Montpelier's Results - CBI

Gwendolyn Hallsmith, Director
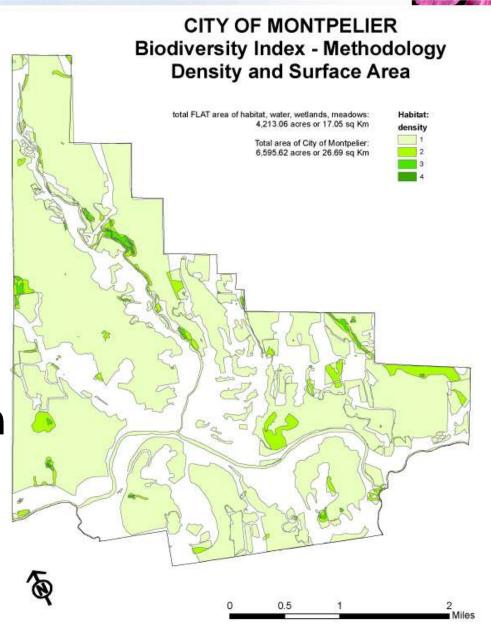**Planning and Community Development**
City of Montpelier, Vermont

Natural and Semi-Natural Areas

CITY OF MONTPELIER
Biodiversity Index - Methodology
Layers involved

Density Calculation Index

- **64% Natural Area**

  Parks Need definition

CITY OF MONTPELIER
Biodiversity Index - Methodology
Density and Surface Area

total FLAT area of habitat, water, wetlands, meadows:
4,213.06 acres or 17.05 sq Km

Total area of City of Montpelier:
6,595.62 acres or 26.69 sq Km

Habitat:
density
1
2
3
4

0   0.5   1   2
                              Miles

Diversity of Ecosystems

- Northern Hardwoods
- River
- Conifer Forests
- Wetlands
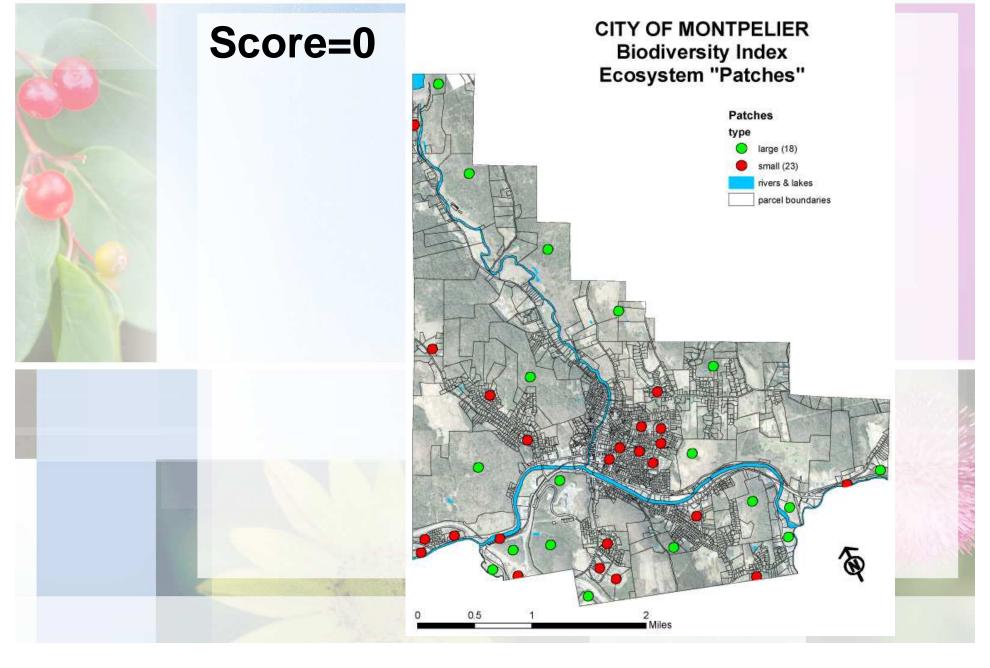 - Riverine
  - Lacustrian
  - Riparian
- Streams
- Lakes

- Meadows
- Forested Wetlands
- Early Succession Forests
- Vernal Pools

Definition of Ecosystems:
- Overlapping species low

Fragmentation and Patches

Score=0

CITY OF MONTPELIER
Biodiversity Index
Ecosystem "Patches"

