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See What People Say about Green Maps!

In Green Mapmaking, "seeing" a community means being aware of its rhythms of growth and decay, of seasonal transformations in the natural and built environment, of local fauna and flora, and of what sustains (and threatens) life. It means asking the questions: Is this community healthy enough? How can I sustain and improve life in the place that I live?

-Robert W. Zuber, *Green Teacher*, Summer 1999

See What People are Saying About Green Maps!

Most of these comments come from our [Guestbook](#). You are invited to add your thoughts there.

"This is a genuine contribution to global change. Onward..."
--Antonia Daly, New York City

"I think that these maps are a wonderful idea--the whole idea of a Green Map identifying environmental, economic and social areas for the community really shows that we should be looking at all 3 of these topic areas when we talk about environmental education. It would be great if every community could have this!"
--Ginger Potter, Senior EE Specialist, US EPA

"I have a new way to introduce our neighborhood to my son. Thanks for all."
--Lefidus Malau Jakarta, Indonesia

"I love your project - first read about it in Orion Afield. Hopefully, I can be a part of a greenmap project in the near future."
-- Mark Everson Logan, UT

"I have spent hours gathering and collecting books, maps, and guides to all of the wonderful things that Edmonton has to offer (for my own use). I was amazed at how many different web sites and publications I had to sort through to find the information I was looking for. When I heard about the Green Map System I saw a great opportunity to share the information I had gathered in a way that everybody could access and find what they were looking for..."
-- Christopher Dennis, Edmonton Canada

"Fantastic site and great ideas and I'm very excited by the idea of mapping with young people in and around Bristol..."
--Jude English, Bristol England

"Thank you for your wonderful project. I think the information on the website is great. I'm truly happy to be the first South American to join greenmap system."
-- César Levy França, Araxa, Brasil

-"the map, through its organization, has brought out themes: this allowed

me a broad view of a city that can overwhelm in its manifold details."
-- Bill Whelan, NY

"Great idea, in the true spirit of Local Agenda 21, community spirit, networking and greening."
-- James Rea, London, UK

"Your Green Map effort is the beginning of a great era of healing and reconnection."
-- Richard Brault, Toronto

"Your site looks great! I've added it to the new and featured section of the [EcoJustice Network](#)."
-- Alair for the EcoJustice Network

"This is an excellent concept!"
--Theuns Duvenhage Welkom, South Africa

"The green map is an informative document! You manage to maintain an encouraging balance by providing the information without seeming to be critical - telling it as it is!"
--Jeremy Godfree, Halifax

"It reminds us that we're doing the right thing by living in a city and saving more room for the wilderness."
--Peter Meitzler, NYC

Quotes in the Press

Local community groups create their own maps using Green Map System software and a universal iconography that is not English language-dependent. Young mapmakers are involved, too.
-- **Globe Correspondent**, Diane Daniel, July 16th, 2006

Brawer and an international group of designers created a set of open-source tools and icons in 1995. Since then, locals in 46 countries have started more than 330 related projects to create their own green maps, and student groups have also gotten involved.
-- **Grist Magazine**, Tim Sprinkle, April 18, 2006

Green Maps and guides are practical tools for promoting urban sustainability.
-- **World Urban Forum 3**, Actionable Ideas Workbook.

Green Map is the most effective truly distributed grassroots global project I have ever seen online. It is unique in creating a diverse yet coherently unified phenomenon where each locality is autonomous and self-organizing, and yet the system as a whole is also unified and coherent through the shared icons and a loose network that chooses to gather with each other for live face-to-face meetings.
-- **Jim Fournier**, Planetnetwork Director

The work of Green Mapping and community mapping has been taken up all around the world: squatters in Argentina, students in Cuba, survivors of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, the indigenous peoples of British Columbia, and on and on.
-- **National Catholic Reporter**, Jeff Severns Guntzel, June 17 2005

The concept (green maps) has caused excitement among ecologists worldwide, who tout it as an alternative to formal cartography, aiming to redraw local maps to include a radical community perspective and include details missed by traditional map-makers.
-- **The Herald**, Damien Henderson, April 2005

The philosopher Alfred Korzybski reminded us that 'the map is not the territory.' But Green Maps show us the way to remaking territory--they're

inspiring and delightful for any map lover concerned with hope for the earth. It's wonderful to have them brought together in a way accessible to people everywhere.

--**Ernest Callenbach**, author of ECOTOPIA and ECOTOPIA EMERGING

Points of Interest: Green Map System's free or low-cost maps pinpoint earth-friendly sites: recycling centers, wildlife viewing areas, gardens, parks, and interesting exhibits such as solar powered waterfalls in Manhattan.

