

Human Rights & Sustainable Development in Dayton, OH

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POL 334



Human Rights City

“A Human Rights City is a municipality that refers explicitly to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards and/or law in their policies, statements, and programs

The importance

A Human Rights City is often described as a city who unites in ongoing efforts in order to pursue idea sharing and join planning to better their groups and their community

SDG 15 ~ City Context

15.1- Sustaining land and aquatic systems

15.2- Sustainable forests

15.5- Action to protect biodiversity and prevent extinction

15.8 - Prevent and mitigate invasive species

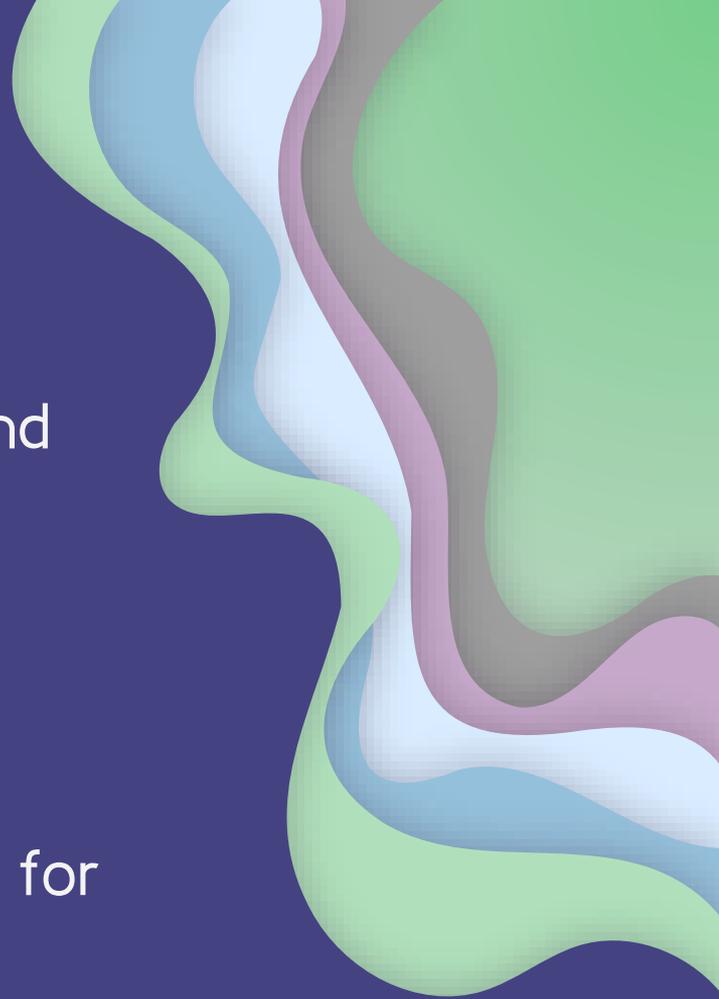
15.9- Ecosystem values in local planning

15 LIFE
ON LAND



Connections to Dayton

- Historic loss of prairies, wetlands, and forests
- Disproportionate access to green spaces
- Threat of invasive species
- Importance of healthy environment for physical and mental health



Strengths in Dayton

- Restoration of forests, prairies, and wetlands
- Plans for management of invasive species
- Wide variety of ways to engage with the outdoors



FIVE RIVERS
METROPARKS



Metric 1.1 - Forest Acres Per Square Mile by County

1991

Data Source: U. S. Forest Service - Forest Inventory and Analysis 1991



The number inside each county is the number of acres per square mile for that county.

2006

Data Source: U. S. Forest Service - Forest Inventory and Analysis 2006



The number inside each county is the number of acres per square mile for that county.



Advocacy Campaign

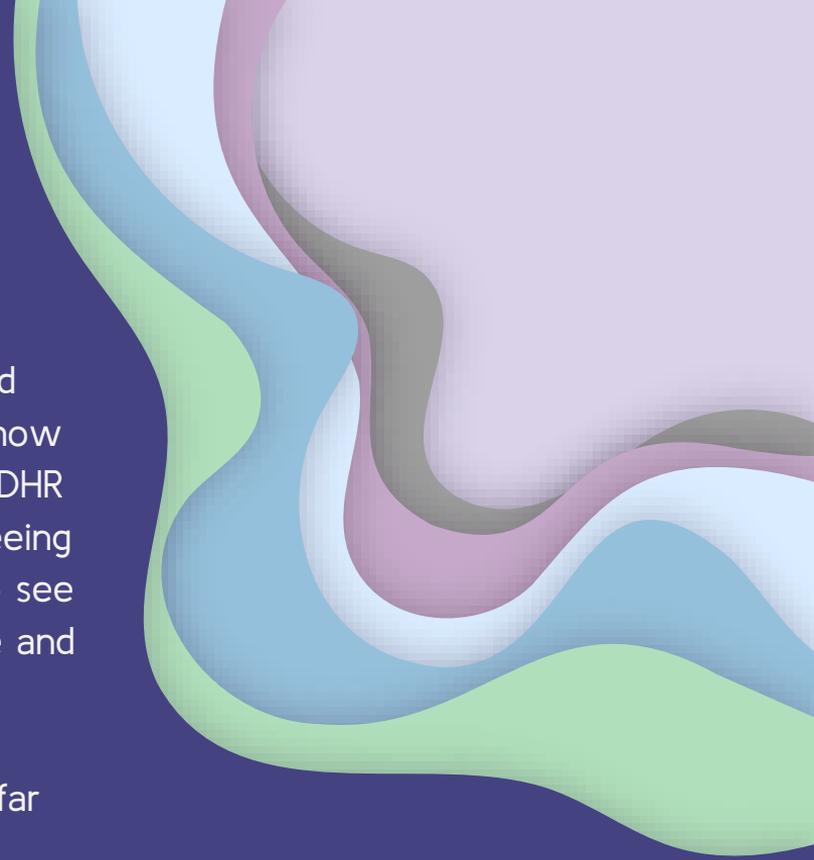
An idea would be a campaign centered around the environment and human health. Focusing on the importance of native plants, green space, and outdoor recreation. Then, how that ties in to food production, humans' physical and mental health, urban planning, groundwater contamination, and more

Potential Partners:

- Five Rivers Metroparks
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- University of Dayton
- Marianist Environmental Education Center
- Dayton Sustainability Office
- County Corps
- Urban gardens

Reflection: Human Rights & the Environment

There is often a disconnect between human rights issues and the protection of the environment. There is little talk about how the environment is key in the narrative of human rights in UDHR and other documents. The SDGs are a huge step towards seeing the big picture. I think it is crucial for people in both areas to see how they benefit one another. We know that lower income and minority groups are more affected by poor environmental conditions. It seems pointless for people to continue on their work without acknowledging that overlap. This project thus far had been a great way for me to apply my background in environmental biology to real life human rights issue. It is a missing link while we strive for equality.



References

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