



Teens working on solutions for a healthier, sustainable future

## Mission Statement

Teens for Trees is focused on cultivating awareness about how trees impact climate, human health outcomes, quality of life, and social justice.

## About us



Teens for Trees is focused on cultivating education and awareness about the impacts of planting and caring for urban trees for high school students. The tree makeup of a community can impact the quality of life for all residents. Unfortunately, many low-income neighborhoods are not given the luxury of flourishing urban trees, which disproportionately impacts communities of color.

[Read More](#)

## Recent Events

**Neighborhood Nature Walk**  
Monday September 26  
5:00 pm: Refreshments and cookies in the main lounge  
5:30 - 6:15 pm: Guided local walk

Learn about the parks of NYC, local trees and wildlife, the history of the I-House neighborhood and more!  
This event is brought to you by Teens 4 Trees.  
To learn more, visit [www.teensfortrees.com](http://www.teensfortrees.com)

[Read More](#)

## Our latest Research

### Society and Nature: Can They Cohabitate?

Chen Bahayns  
Dr. Koeh  
Eco Fellows Junior Year, Spring 2022  
Topic: Urban Ecology

**Society and Nature: Can They Cohabitate?**

Society has begun to yearn for a balance between nature and human civilization that links human lives with the natural world, creating a sense of meaning and connectivity (Wheeler, 2012). Sentiments like these are the focus behind the sustainability movement's wings (Wheeler, 2012). Wheeler's observations parallel those that Katherine Schultz expresses in her article, "What Do We Hope to Find When We Look for a Sustainable?" In her article, Schultz analyzes and criticizes Peter Malinowski's book, *The House of Earth*, and Sylvia Trosser's book, *The Art of Patience*. However, Schultz seems to have a more nihilistic view on the effects of people wanting to become so close to nature. Schultz quotes Sylvia Trosser, who believes "culture" as the opposite of nature and therefore disposable" (Schultz, 2021). Trosser's argument that the rise of culture is a direct cause of natural degradation has an unfortunate ring of truth. Society sees itself as separate from nature, yet humans survive by exploiting nature's biodiversity (ESBudge, 2014). This separation creates a society blind to its reliance on the very things they are damaging. Many societies continue to follow the BAU, or "business as usual," in terms of climate change policy (Wheeler, 2012).

The push toward sustainability is countered by the lack of policy action in the places that matter most (Wheeler, 2012). However, unlike Trosser, many people want to explore how urban society can connect with the natural world. First used in the 1930s by the Chicago School of Urban Sociology, the term "urban ecology" was used to describe the application of ecological concepts to studies on human communities in urban areas (Wheeler, 2012). The fact that the term "urban ecology" was used interchangeably with "human ecology" is evidence of how integral sociology and psychology are to urban ecology. Urban ecology is now understood to be a blend of natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and engineering. In fact, a large component of urban ecology involves applying environmental and psychological theories to society and using

[Read More](#)



## Events

Thank you to everyone who attended our most recent event at the International House of New York!

Our walk included Sakura Park, Grant's Tomb and mall, Riverside Drive and Riverside Park. We'll be back soon for a Central Park walk! Sign up to our mailing list to be the first to here.