Patches
type
- large (18)
- small (23)
- rivers & lakes
- parcel boundaries

Fragmentation Measure

- Smaller areas within dense urban area?
- An area fragmented by human development, including roads

"A slug can cross it without high risk of getting killed"

Native Biodiversity

Citywide Bioblitz

- 150 biologists, naturalists, and citizens participated

- 24 hour inventory of species

- 1,500 species identified

- Animals, plants, insects, fungi, lichens, algae
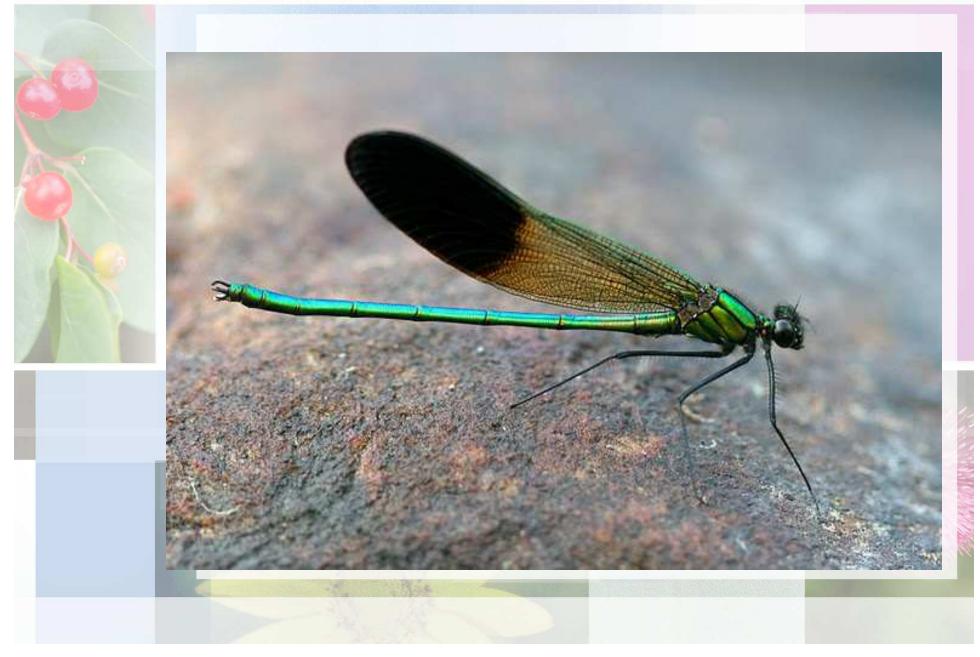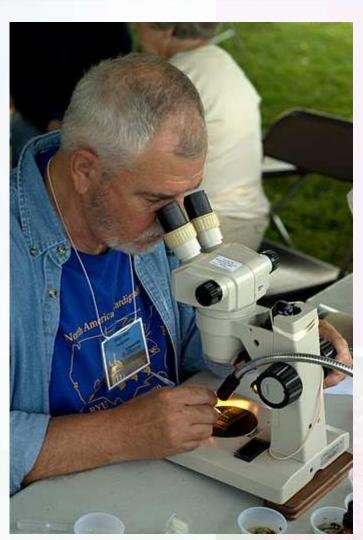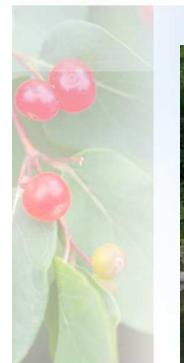
- Funded with Mazer Grant and other sponsors

Montpelier Bioblitz in Pictures

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Montpelier Bioblitz in Pictures

