

MAIRIE DE PARIS



A PORTRAIT OF BIODIVERSITY IN PARIS

THE PARIS BIODIVERSITY PLAN



Paris is committed to biodiversity

This document describes the current state of biodiversity in Paris. The portrait accompanies the newly defined Paris Biodiversity Plan (2016-2020). It was designed conjointly by various local actors, who actively contribute to improving general knowledge on biodiversity in Paris.

A participative approach



Green roofs and facades: urban ecological continuity promotes biodiversity and adaptation to climate change.



New green spaces: designed and managed to encourage ecological continuity and biodiversity, like here, at the Jardin Abbé-Pierre Grands-Moulins.

The city of Paris takes action on all territorial levels.

Since December 2013, the application of the Regional Scheme for Ecological Coherence (SRCE) in Île-de-France has contributed to the preservation of habitats and large areas of ecological continuity (Petite Ceinture inner railway line, the Seine, canals...) that are favorable to biodiversity.

Why this commitment? Biodiversity is the living tissue of the planet. It is the variety of living creatures, including ourselves, and all relationships that are forged between them and their respective environments. In the very dense and highly urbanized Paris context, the presence of nature in the city improves the living environment and health of inhabitants, and contributes to reducing heat islands and pollution.

Preserving biodiversity in Paris is a major challenge, and become an even greater challenge in the years to come. To meet its objectives, Paris has designed its new biodiversity plan in a participative manner, in order to find solutions to reduce the pressures weighing on the city.

For more information:
paris.fr/biodiversite



Monitoring fauna and flora: participative scientific approaches open to all

It is essential to involve everyone.

In order to track changes in the environment, species are monitored over time. Results reveal the impact of pressure on biodiversity, and facilitate constructive action to guarantee a sustained presence of species in Paris. All categories of local actors must be mobilized – private individuals, professionals, scientists, associations and public authorities. A compilation of their observations on the field, directed by the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturel, contributes to producing diagnostic inventories and field studies carried out on Paris.

For more information:
vigienature.mnhn.fr

Conserving large wildlife areas

Paris is richly endowed with **two forests of regional importance** and **fourteen biodiversity reserves**. These green spaces include various habitats and serve as a refuge, a food source and breeding grounds to many species. They must be preserved and reinforced throughout the area



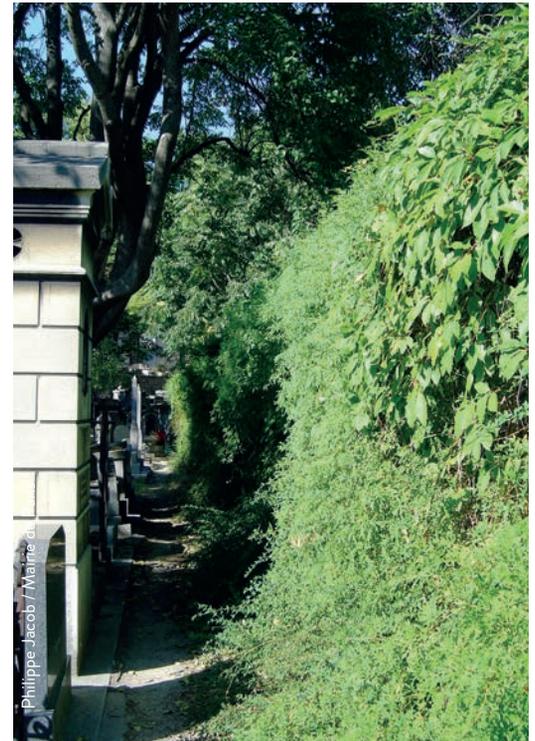
Guillaume Bontemps / Mairie de Paris

The wooded Parisian parks: large transition and adaptation zones for the fauna and flora moving closer to the heart of the metropolitan area, like here in the Bois de Vincennes.



