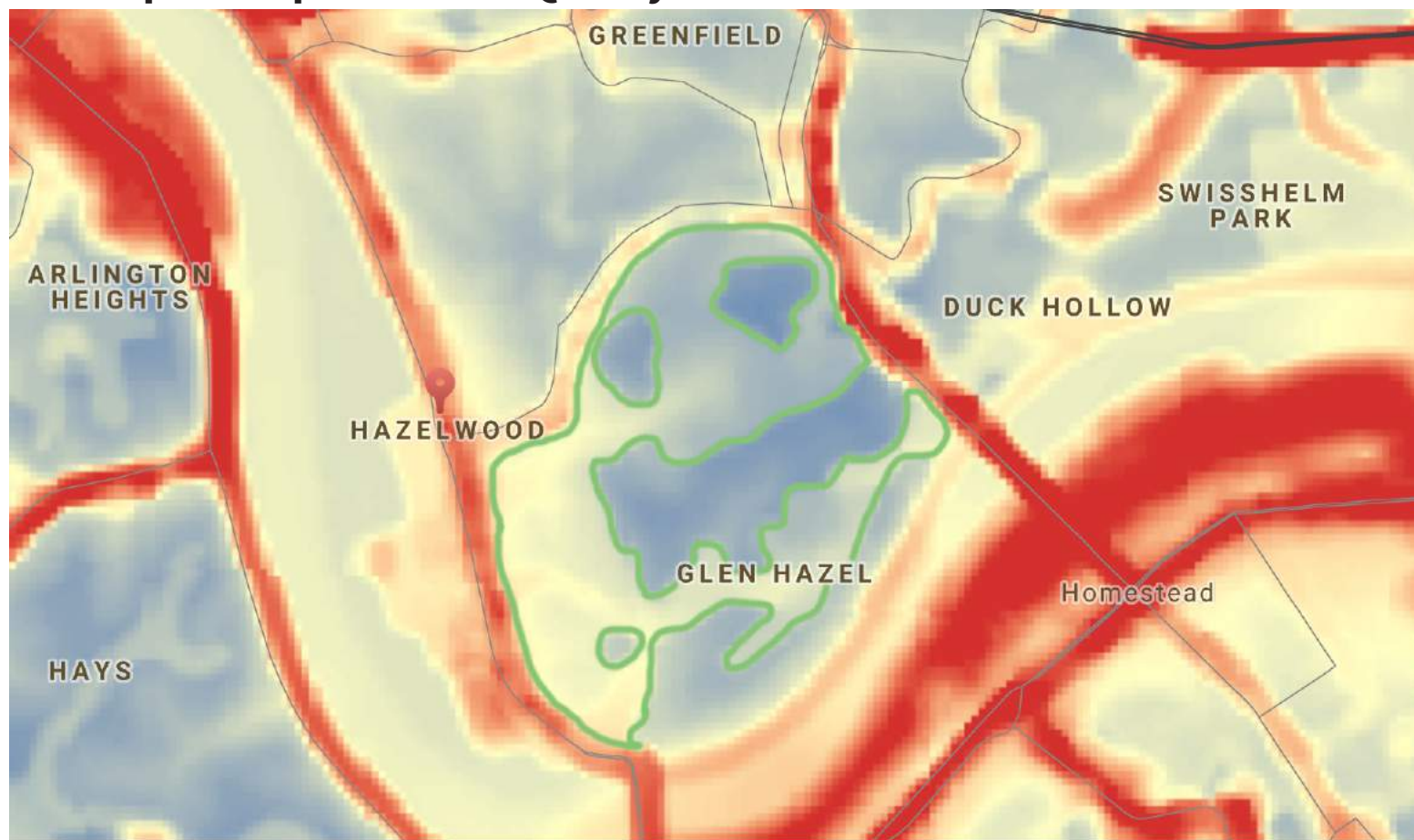
Each of these staircases is in relatively good condition as of autumn 2018, requiring only minor repair, weeding, and paint-touch ups. By further emphasizing walkability in any neighborhood scale development planning, these disused thoroughfares could eventually become pulsing conduits filled with neighbors bustling to and from commercial districts on foot. By applying plantings of edibles and

ornamentals to flank each set of stairs, as well as solar powered illumination, Hazelwood could signal to residents that these routes are not only open for travel, but also safe and inviting.

In concert with other suggestions from this section, these stairs serve as a valuable connection to improve neighborhood connectivity and resilience.

