National Park Service Intersection of Nature & Mental Health





Agenda

01	Speaker Introductions
02	Speaker Presentations
03	Panel Discussion
04	Questions

Speaker Introductions



Vaile Wright

Senior Director of Health Care
Innovation
(American Psychological Association)



Allison Colman

Director of Health
(National Recreation and Park
Association)



Keith Tidball

Senior Extension Associate
(Department of Natural Resources
& the Environment, Cornell
University)

State of Mental Health in the US: Who is impacted, why, and what can we do about it?

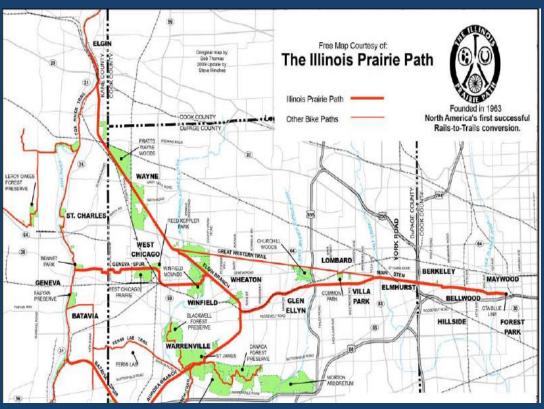


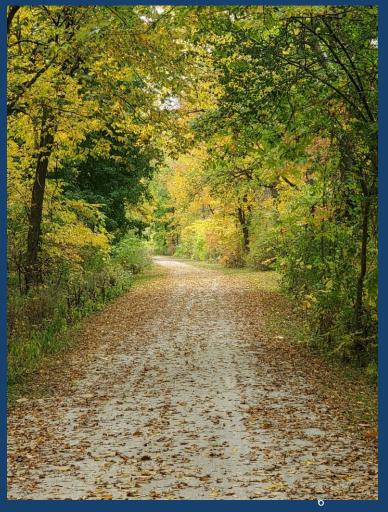
Vaile Wright, PhD
Senior Director, Health Care Innovation
American Psychological Association

• March 23, 2023

National Park Service







90% of US adults say the United States is experiencing a mental health crisis, CNN/KFF poll finds

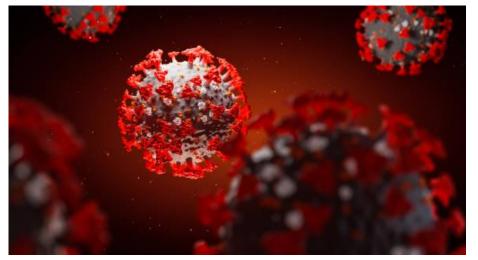
By Deidre McPhillips, CNN Updated 11:17 AM EDT, Wed October 5, 2022

'It's Life or Death': The Mental Health Crisis Among U.S. Teens

Depression, self-harm and suicide are rising among American adolescents. For one 13-year-old, the despair was almost too much to take.

COVID-19 pandemic triggers 25% increase in prevalence of anxiety and depression worldwide

Wake-up call to all countries to step up mental health services and support



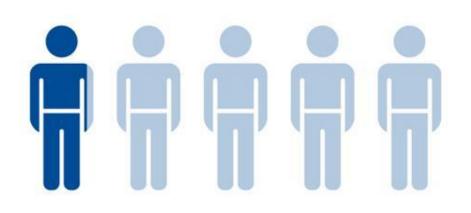


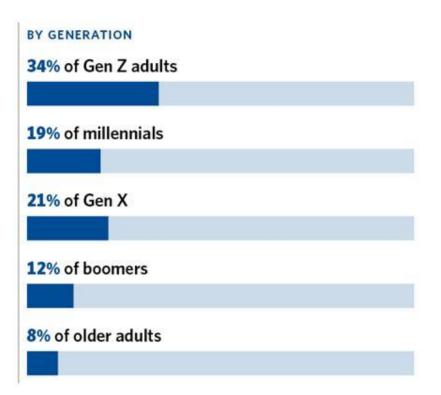




Nearly 1 in 5 Adults (19%) Say Their Mental Health Is Worse Than This Time Last Year









Populations impacted by health equity issues

Whealth disparities result in large part from social inequities, systemic oppression, and discriminatory beliefs woven into the fabric of society. Advancing health equity requires sweeping change, catalyzed by key change agents and building into social movements."

-Travis Lovejoy, PsyD, Chair, Health Equity Committee

UNDESIRED WEIGHT CHANGE AND INCREASE IN STRESS DRINKING*



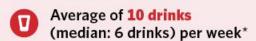
Have experienced undesired weight changes

58%

Have been drinking more alcohol during the pandemic to cope with stress

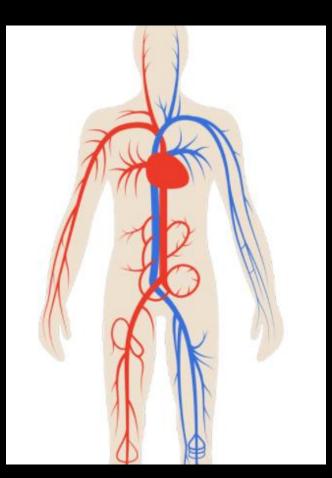
23%

- Gains of an average of 26 pounds, with a median of 15 pounds
- Losses of an average of 27 pounds, with a median of 15 pounds



Men averaged 12 drinks (median: 7 drinks) per week* Women averaged 8 drinks (median: 5 drinks) per week*

^{*}Average among adults who reported they have been drinking more alcohol to cope with stress during the pandemic





Demand for Mental Health Care Has U.S. Psychologists Overwhelmed: Survey

Nov. 15, 2022, at 9:12 a.m.









