
"Put Nature Back. Restore Connections."



Upcoming Events and Eco-Wonderwalks:

LandHealth Institute and **Audubon Mid-Atlantic** Presents: Urban-Eco Wonder Walks - Showcasing the largely hidden wonders of Philly's natural areas! We invite you to fun, entertaining, and educational walks across Philadelphia and other compelling, other-worldly nooks hidden within our city's green areas.

RSVP and more information for our upcoming walk:

[From Water Works to Toad Paradise: The Upper Roxborough Reservoir Preserve](#)
01/06 NEW!

Visit our Events page and RSVP as soon as new events and walks are published!

[Events >>](#)

New on the Blog: The Magic of Soil



Soil is the basis of many things. It's a home to a whole ecosystem hiding from our eyes. Ants and termites, earthworms, beetles, all kinds of organisms live, burrow tunnels, and provide nutrients and minerals in the soil. We walk upon the soil. We grow food and beautiful flora in the soil. The science? Soil makes us happy.

Read the full blog post, "[The Magic of Soil](#)" on our blog page!

Also, check out a past blog, "[Sustainability - How Can You Make a Change?](#)" by Maddie Worth!

[Blogs >>](#)

Team Spotlight: Meghan Lockman



Please give a warm welcome to our new Executive Director, Meghan Lockman!

Meghan previously worked in environmental consulting, and is finishing up her role as ED at Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association.

She will continue to lead fundraising activities and serve as the public face of LandHealth Institute with our current staff and board members starting in late January!

Highlights of 2021

Earth Day



LandHealth celebrates Earth Day with an Urban-Eco Wonderwalk, Wildflowers and Lenni-Lenape Reflections in the Wissahickon!

It was a perfect day for walkers to explore ephemeral spring wildflowers and to learn about their relationship with Earth on Council Rock.



LandHealth's Founder and CEO, Scott Quitel, also wrote a blog for Earth Day, "[Assessing Your Most Vital Relationships](#)."

You can learn more about LandHealth's walk during Earth Day by checking out "[Earth Day Walk Through the Wissahickon](#)."

Sister Cities Park with Center City District



With our partners at Center City District, LandHealth planted over 500 native plants in Logan Square at the Sister Cities Park! Thank you for making this project a reality!!

Love Your Park Week and Whitby Meadows Land Revitalization Project

During Love Your Park Week at Cobbs Creek Park, LandHealth partnered with [Audubon Mid-Atlantic](#) to complete a land revitalization project at Whitby Meadows.

LandHealth has been involved in many projects and programs in this area along the creek where Whitby Meadows is located, including our Program for Future Environmental Scientists and Stewards, Urban-Eco Wonderwalks, and the planting of native plant species right from our Nursery.

Together with our partners at Audubon and a group of volunteers, we were able to clear away the invasive Japanese Knotweed. About 50 native plants from our Native Plant Nursery were planted.



We would like to thank our partners at [Audubon](#), [Fairmount Park Conservancy](#), [John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge](#), [Mobilize Green](#), and also to our group of volunteers, for helping us bring forth this project!

Read more about the [Whitby Meadows Project](#) and the volunteers involved!



WeWalk Wonderwalks



LandHealth partnered with [WeWalkPHL](#) from the Fairmount Park Conservancy to create the WeWalk Wonderwalks series! These walks were co-lead by Scott Quitel and WeWalkPHL leaders.

This collaboration allowed LandHealth to grow and follow their mission to reconnect people and nature. We hope to bring more fun, new walks next year!

Abandoned Lot Revitalization

On the corner of 49th and Parkside Ave, just outside of the gates of the [LandHealth Native Plant Nursery](#), sits an abandoned lot. It is now a small community garden with a mural!

Approximately two full bags of trash were collected from the lot. Non-native plants were removed and replaced by hardy, native plants from our Nursery including Mountain Mint, Panic Grass, and Black-Eyed Susans.



The mural depicted a strong black woman, and also represented the duality of Mother Nature, such as the native greenery that surrounds the brick and concrete world that we have constructed, and the native, but endangered flowers of Philadelphia in her hair.

Blue skies symbolizes the hope and bliss that can be achieved with community connection and efforts to protect our natural world.

Read more about the [Abandoned Lot Revitalization Project!](#)



Farmer's Market



LandHealth sold their native perennials from the Nursery and t-shirts throughout the summer and fall at the Food Trust's Fidler Square Farmers Market and at East Parkside Farmers Market! We love meeting everyone who came out to see us- check us out next growing season!

Students at the Nursery

Year-round, we work to make sure that our plants stay healthy and are ready to bloom when their flowering season comes around. But LandHealth's Native Plant Nursery isn't just a destination for flora!

Students from Belmont Charter, the Philadelphia School, and other groups of students partook in immersive, interdisciplinary, project-based 'at the source' education while helping with routine nursery activities such as watering and potting!

Students also helped at another one of LandHealth's partner, Glen Foerd. They learned boat skills and kayaking, as well as the environment, water and watersheds.



Together with Glen Foerd staff, students helped clear a site at the Glen Foerd Park and put native plants into the ground!



Program for Future Environmental Scientists and Stewards (ProFESS)

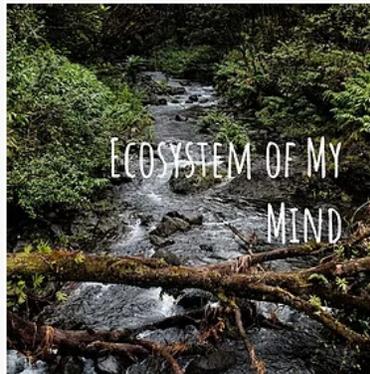


This year, ProFESS (formerly PWS) was in its fifth year to empower 9th-12th grade students in Philadelphia to our next generation of environmental scientists and stewards! Thank you to our partners at Audubon and the Discovery Center for giving students the chance to learn more about native/invasive species, Strawberry Mansion, and environmental racism!



ProFESS graduates joined staff and park naturalists from the Stroud Water Research Center and Marsh Creek State Park on a wonderful canoe trip across the reservoir in the rolling hills of north central Chester County, and also visited the Haverford College Arboretum and Farm to participate in a walk and workshops!

[ProFESS 2021 >>](#)



Podcast Series: Ecosystem of My Mind

Interested in learning more about LandHealth Institute, urban ecology, and the city of Philadelphia? Check out our past podcast episodes on our events [archives](#) or on [Anchor!](#) Our founder Scott Quitel covers a variety of topics on our rebranded podcast series, *Ecosystem of the Mind*.

We'd like to know what you're interested in learning! Take the survey to help LandHealth learn about what you want to listen in to and how upcoming podcasts can be improved!

[Take the Survey!](#)

[Become a Member Today!](#)

All Urban-Eco Wonderwalks are free for LandHealth members, who also receive exclusive merch: tees, plants from our native plant nursery, custom art, and landscaping!

Members Newsletter are sent out on the first Monday of each month!

[Learn more and become a member today!](#)

*Membership is valid for one year and can be renewed annually.



Help Put Nature Back

We are grateful for all of you who support LandHealth Institute's core work in ecological restoration, land revitalization, and immersive environmental education!

[Donate >>](#)

Thank you for supporting LandHealth Institute!

Stay warm, and we'll see you in the next newsletter!

LandHealth Institute |
<https://www.landhealthinstitute.org/>