Jean-Pierre Vigué / Mairie de Paris

The Petite Ceinture railway line: a preferred zone of activity of wildlife, including species such as the European hedgehog, like here in the 14^e arrondissement.



Philippe Jacob / Mairie de Paris

Paris cemeteries: unsuspected havens of biodiversity, like here at the Cimetière du Père-Lachaise, the largest nature oasis inside of Paris.

These nature zones are connected by **ecological corridors** that allow species to move from one sector to another and recolonize territories. In Paris, these corridors exist in many forms: the Seine, canals and their banks, tree alignments along the streets, the **Forêt linéaire** tree alignments, the **Petite ceinture** railway, as well as a mosaic of interconnected green spaces and diversified habitats.

FOCUS ON TWO ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS

- **The Forêt Linéaire**, created in 2014, provides shelter for regional plant species along the périphérique. It includes a medley of environments, representing woodland undergrowth, meadows, dense thickets and a dry stone wall.
- **The Petite Ceinture**, a railway abandoned over 20 years ago, now occupied by vegetation typical of disused railway lines. Ecological management of these areas makes them nature refuges in the heart of the city, and effective corridors between several large parks (Montsouris, Buttes-Chaumont...)

Flora and fauna, full-fledged Parisians



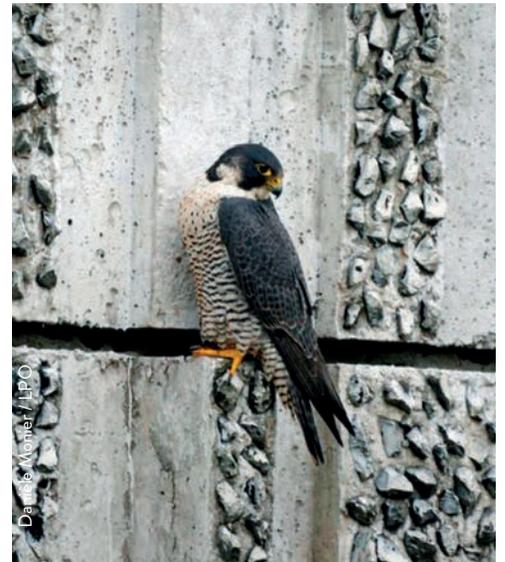
Paul-Robert Takacs / Mairie de Paris

Regional plant species present in green spaces: a priority that must be taken into account to meet the needs of wild animals, such as here at the Jardin de l'Archipel des Berges de Seine Niki-de-Saint-Phalle.



Franck Bohain / Mairie de Paris

Red fox, beech martens, red squirrels, European hedgehogs and bank voles: species to be protected, particularly by limiting the fragmentation of their habitats.



Danièle Monier / LPO

The peregrine falcon: a new species that has been seen nesting in Paris since 2010.



Thierry Mareschal / Mairie de Paris

Common pipistrelles along the Petite Ceinture: the largest currently-known urban hibernation colony in France.

Flora: 637 species of Île-de-France plants were observed between 2010 and 2014. Plant diversity is well-represented in the species cultivated in Parisian green spaces. Wild plant species, such as orchids (like the bee orchid), ferns, mosses and mushrooms are also present in Paris.

Fauna: 1300 species of animals have been inventoried over the past few years. 28 mammal species, including 11 species of bats; 4 reptile species; 11 amphibian species (frogs, newts...); 66 breeding bird species; 47 butterfly and moth species; 27 dragonfly and damselfly species. And many other species of fish, insects, crustaceans, spiders...

Although the species that make up the biodiversity of Paris are still numerous, their populations are sometimes very small and some are declining. Other species have appeared recently, such as slow-worms and sand martins.

Document based on results of the Paris biodiversity survey, carried out in December 2015 by the Mairie de Paris with assistance from the Centre Ornithologique d'Île-de-France (CORIF); the Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO); NOÉ; contributions from the regional Île-de-France data base (CETTIA); Natureparif; the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN); the management and services departments of the Ville de Paris.