APA's COVID-19 Practitioner Survey data

Impact on Employment

Changes in Treatment Areas

Telehealth Services

Burnout and Self-care

How Psychologists Responded to the Coronavirus Pandemic



62%

of psychologists had more patient referrals

47%

of psychologists had fewer cancellations

39%

of psychologists were working more **Show Instructions**

Show Documentation

See Survey Results by Psychologists'

Gender ▼

Female

Male

Select Survey Year

• 2021

○ 2020



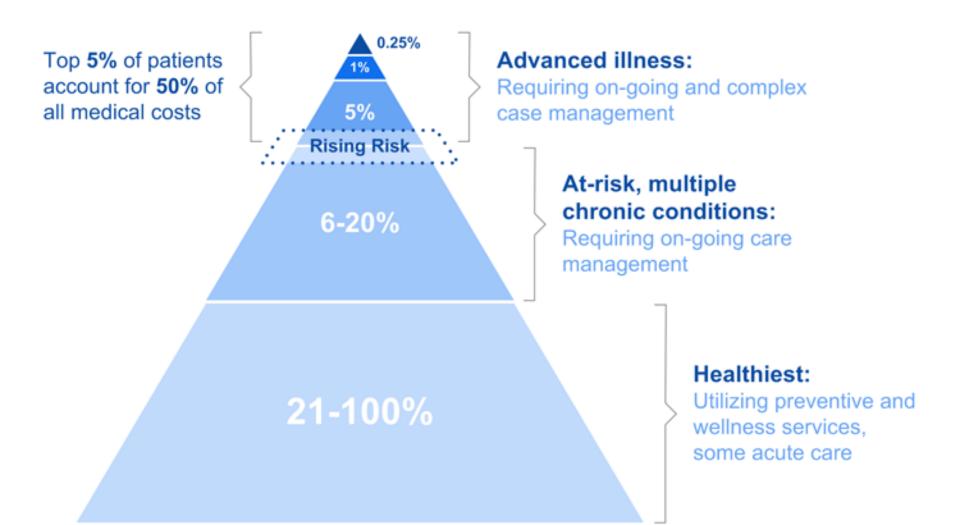






Foundations of Mental Well-Being



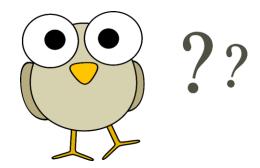




Role of Activity and Nature

- Physical activity, especially in nature, has shown to improve:
 - Depression
 - Anxiety and Worry
 - Insomnia
 - Stress
 - Burnout
 - · Cognitive functioning
 - Memory
 - Physical health heart disease, cancer, pain, mortality

Questions and Discussion



- For additional information, contact:
- Vaile Wright, PhD
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@drvailewright



PROMOTING PARKS AND OUTDOOR SPACES FOR MENTAL HEALTH

ALLISON COLMAN (SHE/HER)
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At NRPA...

We seek a future where the full power of parks and recreation is widely recognized for creating a better life for everyone by building strong, healthy and resilient communities.

BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES A GREAT PARK.



NRPA's **Three** Pillars

Health and Wellness: Advancing community health and well-being through parks and recreation.

Equity: Striving for a future where everyone has fair and just access to quality parks and recreation. Equity is at the center of all we do.

Conservation: Creating a nation of resilient and climate-ready communities through parks and recreation.





GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AT THE CORE OF NRPA'S STRATEGIC PLAN



Center Equity and Community

Advancing systems change, community-driven approaches to address barriers to parks and recreation and other drivers of health.



Promote a Holistic Approach

Applying a whole person, whole community lens to ensure people are healthy, safe, engaged, and supported, physically and mentally.



Change the Narrative

Elevating the roll that parks and recreation plays as vital to the conditions where people live, learn, work, play and age.

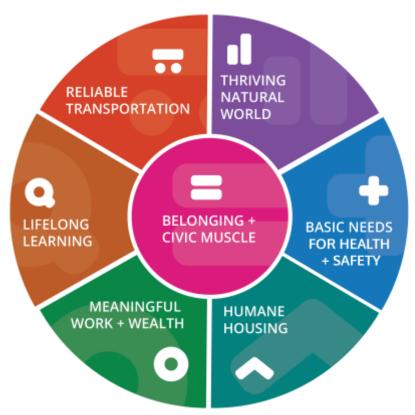


Support the Professional

Equipping professionals with the skills and competencies needed to develop, lead, and manage high-quality programs, spaces and services.



Parks = A Social Driver of Health



*Seven Vital Conditions for Well-Being Well-Being in the Nation Network

People who live near parks are both physically and mentally healthier than those who do not. Parks and recreation have been proven to positively influence:

- Physical Activity
- Mental Health
- Chronic Disease
- Healthcare Costs

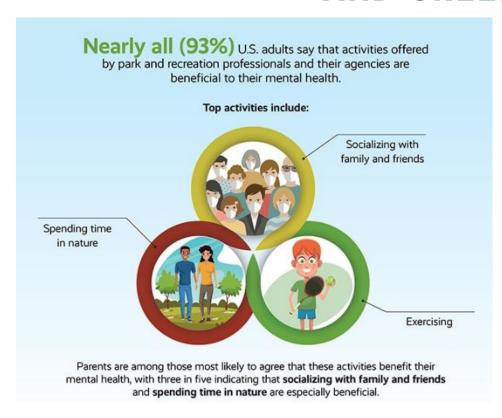


Parks = A Social Driver of Health



- ✓ 275 million people visited a local park or recreational facility at least once in 2022
- ✓ Over 40 million youth are reached through P&R spaces, programs and services each year
- √ 95% agencies manage playgrounds; 81% have trails, greenways or blueways; 64% manage recreation centers
- ✓ Nearly 90% of agencies offer structured sports, fitness, or health education programs for communities

