Six projects received this distinguished national award for researching the transformational power of nature in urban settings. Each project was chosen for combining the creation of tranquil, restorative spaces with rigorous study of their impact on users’ well-being and resilience.

THE PROJECT

LANDSCAPES OF RESILIENCE

THE ISSUE
Resilience is about how quickly and fully a community can bounce back to the quality of life they had before an emergency event or other stressor.

THE SOLUTION
The Landscapes of Resilience project suggests that green spaces can contribute to community resilience and can support recovery. Two Open Spaces Sacred Places will be created, one in Joplin, MO, and one in Queens, NY.

THE HIGHLIGHTS
- The project will investigate benefits of different aspects of these green spaces, including physical design and the way in which users interact with open space.
- The process of building commemorative green spaces can support resilience over time, including immediately post-disturbance, during subsequent stages of recovery, and over long-term processes of neighborhood and community change.

THOSE INVOLVED
City of Joplin MO // Cornell University Civic Ecology Lab // Drury University, Hammons School of Architecture
Forest ReLeaf of Missouri // Great River Associates // Missouri Dept. of Conservation
TILL Design // USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station

Modern life can disrupt our connection to nature. Yet research shows that green spaces improve health. The TKF Foundation helps communities heal from the outside. TKF is a private nonprofit that funds publicly accessible urban green space.

For more information, go to NatureSacred.org