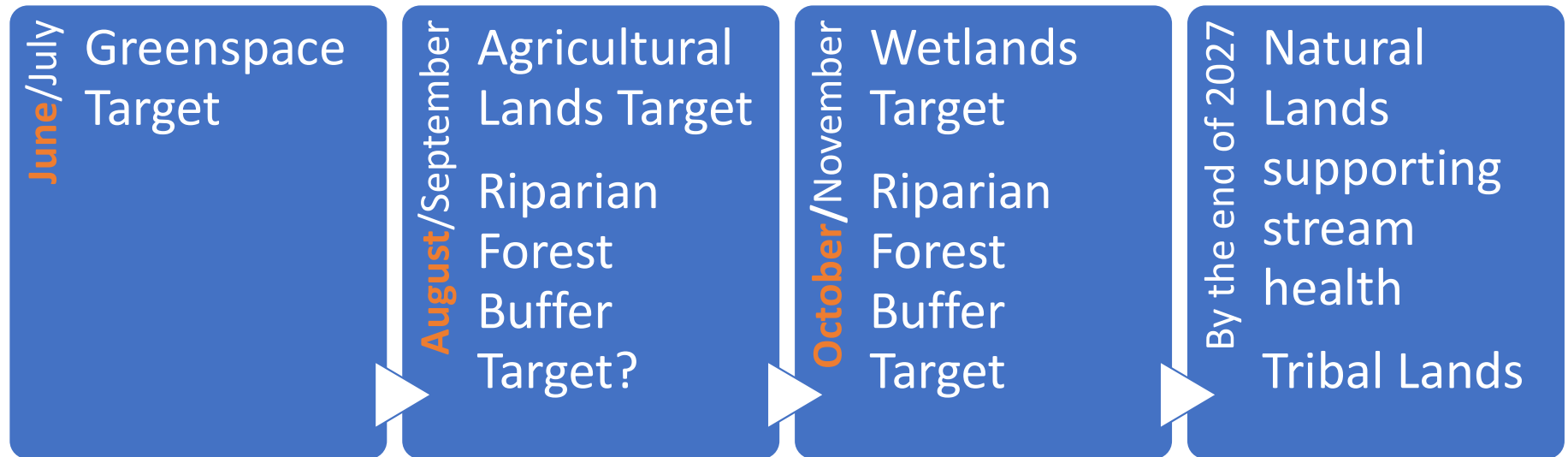




Greenspace Target: Goal Setting

Proposed Timeline



Chesapeake Bay Program Greenspace Definition

Urban and Community Greenspaces are publicly accessible lands in census-designated places and urban areas that provide opportunities for both passive and active recreation while offering exposure to nature. These public spaces deliver human health, community, and environmental benefits and include, but are not limited to, parks, trails, gardens, sports fields, waterfronts, outdoor gathering areas, and natural landscapes like forests or grasslands.



Connection to other outcomes



Conserve tree canopy within communities by reducing the rate of loss of existing canopy and planting and maintaining 45,000 acres of trees by 2040 to achieve a net gain in canopy over the long term.



Increase access to existing urban and community green spaces identified in the protected lands dataset.

Land Use Analysis

Merged and dissolved urban areas and census places layers to create the footprint

Clipped the Protected Lands Indicator to that footprint

Projected lands data into a 10m resolution raster

Ran a zonal summary

Population in Urban Areas and Census places

2020 census block groups clipped to urban areas and census places footprint

Summed population count

Baselines

Acres of urban areas and census places in the Watershed (2020 data):
7,002,790.96 acres

Protected acres in urban areas and census places :
510,268.48 acres (7.2% of urban land protected)

*Publicly accessible protected lands in urban areas and census places:
36,374.87 acres

- 12,064,697 people live within the urban and census places footprints

*PLI has limited public access attribution.

Land Use of Interest in Protected Lands in Urban Areas and Census Places

Forest:
314,089 acres

Agriculture:
44,067 acres

Natural
Succession:
30,258 acres

Tree Canopy:
6,150 acres

How much green space should we be preserving?

- The World Health Organization suggests 9 m² of green space per individual, with an ideal greenspace value of 50 m² per capita (1)
- UN-Habitat's research shows that well-functioning cities have around 50% of the surface area dedicated to public space, with a third of that for nature (about 15%) (2).