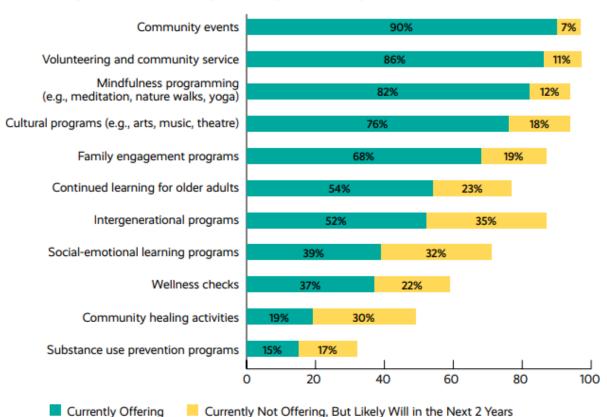
MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS OF PARKS AND GREENSPACE



- •Access to parks and green space = reduced stress, symptoms of depression and improved mood and attention
- •Mental health is related to residential distance from parks and green space
- Physician-diagnosed depression is higher in areas lacking green space compared to neighborhoods with the more
- •Greenspace exposure has a positive effect on children including increased concentration, greater attention, higher academic performance, better motor coordination, reduced stress levels, increased social interaction with adults and other children, and improved social skills

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVANCES MENTAL WELL-BEING THROUGH COMMUNITY EVENTS, VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND MINDFULNESS PROGRAMMING

(Percent of Agencies Currently Offering or Planning to Offer a Program/Service Within the Next Two Years)





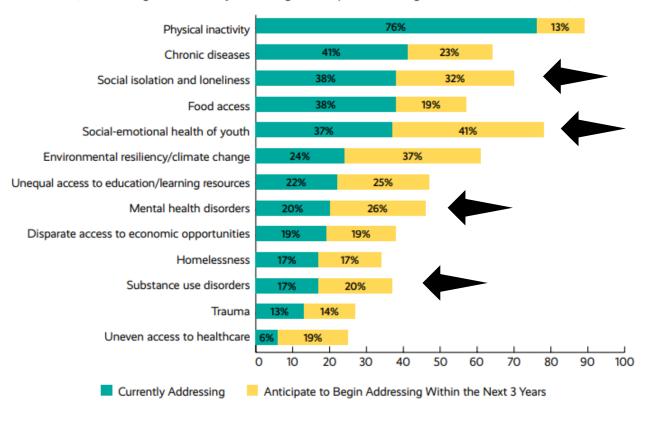
GAPS AND INEQUITIES REMAIN

100 million people — 30 percent of the U.S. population — lack access to the benefits parks and recreation provides. Parks are not always safe, inclusive, or community-driven.

Due to a history of systemic racism and injustice, Black, Indigenous, people of color, low-income communities, and other historically disenfranchised populations face additional barriers.

PARK AND RECREATION AGENCIES ADDRESS MANY PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS AFFECTING THEIR COMMUNITIES

(Percent of Agencies Currently Addressing or Anticipate Addressing Within the Next Three Years)





NRPA RESOURCES TO PROMOTE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER RESOURCES:

- LANGUAGE GUIDE
- STIGMA ISSUE BRIEF
- PREVENTION GUIDE
- RESPONDING TO SUBSTANCE MISUSE REPORT



COMMUNITY WELLNESS HUB TOOLKIT:

- SYSTEMS CHANGE APPROACH TO ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY
- ADDRESSING SEVEN DIMENSIONS OF WELL-BEING



- INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS + ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES
- PROCESS GUIDE
- SAMPLE ACTIONS
- RESOURCES AND CASE STUDIES



HEALTH EQUITY FRAMEWORK:

- SELF-ASSESSMENT AND AGENCY ASSESSMENT
- ACTION PLANNING TOOLS
- GOOD, BETTER, BEST CHECKLIST





THANK YOU!

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EcoRx

In Search of a "Prescription" for Acute Trauma, Chronic Ecological Disenfranchisement, and Related Maladies

Keith G. Tidball, PhD Cornell University



of Americans reported symptoms of anxiety or depression in December 2020.

4X the rate the previous year

seriously considered suicide in the 30 days before a June 2020 survey.

2X the rate in 2018.

of adults have felt very lonely during the pandemic

> Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and American Psychological Association Stress in America Poll, 2021



reported drinking more alcohol to cope with stress.

67% slept more or less than necessary over the past year.

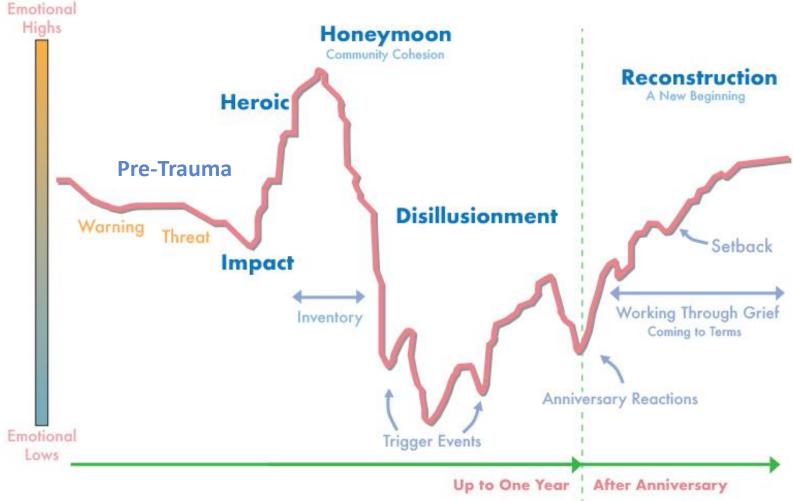
chc is here for you. 650.688.3625 chconline.org