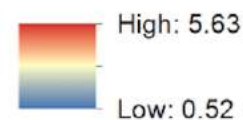


## Greenspace Impacts on Air Quality: Black Carbon



Black carbon (BC) is easily identifiable as black or grey "soot" emitted from a diesel truck, industrial facility, or camp fire. BC is a component of fine particulate matter ( $PM_{2.5}$ ); breathing fine particles increases risks of asthma attacks, heart attacks, reduced lung function, lung cancer, and death. Allegheny County does not meet federal standards for  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations, and BC is part of the problem. In Pittsburgh, the major sources of BC are industrial facilities and diesel vehicles. Elevated BC (and  $PM_{2.5}$ ) concentrations are found in communities in the river valleys, and people living in those communities have higher risks of negative health impacts from pollutant exposures than the county average.

BC ( $\mu g/m^3$ )



In order to mitigate the effects of this transportation lifeline through the neighborhood, Grounded recommends an expansion of the vegetative buffer between the high traffic volume areas illustrated in red (left) and the nearby residential sectors.

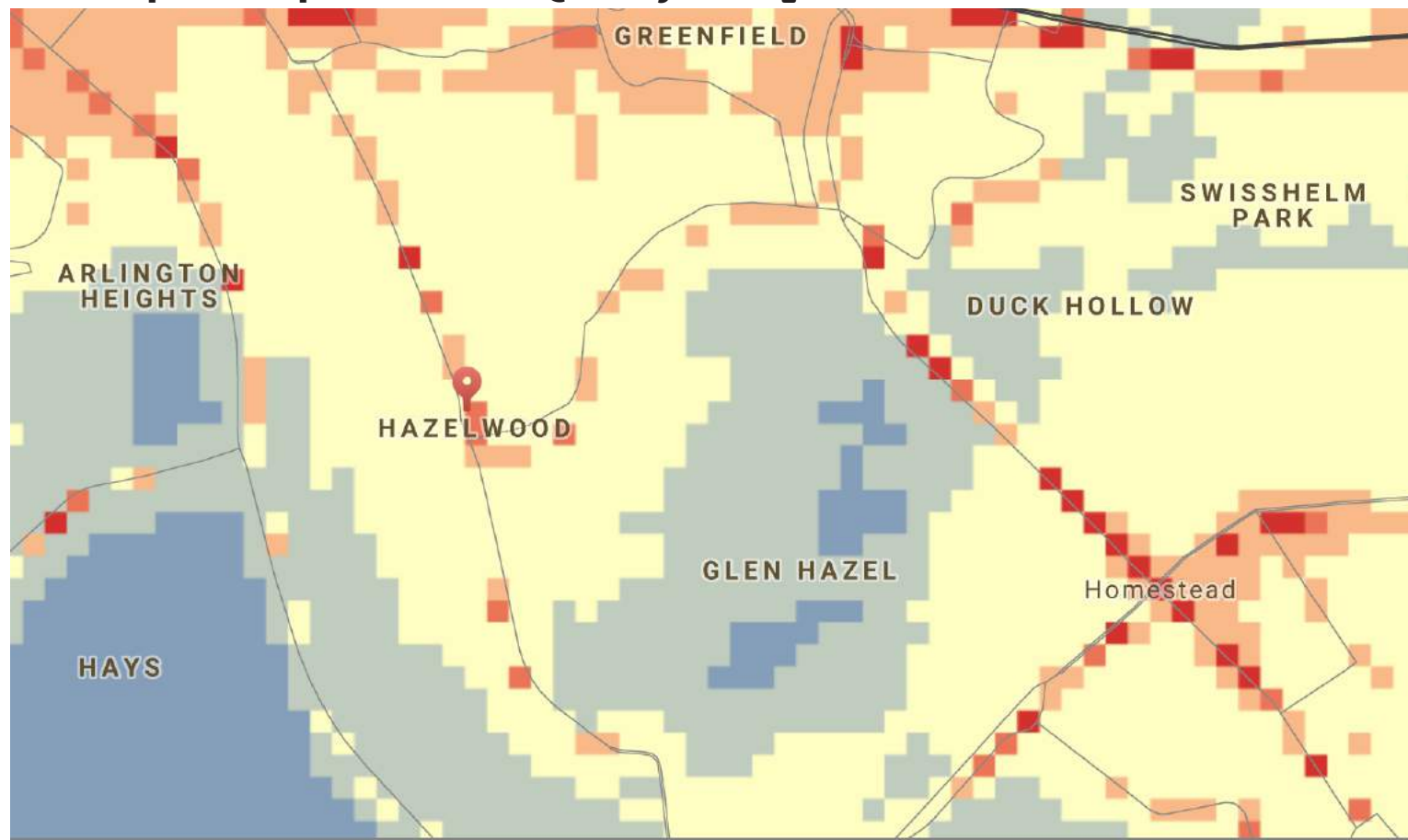
The following species have been identified as highly effective in tempering the effects of air pollution: *Ficus carica* (edible fig), *Chenopodium murale* (nettleleaf goosefoot), *Salix purpurea* (purpleosier willow), *Catalpa speciosa* (northern catalpa), *Syringa meyeri* (Lilac), *Ulmus pumila* (Siberian elm), *Broussonetia papyrifera* (paper mulberry), *Platycladus orientalis* (arbor vitae), *Abies alba* (silver fir), *Picea rubens* (red spruce).

