



TEAM MEMBER NAME _____ DATE _____

Green space is the undeveloped areas of a community. It includes parks, greenways, easements, forests, wilderness, and waterways. This land supports native species, maintains natural ecological processes, sustains air and water resources, and contributes to the health and quality of life for people.

OBJECTIVE

Research the geographic distribution of your community’s green space over the following time periods:

- 1900s
- 1960s
- Today

RESOURCES

Consider which of these resources might be helpful for your team:

- U.S. Geological Survey topoView website, which includes current and historical maps (visit ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview and select “Get Maps”)
- Your town or city’s planning offices
- Your town or city’s soil and water conservation department
- Your town or city’s parks and forestry departments
- Local museum or historical society
- Local environmental organizations
- Local land trust
- Interviews: Talk to elders about changes they’ve observed
- Personal exploration: Think about how changes in your community’s green space affect its visual character. Look at newly developed areas. What was there before the development? Are there overgrown areas that once thrived? Old tree stumps?

What other resources can you find?



CAREER CORNER

URBAN FORESTERS plant, care for, and protect a city’s tree population. Urban forests provide shade, improve air quality, reduce energy use, absorb carbon dioxide, and add beauty. For information about this and other forest careers, see Explore Green Jobs at plt.org/workforforests.

I LOVE MY
GREEN JOB!