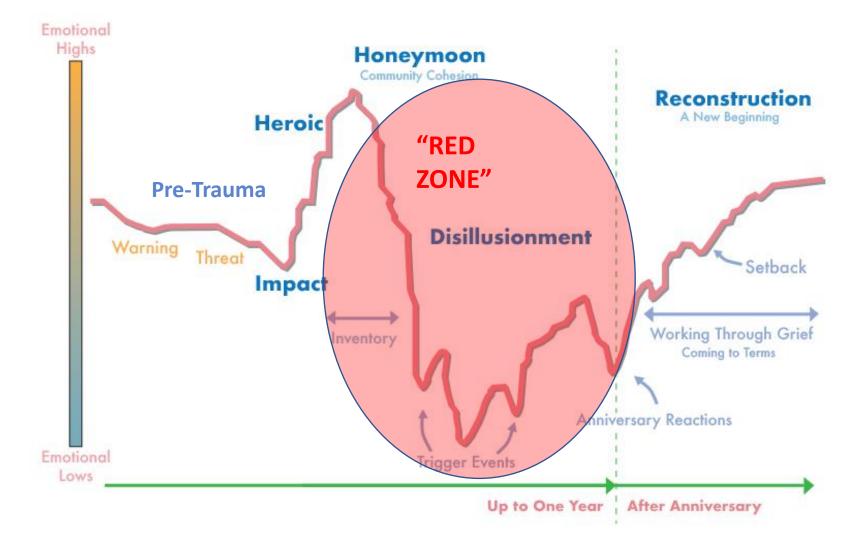
Trauma is **ubiquitous**. In the general population, 67% of us have experienced at least one Adverse Childhood Experience. In people of color, that is more likely to be 83%.





- Acute trauma: This results from a single stressful or dangerous event.
- Chronic trauma: This results from repeated and prolonged exposure to highly stressful events. Examples include cases of child abuse, bullying, or domestic violence.
- Complex trauma: This results from exposure to multiple traumatic events.





Ecological Determinants of Health

oxygen water Food

ozone layer that protects Earth's surface from high levels of UV radiation

nitrogen and phosphorus cycles that circulate nutrients needed for plants and thus for all our food

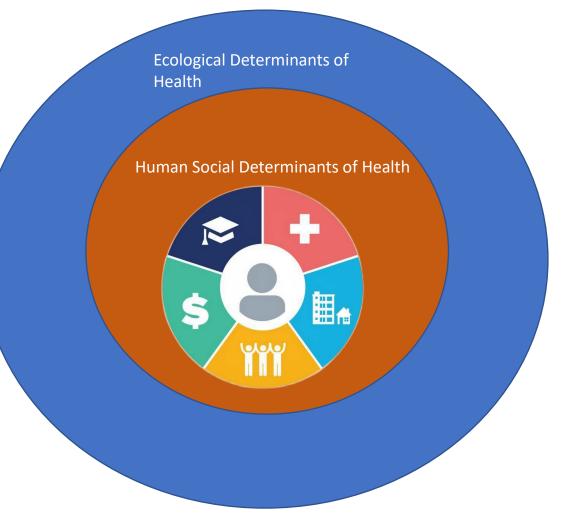
systems to detoxify wastes through natural processes

abundant fertile soil, fresh water and marine aquatic systems to grow food and other plants

materials to construct our shelters and tools

abundant energy

reasonably stable global climate with temperatures conducive to human and other life forms



Social Determinants of Health

Health Care Access and Quality

Neighborhood and Built Environment

Social and Community Context

Economic Stability

Education Access and Quality



Protective factors are personal or environmental characteristics that help protect people from reactions to trauma to include exhaustion, confusion, sadness, anxiety, agitation, numbness, dissociation, physical arousal, and blunted affect.



Four Pillars of Trauma Recovery



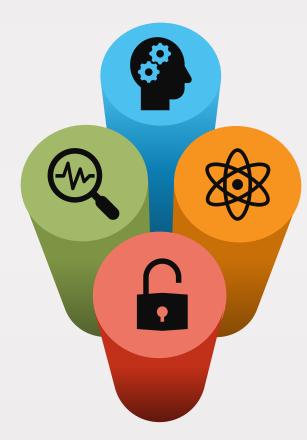
PRACTICING MINDFULNESS

The daily, consistent practice of mindfulness can help rewire your brain in powerful ways. Not only does it help quiet the internal noise, it helps develop an internal locus of control. Mindfulness reduces chronic pain, one of the symptoms of PTSD.



GET MOVING

Physical exercise forces the body to release endorphins, which increase happiness and reduce pain. When you're down or in pain, there might be a temptation to curl up and sleep, but there's no better natural way to raise your emotional state than to get the blood pumping.



WILLINGNESS TO HEAL

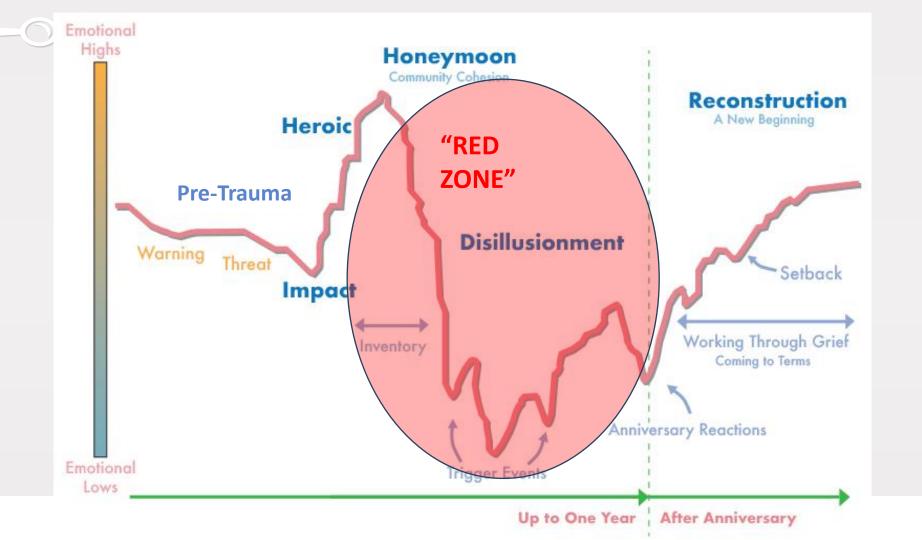


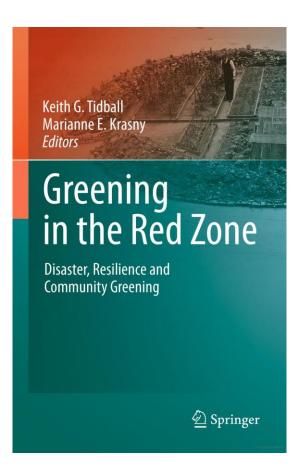
Trauma makes it difficult to trust others. It's much easier to isolate oneself and try to go through the healing process alone. Encourage a willingness to connect with others, or join a support group. Encourage pursuit of therapy. Engage in learning to educate yourself along with a group of people who love, value, and encourage you. Healthy relationships can help one heal more quickly.