Per Capita Numbers

Amount of greenspace	What does that look like?	acres	
9 m ² of green space per individual	108,582,273 m ²	26,831.26 acres	✓
50 m ² of green space per individual	603,234,850 m ²	149,062.58 acres	✓

Sum of acres

- Current protection of community and green spaces in the urban areas and census places: **510,268 acres**
- **15% of urban lands**
 - **1,050,419 acres**
 - **Target:** By 2040, protect an additional 540,150 acres of community and green spaces in the urban and census places footprint
- **10% of urban land**
 - **700,279 acres**
 - **Target:** By 2040, protect an additional 190,011 acres of community and green spaces in the urban and census places footprint
- **Target focused on specific land use**
 - **Target:** Increase protection of forested community and green space by x acres/%

DATA REQUIREMENTS

PAWG seems to be interested in this option

PROTECTING MOST URBAN ACREAGE

- From 300,000 to 350,000 acres
- 500 X 100 acre preserved lands

- Inventory of urban/community greenspace
- **Sum acres**

PROTECTING NEAR MOST PEOPLE

- 2M people within walking distance
- 500 x 4,000 people

- Inventory of urban/community greenspace
- 10MW network analysis (e.g. ParkServe)
- **Sum people**

PROTECTING IN PARK ACCESS GAPS

- Increase 10MW from 60% to 68% (1M more people)
- 200 x 4,000 people

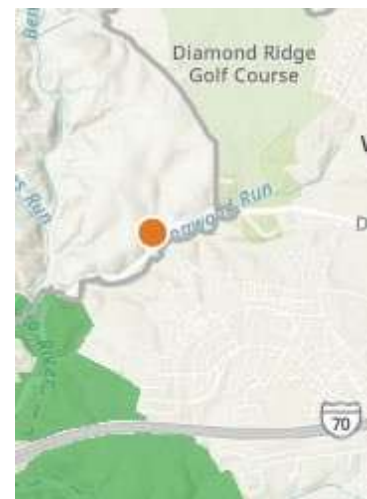
- Inventory of urban/community greenspace
- 10MW network analysis (e.g. ParkServe)
- Completed inventory of existing public space
- **Sum people**



Dogwood Road

Baltimore County, MD

- 110 acres
 - 2,000 people within walking distance
 - ~500 people without existing park access
- (May not technically be within urban area)*

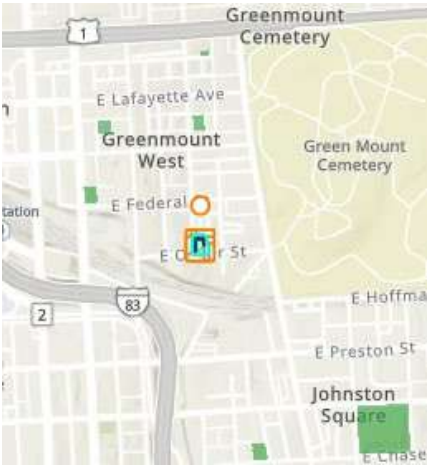




Barclay Oliver Garden

Baltimore, MD

- <1 acre
- **7,000 people within walking distance**
- 0 people without existing park access



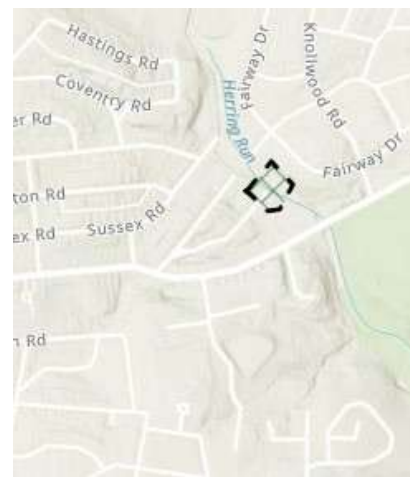
Picture: Baltimore Green Space



Worthington Road

Towson, MD

- Part of Six Bridges Trail project
- 2 acres
- 2,000 people within walking distance
- **2,000 people without existing park access**



Picture: Baltimore County

Discussion Questions

- Given the different target options, which do you feel best aligns with the work your jurisdiction is doing?
- Which target type would create the most meaningful change for the communities you serve?
- What challenges or limitations in your jurisdiction's data, capacity, or current planning efforts would affect which target type is most realistic to implement?

Sources

- (1) Russo, A., & Cirella, G. T. (2018). Modern Compact Cities: How Much Greenery Do We Need? *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 15(10), 2180.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph15102180>
- (2) <https://unhabitat.org/topic/public-space>
- (3) <https://www.deloitte.com/global/en/industries/government-public/perspectives/urban-future-with-a-purpose/green-planning-of-public-spaces.html>

Options

- Should it be an acreage target?
 - An absolute increase
 - Example: by 2040, protected X acres of greenspace
 - A percent increase
 - Example: by 2040, protected X% of greenspace in census-designated places and urban areas
- Should it be a target number?
 - Example: X number of green space sites by 2040
 - Example: X number of people near greenspaces
- access-based target- PAWG
 - Example: “Ensure that X% of residents in census-designated places live within a 10-minute walk of green space.”
 - Public Access workgroup is working on an access-based target