Efforts to improve one area's green infrastructure can often lead to the development of several supporting endeavors in the locality, such as bulk materials suppliers, and nurseries. Propagation of remediation oriented species in Hazelwood could eventually turn into an export business to other communities in atmospheric distress.

Note the area highlighted in green (left): the green line represents the extent of previous clearcutting in the area. The forest still has not yet recovered its previous air filtration capacity.

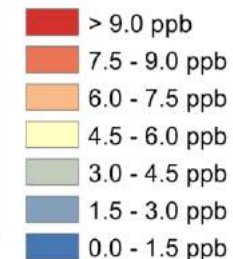


## Greenspace Impacts on Air Quality: Nitrogen Dioxide



Nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is part of a larger class of compounds called nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) that are emitted by cars, trucks, buses, trains, power plants, industrial facilities, and outdoor power equipment. NO<sub>2</sub> is one of the EPA's criteria pollutants that have strict ambient concentration standards. Exposure to NO<sub>2</sub>, even for as little as 30 minutes, increases airway inflammation in healthy people and can worsen asthma symptoms. In Pittsburgh, the highest NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations are found downtown, along major roadways, and near industrial areas. People living or working in these areas have higher risk of airway inflammation and asthma attacks.

### NO<sub>2</sub> concentration



In addition to the health risks listed in the diagram at left, nitrogen oxides also increase the acidity of precipitation. While some of this nitrogen is taken up by plants during the growing season, that which is not contributes to the mobilization and leaching of elements from the soil, including lead (Pb), iron (Fe), aluminum (Al), manganese (Mn), copper (Cu), zinc (Zn), and arsenic (As). Increased mobilization of these elements leads to their infiltration into groundwater sources, which can have negative ecological implications.

Each of the following species is particularly well suited to removing nitrogen oxides from the atmosphere. Additionally, many of these species are trees with relatively large water demands, which could reduce leaching effects by taking up mobilized ions in the soil solution, capturing them before they escape to groundwater. Grounded recommends the following species to combat the negative effects of nitrogen oxides: *Populus nigra* (Lombardy poplar), *Robinia pseudoacacia* (black locust), *Nicotiana tabacum* (cultivated tobacco), *Fagus grandifolia* (American beech), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree), *Populus deltoides* (eastern cottonwood), *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore), *Magnolia kobus* (Kobus magnolia), *Erechtites hieraciifolius* (American burnweed).



## Urban Agriculture Team Chairperson Duties

- ◇ Hold a regular public Monthly Meeting as per Planning Council bylaws, every month except December. Third Tuesday, 6:30 PM at rotating locations in the neighborhood.
- ◇ Send out monthly newsletters detailing goings on at the various garden sites (1-2 sentence brief for each greenspace under the agriculture team's umbrella). These are to be shared on FB, our email page, and archived in an online Blog.
- ◇ Monthly article for Hazelwood Homepage.
- ◇ Administer bed-allotment assignments and other volunteer or member involvement.
  - ◇ Provide oversight or administration to semiautonomous garden steering committees
- ◇ Photograph each site (10 photos) every other month to aid in publicizing the garden's progress/setbacks, and to better demonstrate the need for gardeners when it comes time to weed, prune, or otherwise tend these spaces.
- ◇ Inventory and transport shared tools between garden locations
  - ◇ If tools are not personally transported by the Ag Chair, documentation of chain of custody will be necessary (can be as simple as a handwritten list or as elaborate as an online checklist/report).
- ◇ Schedule seed/media orders in accordance with garden needs and funding availability.
- ◇ Coordinate events in cooperation with outside organizations (Grounded, Grow Pittsburgh, Tree Pittsburgh, etc.) in order to support green space efforts.
  - ◇ Maintain good standing and communication with these local support organizations
- ◇ Attend gatherings of new/prospective greenspace groups as they arise in the Greater Hazelwood area, with the hope of including them under the HI greenspace umbrella.
- ◇ Develop a calendar of Workshops, a repeating series of basic skill-share sessions based on seasonal needs.
  - ◇ Schedule Annual seed-swaps, plant swaps, canned goods swaps, etc
- ◇ Supervise garden tasks for large volunteer groups.
- ◇ Amplify community interest in green spaces through several (~3) events each year.
  - ◇ These might include Planting/Harvest festivals, mulching parties, litter cleanup events, and the induction (grubbing) of new green spaces into the network.
- ◇ Host education sessions to increase local knowledge of helpful/hurtful plant species
  - ◇ Can be built into volunteer workdays/posted in social media.
- ◇ Plan expansions/augmentations to existing green spaces in order to increase their sustainability
  - ◇ Composting facilities
  - ◇ Greenhouses/hoop houses
  - ◇ Tool Sheds
  - ◇ Biogas Digesters
  - ◇ Monitoring stations (weather, air quality, etc.)
  - ◇ Earthworks (swales/ponds/infiltration pits)
  - ◇ Kitchen
  - ◇ Rainwater harvesting
  - ◇ Food Forests
  - ◇ Kernza - perennial grains
  - ◇ Fiber Arts: Sunn Hemp, Kenaf, flax etc. Dyes, Dyer's Garden. Industrial History.
  - ◇ Paper: knotweed
  - ◇ Baskets: vines
  - ◇ Animals: goats or sheep, chickens, bees... (horse traction? Forestry, stone, other incidentals?)
- ◇ Act as a liaison between the production side of things (green spaces/gardens) and local markets (caterers/grocers) in order to reduce/prevent waste of cultivated products.