ACCEPTING SUPPORT FROM **OTHERS**



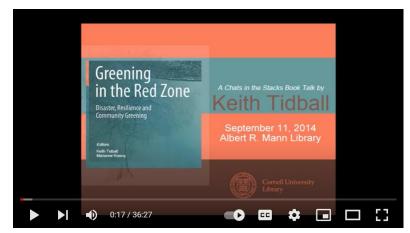
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, nibh est. A magna maecenas, quam magna nec quis, lorem nunc. Suspendisse viverra sodales mauris, cras pharetra proin egestas arcu erat dolor, at amet.





https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-90-481-9947-1

Creation and access to green spaces promotes individual human health, especially in therapeutic contexts among those suffering traumatic events. But what of the role of access to green space and the act of creating and caring for such places in promoting social health and well-being? Greening in the Red Zone asserts that creation and access to green spaces confers resilience and recovery in systems disrupted by violent conflict or disaster. This edited volume provides evidence for this assertion through cases and examples. The contributors to this volume use a variety of research and policy frameworks to explore how creation and access to green spaces in extreme situations might contribute to resistance, recovery, and resilience of social-ecological systems.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDCYJKZuoyY

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Linking the nonmaterial dimensions of human-nature relations and human well-being through cultural ecosystem services

Lam Thi Mai Huynh 18, Alexandros Gasparatos 2,38, Jie Su 1, Rodolfo Dam Lam 4, Ezekiel I. Grant¹, Kensuke Fukushi^{2,3}

Nature contributes substantially to human well-being through its diverse material and nonmaterial contributions. However, despite the growing literature on the nonmaterial dimensions of human-nature relations, we lack a systematic understanding of how they are linked with human well-being. Here, we use the concept of cultural ecosystem services (CESs) as a lens to explore this interface. Through a systematic review of the peerreviewed literature, we elicit the unique pathways and mechanisms linking individual CESs and constituents of human well-being, as well as their relative effects. Subsequently, we identify their complex interactions through latent class analysis and multiple correspondence analysis, which delineate five major assemblages that reflect synergies and trade-offs at the interface of CESs and human well-being. We critically discuss key research trends and gaps and propose directions for future research and practice to leverage the potential of the nonmaterial contributtons of nature for human well-being and sustainability more broadly.

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INTRODUCTION

Nature contributes manifold benefits to humans, at the individual, group, and societal levels. Beyond material and tangible contributions such as food, raw materials, clean water, and hazard regulation, among others, nature also provides a large diversity of nonmaterial contributions through opportunities for recreation and leisure, spiritual fulfillment, personal development, social relations, and aesthetic experiences (1, 2). These nonmaterial contributions can have substantial effects on the well-being of humans at different scales (3), manifesting in very different manners (4, 5).

The academic community has repeatedly emphasized the necessity to understand the complex nonmaterial dimensions of humannature relationships and unravel how they intersect with human well-being (1, 6, 7). Understanding the underlying processes behind how the nonmaterial contributions of nature are linked to human well-being, designing appropriate interventions to leverage their contribution to human well-being, and mitigating the negative impacts of human activities on them are all essential for sustainable ecosystem management (6, 8).

Up to now, a large body of literature has attempted to unrayel in a coherent manner the nonmaterial dimensions of human-nature relations, using very diverse lenses and methodologies. For example, studies have come from fields as diverse as connectedness with nature, cultural ecosystem services (CESs), environmental psychology, environmental education, environmental sociology, geography, outdoor recreation studies, and even political ecology (9, 10). However, despite this ever-expanding body of literature, the current evidence regarding the nonmaterial dimensions of human-nature

the academic literature (18)

Graduate Program in Sustainability Science-Global Leadership Initiative (GPSS-GLI), The University of Tokyo, 5-1-5 Kashiwanoha, Kashiwa City 277-8563, Japan. Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI), The University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 131-8654, Japan. ³Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), United Nations University, 5-53- Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925, Japan. *WorldFish, Penang, Malaysia.

*Corresponding author, Email: lam.huvnh@s.ku-tokvo.ac.ip (LTMH.): gasparatoseifi.u-tokyo.ac.jp (A.G.)

relations is highly fragmented, particularly in terms of their actual linkages to human well-being and how they manifest. This is due to a series of reasons. First, the relevant literature tends to adopt different theoretical frameworks and terminologies (3, 11-13), resulting in fragmented knowledge and inconsistent assessments. This is true both for the nonmaterial contributions side and for the human well-being side and is reinforced by the limited effort to synthesize cohesively this knowledge from these diverse academic fields (4). Second, both the provision of nonmaterial contributions and the linkages to human well-being are highly context dependent, which complicates their generalization and systematic understanding across different localities and scales (4, 10).

