



New Yorkers for Parks is the citywide independent organization championing quality parks and open spaces for all New Yorkers in all neighborhoods.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS



We're Ensuring that the Next Mayor Prioritizes Parks

Parks are an essential city service, and in the run-up to this fall's election, we developed Parks Platform 2013 to ensure that public spaces are prioritized by the next Administration. In addition to meeting with candidates and their teams, we engaged hundreds of New Yorkers through an April town hall, public meetings, media, and an August rally at City Hall.



We're Protecting Flushing Meadows Corona Park from Privatization

In connection with City Council approval of two development projects – the National Tennis Center's expansion and Queens Development Group's Willets West project – our advocacy helped deliver more than \$25 million to improve and maintain FMCP and seed a new non-profit alliance for the park. No publicly usable parkland was lost in the process. Additionally, NY4P publicly opposed Major League Soccer's proposal to alienate 13 acres in the heart of FMCP for a professional soccer stadium, and the new team and the City are seeking an alternate site.



We're Working with NYCHA to Enhance Its Open Spaces

We're partnering with the New York City Housing Authority to conduct an open space analysis of Mott Haven in the South Bronx as part of a comprehensive community plan. We're also advising NYCHA on how to balance infill development with open space improvements, and collaborating once again with its Garden and Greening Program and resident youth on Daffodil Project plantings at public housing developments citywide.



We Reported on the Conditions of New York City's Large Parks

The latest installment of our award-winning Report Card series, released in March, assessed the conditions of 46 parks between 20 and 500 acres. The publication, a progress report on the same parks we surveyed in 2010, revealed that overall, the conditions of large parks has improved, though many individual parks have actually declined.



We Analyzed Open Space Resources on Manhattan's East Side

Using our Open Space Index, a set of NYC-specific benchmarks for neighborhood open space and environmental sustainability, we surveyed every block of Manhattan Council Districts 4 and 5. Our report reveals that the East Side doesn't measure up, giving residents and public officials detailed data to prioritize their needs and target investment.



We're Helping Protect and Enlarge the City's Natural Areas

Natural areas are critical to New York City's drainage, flood mitigation and long-term sustainability. As part of the Advisory Group to the Natural Areas Conservancy, a public-private partnership overseeing the City's 10,000 acres of wetlands and woodlands, we are helping launch the new organization, advocating for the transfer of more natural areas into its portfolio and better connections between surrounding communities and these resources.



We'll Report on New Yorkers' Use and Perceptions of Local Playgrounds

Partnering with New York University, we undertook an unprecedented study of playground usership, testing a methodology to determine seasonal visitation at New York's playgrounds and surveying users' perceptions about the cleanliness, safety and overall quality of their playgrounds. The report will be released in November.