--**National Geographic Traveler**, November 2000

Whether helping people create a comprehensive view of a region or a close-up of a city neighborhood, the Green Map System is ultimately about the recognition and the revitalization of sustainable living.

--**Orion Afield**, Autumn 1999

...as self-portraits by communities with different features and characteristics, the maps have distinctive flavors, scopes and scales. Yet they can also be understood across nations and cultures, thanks to their use of a shared universal icon set and the project's open-source, collaborative tools and methodologies.

--**Sphere magazine**, Emmy Kondo, Spring 2000

Green Streets: Volunteers and students re-chart the world's cities.

--**Utne Reader**, May 2000

The foundation of the system is a "living language" of icons that identify everything from star-gazing sites to toxic dumps. With every new region, the lexicon grows. African mappers added soil erosion and poaching, for example; Singapore flagged mangrove forests.

--**Adbusters**, January 2001

A green map is especially useful to seniors who want to visit the city without the traffic and turmoil - and who care about leaving a healthier planet for our grandchildren.

--**New York Newsday** Senior Travel column, Rhoda Amon, July 1998

Path Finder: If you're looking to walk instead of drive, the Green Apple Map specializes in "urban ecology adventures"- parks, wetlands, and community gardens in and around the city. If you are looking for what to walk away from, it also highlights landfills and other toxic areas.

--**New York Magazine**, May 2000

The predominant view was that, other than a few historic but beleaguered parks, the Big Apple wasn't "green" at all. But the power of a good map is that it can alter one's view of the world; and when Brawer unveiled her green map of New York it opened people's eyes - indeed, there are ecologically significant places within the concrete jungle.

--**Landscape Architecture**, April 1999

Green Light District: One bad apple may spoil the lot, but one green apple can start a trend.

--**Metropolis Magazine**, April 1998

Green maps stimulate discussion. They locate action and help empower those areas left out of the picture. Green maps signal how things could be different.

--**EcoDesign Magazine**, Scot Fletcher (Liverpool Mapmaker), Summer 1999

...the maps will encourage cooperation between environmental pressure groups and act as an incentive to companies and organisations...The map launch came as Environment Minister Michael Meacher called for the people of Merseyside to "stop, listen and care" for the nature that surrounds them.

--**Liverpool's Daily Post**, Phillipa Bellis, March 1999

"In a project like this, the process is almost as important as the product," Jim Banks, Eco-Montreal mapmaker explains. "It's amazing how this system can be adapted...I've even been approached by medical professionals who want to include cancer rates near industrial zones on the map".

--**Business magazine**, September 1998

"I hope that our work will be useful to others down the road and will help in the preservation of the things we thought were important, such as the hawks, and the tree forts, and the cloud watching place and all the significant places we paid special attention to."

--**Calgary's City Vision News**, Jon Kohli, 7th grade mapmaker, Summer 1999

"A Green Map is an advocacy tool that people can use to understand what's happening in their community and how they can get involved," Beth Ferguson (Holyoke Mapmaker).

--**Hampshire Reports**, September 2000.

Danish: Hvis man gerne vil støtte den økologiske bølge, løber man ind i mellem ind i problemer. Det kan være svært at finde de økologiske produkter. Men med EcoMap er økologiske initiativer blevet overskueliggjort. **English:** "It is sometimes difficult to support the ecological wave even when you want to. It can be tough to find ecological products. But EcoMap has made it easy to find the ecological initiatives."

--**Helse, Health Magazine**, September 2000

Danish: EcoMap 2000 indholder økologiske caféer, forretninger, overnatningssteder, byggematerialer og andre grønne initiativer udvalgt på baggrund af nøje udvalgte kriterier. EcoMap er en del af det prisbelønnede Green Map System. **English:** "EcoMap 2000 covers eco cafés, shops, businesses, sleep-ins, building material outlets and other green initiatives, all evaluated according to carefully designed criteria. EcoMap is part of the award-winning Green Map System".

--**Politiken Newspaper**, June 2000

What becomes clear following the explanations of the enthusiastic people from all over the world: A green map is not only a special type of city map. It is a process making cities more sustainable and creating a better living environment.

--**EXPO 2000 Daily News**, Ulrike Bleistein, October 2000

Green Maps are not your basic bit of cartography.

--**San Diego Union Tribune**, March 1998

With a Green Map in hand, you'll have all the information you need to live an environmentally aware lifestyle in the heart of the concrete jungle.

--**New Age Journal**, January 1997

The vast majority of local people will neither know all of the initiatives nor have any perception that the individual elements are beginning to contribute to making their home town more environmentally sustainable. It is even less likely that visitors will gain any picture of what is being achieved. It is to solve this problem that the Green Map System has been developed.

--**Town & County Planner UK** by Paul Burrell, June 1996

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