The concept of ecosystem services, broadly defined as the benefits that humans derive directly and indirectly from nature (1). has emerged in the past two decades as one of the focal lenses for exploring human-nature relationships (14). Despite certain criticisms (15) and the transdisciplinary evolution of the term as nature's contributions to people (NCPs) (16, 17), the concept of ecosystem services has provided one of the most popular lenses for exploring human-nature relations when considering its huge proliferation in

In this respect, the concept of CESs has been a major lens for exploring the nonmaterial dimensions of human-nature relations (10), CESs encapsulate, among others, recreation, spiritual enrichment, cognitive development, social relations, and aesthetic values (1, 3, 13). Although CESs have been used extensively in the literature (12), it has been exceptionally challenging to systematize concretely and comprehensively their linkages with human well-being (11, 12). This is in no small part due to the fact that, as "representations" of nonmaterial human-nature relations, CESs are often intangible, subjective, socially constructed, and dependent on human perception, thus requiring very different sets of tools, metrics, and approaches for their understanding and assessment (3, 19, 20).

Here, we argue that by using CESs as a lens, it is possible to generate valuable insights of the actual interface between the nonmaterial dimensions of human-nature relations and human well-being. There After reviewing hundreds of scientific papers on "cultural ecosystem services," or the nonmaterial benefits of nature, researchers have identified 227 unique pathways through which people's interactions with nature can positively or negatively affect well-being.

The paper:

https://www.science.org/doi/epdf/10.1 126/sciadv.abn8042

A Review:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/clima te-solutions/2022/08/05/nature-studyimpact-hiking-outdoors/

order the positive (nos. 1 to 13) and negative (nos. 14 to 16) mechanisms.

Table 1. Mechanisms linking CESs and human well-being. The 6 mechanisms indicated with an asterisk (*) are adapted from a previous study (5), while the other 10 mechanisms are defined by the authors. For each of the mechanisms, we provide as an example a unique pathway of CES mechanism-constituent of human well-being. Note that some mechanisms mediate more connections of

		Definition	Example				
No.	Type of mechanism		Sample CES	Channel of interaction	Sample constituent of human well-being	Description	
1	Cognitive*	The development of knowledge and understanding via interaction with nature	Education	Intellectual practice	Learning and capability	Ecosystems are a source of learning and knowledge about the environment, history, culture, and human relationship. Ecosystems provide opportunities for scientific research, environmental education, and learning from older generations. The education of children within/through the natural environment can assist in the development of knowledge, skillsets, and a sense of wonder for the world (24, 41).	
2	Cohesive	The development of meaningful relationships between people via interaction with nature	Social relation	Cultural practice	Connectedness and belonging	People can develop bonds with family members, friends, and other individuals through the interaction with nature. Social interactions and activities in natural settings such as camping trips and social events in natural settings can strengthen ties, reinforce fundamental values, and inspire respect, responsibility, solidarity, and caring for others, broader communities, and the environment (69).	
3	Communicative*	The development of social communication and conversation via interaction with nature	Knowledge system	Intellectual practice	Learning and capability	In some cultural contexts, the knowledge of the culture and the practices needed for survival are part of the people" capacity for self-determination and personal development. These are often transmitted via communication between elderly people and young people at cultural events in natural	

						responsibility, solidarity, and caring for others, broads the environment (69).
3	Communicative*	The development of social communication and conversation via interaction with nature	Knowledge system	Intellectual practice	Learning and capability	In some cultural contexts, the knowledge of the culture needed for survival are part of the people' capacity for and personal development. These are often transmitt between elderly people and young people at cultural settings, which are essential in this process. For exam communities transmit via communication in natural is systems that are important for their personal devel

live lihoods (119).

The experience of new and original Creative* Inspiration Cultural Inspiration and situations that inspire artistic work. value practice fulfillment of aesthetic appreciation, creativity, imagination. and freedom (among others) via generally think about things (5). interaction with nature

Recreation

and tourism

Aesthetic

value

Evolutive

Formative

continued on next page

The gradual change of individuals'

personality, mood, feelings,

The change of individuals' moods,

behaviors, and values that is

periods of time (more often

with nature

relatively instant or over short

internal change) via interaction

feelings, attitudes, perception,

attitude, perception, behavior,

values, and belief systems over

time (more often internal change) via interaction with nature

mple, indigenous settings knowledge relopment and Nature has inspired people throughout the history of humanity for artistic expression. These examples can be inspiration to paint, draw, take photos, be active/get out, conserve, manage, protect, discover, explore, and

Cultural

practice

Form

Learning and

capability

Identity and

autonomy

On many occasions, the natural environment tends to make people more

courage or self-esteem (41).

lives (120).

friendly, playful elated, and affectionate over time (24), in some cases,

nature-based recreation activities are gratifying and gradually increase

Ecosystems offer spaces for individuals to instantly express their personal

The sense of freedom and autonomy inspired by wild nature in that

distinctiveness and identity without feeling constrained by external factors

escapism from the social boundaries created by extrinsic factors of society.

moment can allow individuals to strengthen their own intrinsic values and beliefs and to feel they can be free and make their own choices in

such as the norms and values imposed by society. In some cases, being in

nature immediately enables achieving a personal sense of freedom and

individual CESs and human well-being constituents. A comprehensive explanation of the different pathways for each mechanism can be found in tables S12 to S14. The table presents in alpha betical

