

# Pocket Parks: Creating Sustainable Cities



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# NYC 1931



<http://www.pdnphotooftheday.com/2010/10/6902#more-6902>

# Q: What is a Pocket Park?

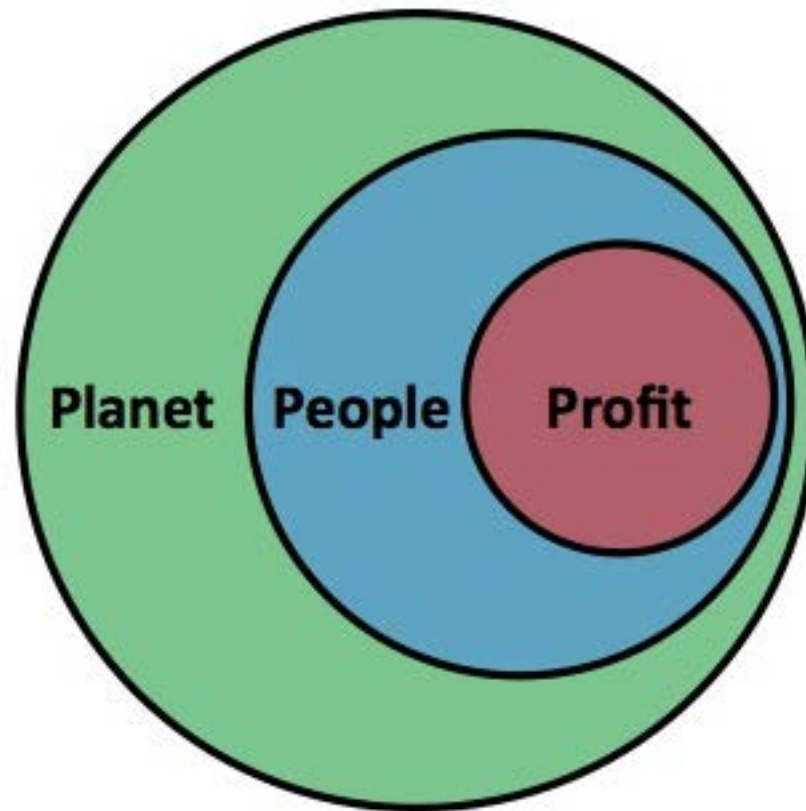
A: An open or green space 1-3 lots or up to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an acre in size that provides a recreational service



Paley Park, 3 East 53<sup>rd</sup> st., NYC



# Are Pocket Parks Sustainable?



# Empty Lot + Pocket Park

## A More Sustainable City

### Planet

- + Storm Water
- + Urban Heat Island
- + Pollution
- + Habitat
- + Urban Wildlife
- + Corridor Connection