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Protected Areas

CITY OF MONTPELIER
2010 MASTER PLAN
Figure 9 - Open Space Network
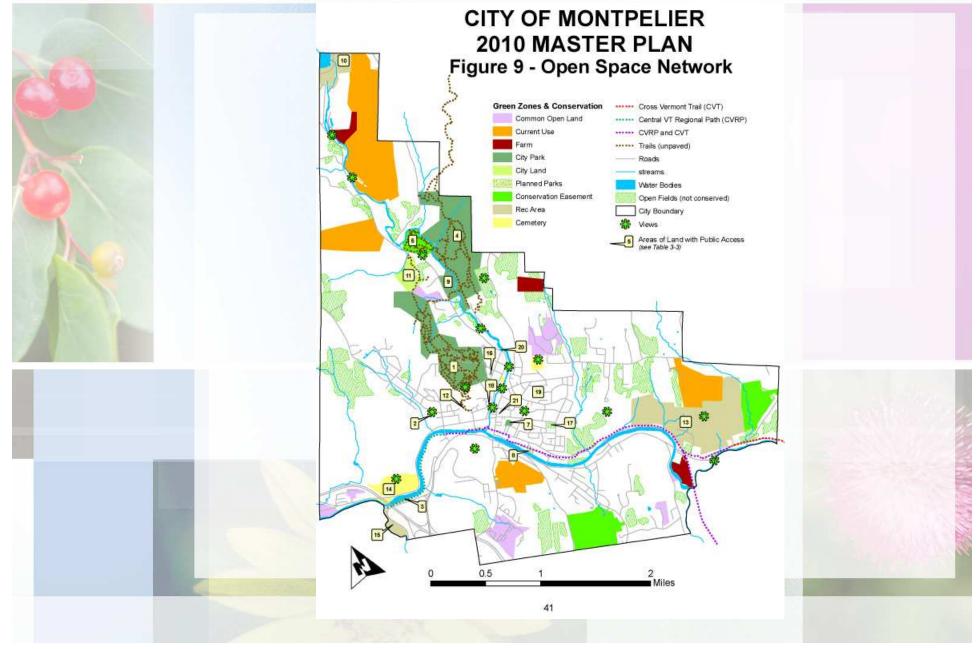
Recreation and Education Services

Hubbard park – 40,000 visits

North Branch Park – 10,000 visits

Peace Park – 5,000 visits

Mill Pond Park – 3,000 visits

Gateway Park – 3,000 visits

Elm Court – 7,000 visits

Nature Awareness Program in Public Schools

State Standards for Sustainability

Biodiversity Budget

What Counts?

- **Conservation Commission – invasive mitigation**
- **Parks Budget**
- **Stormwater Management**

Projects and Programs

- **Friends of Winooski**
- **Nature Conservancy**
- **Parks Department**
- **Foodworks**
- **Conservation Commission**
- **All Species Day**
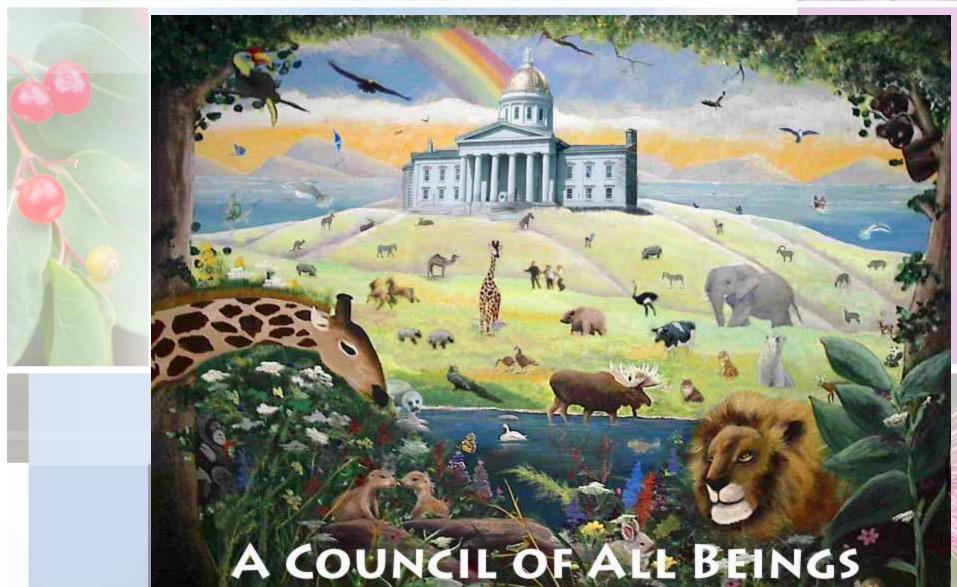- **Council of All Beings**

All Species Day Parade

All Species Day Parade

A COUNCIL OF ALL BEINGS

The End