			Example					
No.	Type of mechanism	Definition	Sample CES	Channel of interaction	Sample constituent of human well-being	Description		
7	Intuitive*	The sensual experiences, human instincts, and feelings (often of a spiritual and religious nature) via interaction with nature	Spiritual value	Spiritual practice	Spirituality	Many people experience something deeply spiritual when they interact with nature. In some geographical contexts, people find meanings in nature from the time they are born to the time they die, while the sense of spirituality attached to nature can bring hope, faith, personal be liefs/values, and empowerment (49).		
8	Regenerative*	The generation of restorative outcomes (e.g., a lieviation of fatigue and emotional stress) through recreation, le is ure, tour is m, escap is m, and therapy via interaction with nature	Recreation and tourism	Cultural practice	Mental health Physical health Subjective well-being	Interaction with nature can improve mental health by helping to (i) reduce stress, anxiety, and depression; (ii) reduce visits to psychologists; (iii) improve sleeping quality; (iv) reduce the use of antidepressants, sleeping medicine, and sedatives; (v) increase vitality; (vi) decrease cognitive decline; (vii) increase ability of recovery and healing from crisis; and (viii) reduce mental fatigue and illness (4, 34). Benefits to physical health through interaction with nature include (i) lower body mass index; (ii) reduced prevalence of disease; (iii) reduced obesity; (iv) lower somatization level; (v) decreased cognitive decline; (vi) reduced blood pressure, heart rate, and muscle tensions; (vii) improved immune system; (viii) increased restoration and healing; and (viii) lower mortality risk (4).		
9	Remunerative	The economic benefits people obtain from ecosystems through nonmaterial benefits in cash or other monetary forms	Recreation and tourism	Cultural practice	Economic well-being	Nature-based tourism can directly or indirectly contribute to the livelihoods of local communities and broader economic growth. Examples include the direct generation of revenue from accommodation, transportation, guided tours, and food and beverage sales. Broader indirect contributions include poverty alleviation and employment generation (121, 122).		
10	Retros pective*	The personal memories and reflections of the past via prior interaction with nature	Sense of place	Form	identity and autonomy	Natural landscapes are important to some people as they have evolved emotional and cognitive bonds, becoming parts of their personal and collective memory and their life stories (123).		
11	Satisfactive	The feeling of satisfaction and fulfillment of expectations and needs associated with interaction with nature	Cultural heritage value	Cultural practice	Subjective well-being	Engaging in ecosystem-related livelihood activities can instill pride and sense of satisfaction. In many cases, farmers through their livelihood engagement with nature feel fulfilled have pride for their lives and a sense of purpose in life when putting a good day at work (120).		
12	Transactive	The social benefits people obtain by bartering or trading the products of ecosystems	Cultural heritage value	Cultural practice	Economic well-being Connectedness and belonging	For many indigenous communities, particular species carry a special cultural heritage value that can be used for exchange and trades among kins to sustain the reciprocal relationships essential to their functioning (124).		
13	Transcendentive	The benefits that lie beyond the ordinary experiences and the regular physical realm, more often associated with religious or spiritual values via interaction with nature	Spiritual value	Spiritual practice	Spirituality	Many people and communities experience ecosystem-inspired feelings related to "entities larger than themselves" (125). For some people, being in natural settings makes them appreciate people's connection to all things in the universe (24).		
14	Apprehensive	The anxious and fearful feeling generated via interaction with nature	Aesthetic	Form	Certainty, sense of control and security	Some people are afraid of their safety when encountering certain natural features via visual or auditory interactions, such as scary animals, dangerous predators, animal blood, and areas that are darkwith high tree cover, among others (4, 22, 46).		
15	Destructive	The direct damages caused to health, relationships, finance, and capability (among other constituents of human well-being) via the loss/degradation of CESs	Aesthetic	Form	Economic well-being	Some ecosystem disservices associated with CESs can increase the direct cost for repairs and maintenance, control, or remove unwanted species. For example, damage to physical structures can be caused by accelerating corrosion due to bird excrements or the destruction of pavements due to tree roots or animals digging nesting holes (50).		
16	Irritative	The unpleasant and annoying feelings people obtain via their interaction with nature	Aesthetic	Form	Mental health	Some ecosystem disservices associated with CESs cause negative feelings such as annoyance and discomfort, e.g., annoyance or disgust wildlife noise, animal excrements, or plant litter (46,50).		

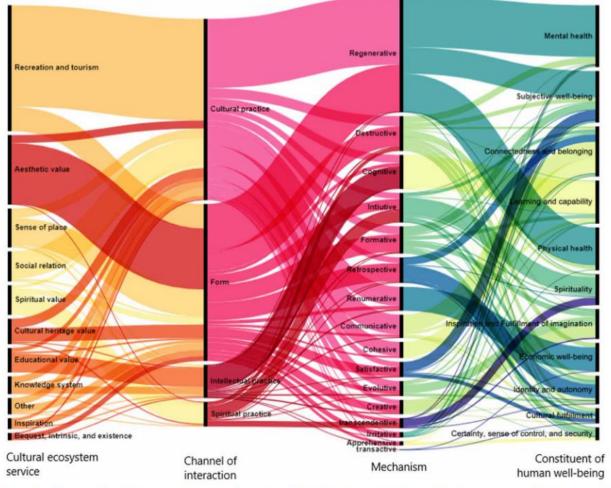
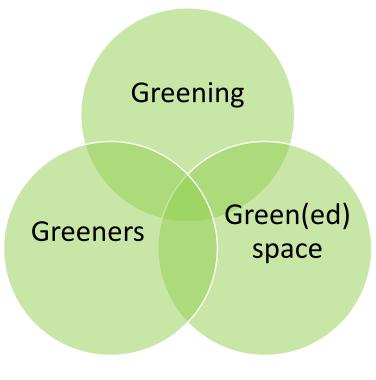
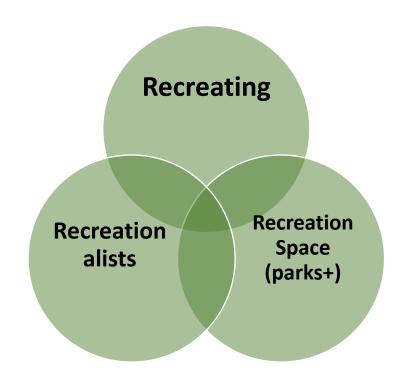


