

## CITY OF HELSINKI, A NATURE MANAGEMENT POLICY – MULTIPLE VALUES OF URBAN FORESTRY

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### **Abstract**

A nature management policy guides the design, construction and maintenance of the natural green areas for which the Public Works Department of the City of Helsinki is responsible. The policy is formulated interactively by an extensive group consisting of the city's other administrative agencies, residents' associations and important stakeholder groups.

The policy affects forests, meadows, bedrock outcroppings, shores, marshes, small waterways, bogs, other natural features, natural conservation areas and fields. The proposal outlines nature management objectives as well as the actions required for their attainment. The policy is formulated interactively by an extensive group consisting of the city's other administrative agencies, residents' associations and important stakeholder groups.

One of the most important objectives of nature management is to develop and maintain a pleasant, sustainable, functional, safe and healthy residential and recreational environment for all the areas' users. This is achieved by safeguarding the vitality and durability of natural green areas. Natural diversity is taken into account. The management levels set for the city area's forests and meadows are being improved, particularly from the standpoint of landscape management. Interactive planning will continue with respect to outdoor recreational areas in Helsinki, as well as in areas managed by the City of Helsinki in other municipalities.

High-quality nature management work is implemented according to designs and guidelines presented in the policy. The economic objective of the policy is to safeguard sufficient resources for nature management and target available resources as effectively as possible at the right locations within the City of Helsinki, as well as within areas owned by the City of Helsinki in other municipalities. For this reason an estimate of additional funding needs required in future budgetary estimates is presented in the policy.

### **Key Words**

nature management policy, urban forestry, multiple values

### **Key References**

Saukkonen, Tiina (2007) Helsingin kaupungin luonnonhoidon linjaus, Helsingin kaupungin rakennusviraston julkaisut 2008. Summary in english.