Hazelwood Community Greenspace Perennial Calendar	Tasks
January	January 8th - Deadline for Fedco seed order
February	Tree Pruning - Nuts, Apples, Pears, Osage Orange, Walnut [Dry day] Monthly Meeting Schedule Begins
March	Seed starting under light trays at Hazelwood Library [Workshop]
April	Seedling transplant/care [Workshop] Mushroom Culture [Workshop]
May	Weeding 101 - Annual Weed ID [Workshop]
June	Weeding 102 - Perennial Weed ID [Workshop]
July	Tree Pruning - Stone fruits (Cherry, Peach, Plum, Pluot, etc.) [Dry day]
August	Processing + Canning [Workshop] Seed Saving [Workshop]
September	Cover Crops [Workshop]
October	Composting 101 - Open systems [Workshop]
November	Composting 102 - Containerized systems [Workshop] Season Extension 101 - Low Tunnels [Workshop] Final Monthly meeting of the year
December	Fallow time - Research for next year

# Hazelwood Community Greenspace Fundraising Plan

A critical element of any sustainable plan is its resource base. Without sufficient funding, materials, and personnel, objectives cannot be achieved. To this end, Grounded Strategies has researched a few funding opportunities that might be applicable to greenspace projects in the Greater Hazelwood Area.

## **Grow Pittsburgh**

- » Small Potatoes & Big Tomatoes Grants

## **Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)**

- » Environmental Education grants
- » Growing Greener

## **Fiskars**

- » Project Orange Thumb

## **Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds**

## **Heinz Foundation - Grant Program**

## **Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts**

## **Pennsylvania American Water**

- » Environmental Grant Program

## **Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA-DCNR)**

- » Community Conservation Partnerships Program
- » Community parks & conservation
- » Pennsylvania recreational trails program
- » Trails program
- » Treevitalize grant program
- » Wild Resource conservation program

## **Pennsylvania Department of Aging**

- » Health and Wellness Program

## **Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture**

- » Agritourism
- » Organic Cost-Share program
- » Good agricultural practices/good handling practices cost-share program
- » PA Grows
- » Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

## **Department of Community and Economic Development**

- » Community Development block grant
- » Community services block grant
- » Flood mitigation
- » Greenways, trails, & recreation program
- » Historic Preservation tax credit
- » Industrial sites reuse program
- » Innovate PA
- » Life Sciences Greenhouse
- » Multimodal Transportation fund
- » Neighborhood assistance program
- » Neighborhood partnership program
- » Special program priorities

## **Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority**

- » Renewable energy Program
- » Watershed restoration protection program

## **Pennsylvania Department of General Services**

- » Federal surplus property program
- » State surplus property program

## **PennDOT**

- » Multimodal transport fund

Hazelwood Community Greenspace Action Plan Fundraising Goals 2019-2020	Q1 2019	Q2 2019	Q3 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Rationale
Shed and Tools	Fundraise	Deploy	Advertise				A relatively low-cost upgrade that can, almost by itself, convert a vacant lot into a community garden.
Perennial Propagules		Fundraise		Deploy	Advertise		Another low cost amenity that appreciates over time. By getting perennials onto sites early, it is possible to eventually source propagules from within the local garden network rather than expending resources to gather them.
New Raised Beds	Fundraise	Deploy	Advertise	Fundraise	Deploy	Advertise	As this plan is implemented, additional gardeners will arrive seeking space to till. Expansion of designated gardening spaces will be pivotal in boosting individual site capacity.
ADA Upgrades	Fundraise	Fundraise	Deploy	Advertise			These moderate cost upgrades required more planning to implement. However, inclusivity is paramount when planning at the community scale. Accessibility upgrades allow more gardeners to participate, lowering the individual maintenance burden.
Earthworks				Fundraise	Fundraise	Fundraise	These expensive upgrades pay long-term dividends by improving site resiliency against extreme weather events as well as increasing surface area and microclimate effects.