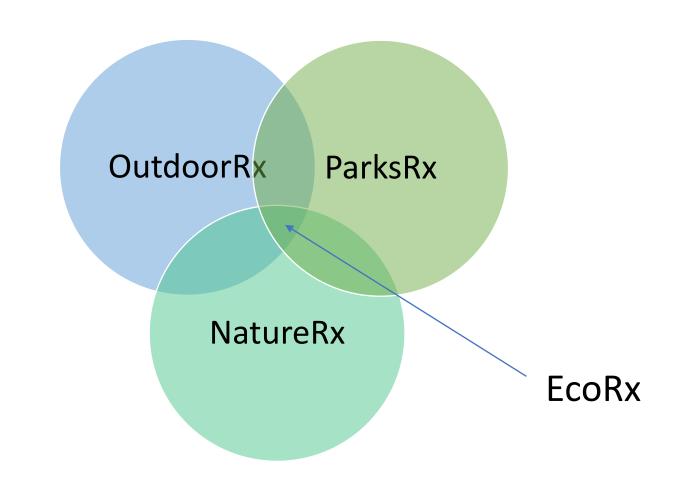
Fig. 2. Frequency of the CESs, mechanisms, and constituents of human well-being documented in the reviewed studies. The width of each line linking any two elements in the alluvial diagram represents the number of relevant observations (of the unique 1134 total observations). This essentially represents the popularity/visibility of each element in the reviewed literature and should not be perceived as a metric of importance or weight linking any two components.



Restoration Orientation

Recreation Orientation





RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS

This chart maps out risk and protective factors and social determinants of health along various points in the social ecological model. Understanding these factors and determinants at the societal, community, and individual/relationship levels can increase the effectiveness of sexual violence prevention efforts.

The Social Ecological Model

Risk Factors

Protective Factors

Social Determinants

Putting it all Together

illustrates how factors influence each other at different levels¹ are a set of behaviors or conditions that increase the risk for sexual violence perpetration

are behaviors or conditions that reduce or buffer against the risk for sexual violence perpetration

of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age4

to increase effectiveness of prevention efforts





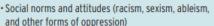
Societal3

(e.g. laws, systems, the media, and widespread social norms)

· Societal norms that:

- -support sexual violence
- support male superiority and sexual entitlement
- maintain women's inferiority and sexual submissiveness
- Weak health, economic, gender, educational, and social policies
- · High levels of crime and other forms of violence

(At this time there are no evidence-based findings on societal-level protective factors for sexual violence; additional research can help fill this gap)



- Socioeconomic conditions
- · Cultural attitudes, norms, and expectations
- Governmental, corporate, and non-governmental policies
- · Social institutions (e.g. law enforcement)

Sexual violence is inextricably tied to oppression. Focusing on risk and protective factors and social determinants of health can help clarify how anti-oppression efforts can be part of prevention.



Community³

(e.g. neighborhoods, schools, faith communities, and local organizations)

- Poverty
- Lack of employment opportunities
- Lack of institutional support from police and judicial system
- · General tolerance of sexual violence within the community
- Weak community sanctions against sexual violence perpetrators

- Community support/ connectedness
- Coordination of resources and services among community agencies
- Access to mental health and substance abuse services
- Equitable access to educational, economic, and job opportunities
- · Community engagement
- · Social support and integration, support systems
- Built environment, such as buildings, sidewalks, bike lanes, and roads
- · Physical barriers, especially for people with disabilities

Working in collaboration with communities around shared risk and protective factors can be an effective way to stretch limited funding, strengthen partnerships, and increase reach.



Individual²

(e.g. a person's attitudes, values, and beliefs) and

Relationship²

(e.g. relationships with family, partners, friends, and peers)

- Family environment characterized by physical violence and conflict
- ·Emotionally unsupportive family environment
- Poor parent-child relationships
- Association with sexually aggressive, hypermasculine, and delinquent peers
- •General aggressiveness and acceptance of violence
- · Adherence to traditional gender role norms
- Hypermasculinity and lack of empathy

- Connection/commitment to school
- · Connection with a caring adult
- Affiliation with pro-social peers
- Emotional health and connectedness
- Empathy and concern for how one's actions affect others
- Having resources to meet daily needs like healthy foods & warm clothing
- Social support and social interactions
- Equitable access to quality schools and transportation
- Equitable access to information and services in various languages
- · Equitable access to health insurance and health care

Every individual exists within larger communities and our shared society. It is vital to link individual and relationship-level risk and protective factors to those at the community and society level, as well as related social determinants of health. Making these connections can create more effective change.

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Thank You!

Predictability

Everyone loves surprises! Not. Trauma survivors often prefer predictability because that feels safer.

Space

Allow time for the survivor to calm down and take perspective. Trauma survivors often have difficulty regulating emotions and take longer to calm down.

Perspective

Be aware when 'past is intruding into present.' Don't take responsibility for what is not yours... gently.

Recalibration

Rid 'over-reacting', 'over-sensitive', or 'over'-anything from your vocabulary.

Attribution

Don't refer to the person's 'upbringing, problem, issues, behavior.' Call it for what it is trauma.

Reciprocity

Give what you also need to receive: listening, empathy, and empowerment.

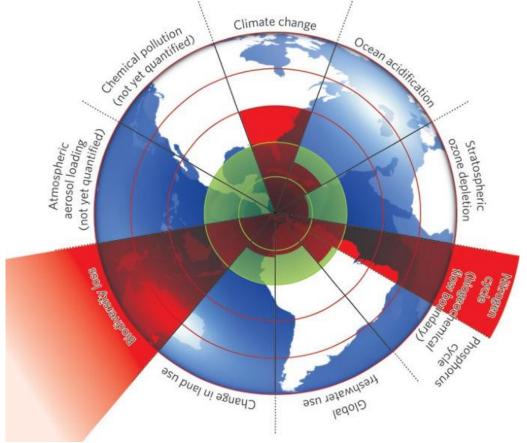
Support

Be kind, loving, patient... but empathetically set limits - you have needs too!

Choice

It can be a big trigger when a survivor is denied choice and control. Confer, collaborate, and cooperate.

Threats



Rockström, J., Steffen, W., Noone, K. *et al.* A safe operating space for humanity. *Nature* **461**, 472–475 (2009). https://doi.org/10.1038/461472a