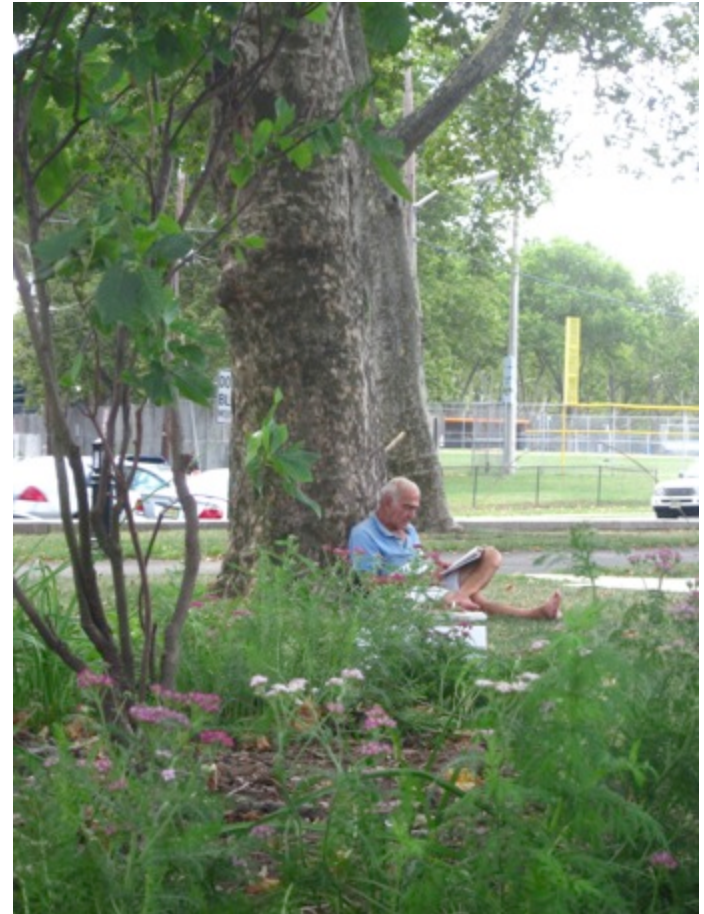


# Empty Lot + Pocket Park

## A More Sustainable City

### People

- + Community Building
- + Health – Physical & Emotional





# Empty Lot + Pocket Park

## A More Sustainable City

### Profit

- + Hedonic Value
- + Investment
- + Direct Use
- + Tourism



***Detriment***



***Asset***



The Putting Lot – Brooklyn, NYC



<http://theputtinglot.org>



A Pocket Guide to:

# POCKET PARKS



LESLIE RAUCHER

# POCKET PARKS

## In This Section:

- \* What is A Pocket Park?
- \* Why Urban Pocket Parks?
- \* Pocket Parks of the Past, Present, and Future...
- \* Types of Pocket Parks





# SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS



Using the three pillars of the Triple Bottom Line - People, Planet, and Profit - this section highlights key design elements and best practices of the modern, sustainable, urban pocket park.





• JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY •

### A Quick Look

1. Only City owned lots and parks may be adopted.
2. Lots may be used for community gardening or recreational purposes.
3. There is a \$1.00 annual fee per lot.
4. The Lease is valid for 2 years.
5. Community groups will be required to abide by the rules and regulations of the lease.
  - \* attending an educational workshop,
  - \* registering your garden online,
  - \* providing a minimum of 20 hours of public access,
  - \* participating in an annual Green Your Block program.



### In This Section:

- \* The Ordinance
- \* The Application
- \* The Lease



• BROOKLYN, NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK •

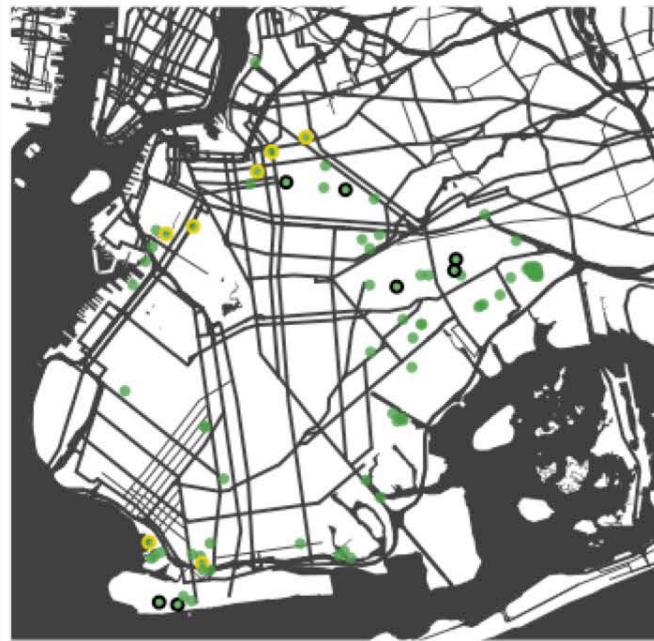
# 596 ACRES

## Two Maps of Brooklyn

Left: lots < 1/4 acre

Right: Lots > 1/4 acre

- vacant lots (1009)
- vacant lots being organized around (32)
- vacant lots where groups have gained access (3)
- lots that are part of community gardens (313)



596 Acres is the amount of vacant public land in Brooklyn. It is also a grass roots organization that is empowering local citizens to take action against vacant lots in their community. By locating all city own vacant lots, and creating a user friendly mapping tool, it is easy to find a lot, learn its status (if it has yet to be organized around or if access has been gained) along with what city agency owns the land. The website also

can connect all of the people interested in a particular lot so that they can rally together. The organization provides support and resources to individuals and groups wishing to gain access.

596 Acres also raises awareness by hanging signs out side of the lots alerting the citizens to the land resources available to them.

# Questions?

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