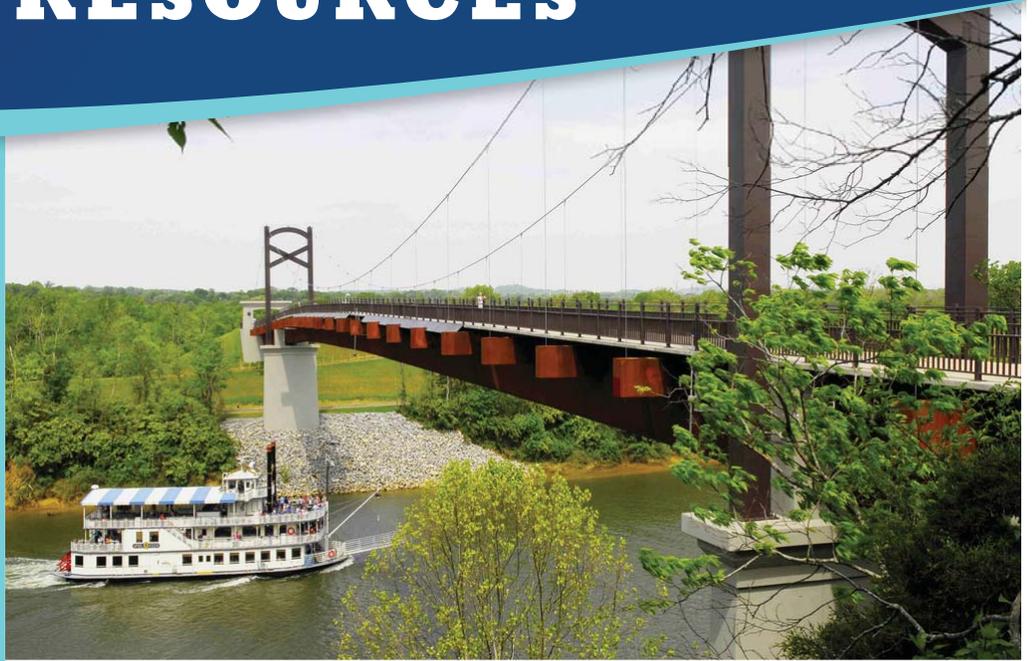
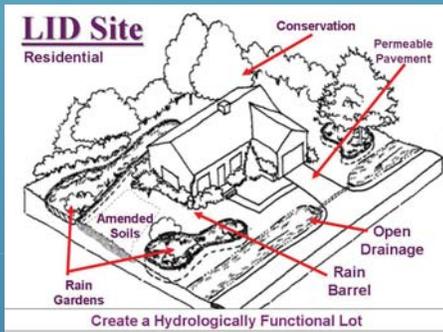


# NATURAL RESOURCES



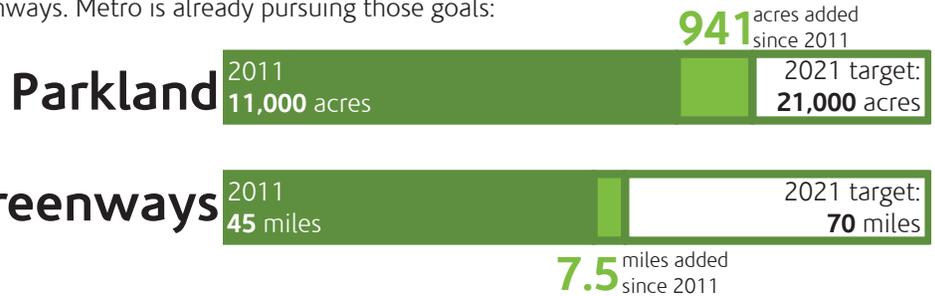
## DID YOU KNOW?

- » In 2008, Mayor Karl Dean established the Green Ribbon Committee on Environmental Sustainability to ensure that Nashville continues to be a livable city.
- » Nashville contains approximately 2,500 miles of rivers and streams. 300 miles are impaired due to pathogens, sediment, habitat alteration, nutrients, oil and grease, and low dissolved oxygen.
- » Middle Tennessee is the only place in the world where unique areas of rocky cedar glades are found.
- » 100% of Nashville's drinking water comes from the Cumberland River.
- » Davidson County lost 9,172 acres of farmland from 2002 to 2007, or nearly 1 in every 5 acres.
- » Low Impact Development (LID) is a design strategy that attempts to mimic a site's natural hydrology by managing stormwater close to its source by allowing water to infiltrate or be used onsite.



## Progress toward open space goals

The 2011 Open Space Master Plan set ambitious goals for conservation, parkland, and greenways. Metro is already pursuing those goals:

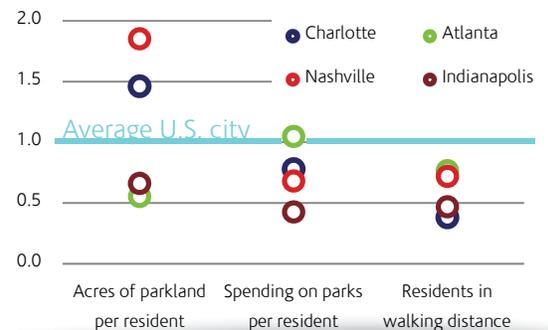


**Trees** provide multiple benefits to the community and property owners: beauty, shade and cooler temperatures, cleaner air & water, and reduced noise & stress.



### How do we compare?

Nashville has nearly twice as much parkland as the average U.S. city, but spends less on them. Fewer Nashvillians can walk to parks.



NASHVILLENEXT.NET

This background report is one of several developed to provide input to the NashvilleNext planning process and provide a starting point for broader community discussion. Any final policies and recommendations endorsed by the NashvilleNext Steering Committee for the consideration of the Metropolitan Planning Commission will be the result of the entire planning process and upcoming community engagement and discussion. This is a brief summary of the Natural Resources background report. The reader is encouraged to read the entire report at [www.nashvillenext.net](http://www.nashvillenext.net)



# NATURAL RESOURCES

## Nashville's Natural Resources

There are many benefits for preserving our natural resources, including providing green space, filtering impurities from water runoff, providing flood and erosion control, recharging groundwater, creating/enhancing wildlife habitat areas, providing agricultural lands for farming and food production, preserving archeological sites, providing tree cover that helps filter air and moderate temperatures, providing scenic beauty and recreational opportunities, providing energy sources, and providing jobs and other economic benefits.

This report builds off of the Together Making Nashville Green Report, the Nashville Open Space Plan, Managing Nashville's Urban Forests, the Low Impact Development Manual, and the Green Infrastructure Master Plan and the efforts to implement each of them.

Among others, the report recommends actions to:

- Increase the use of Low Impact Development techniques and green infrastructure
- Develop watershed management plans
- Continue to preserve existing trees and plant additional trees
- Explore a stable funding source for planting and maintaining trees and tree canopy
- Continue implementation of the Nashville Open Space Plan
- Continue to encourage private land conservation
- Explore ways to increase local food production
- Explore ways to increase the use of local foods by Nashville's largest food consumers

