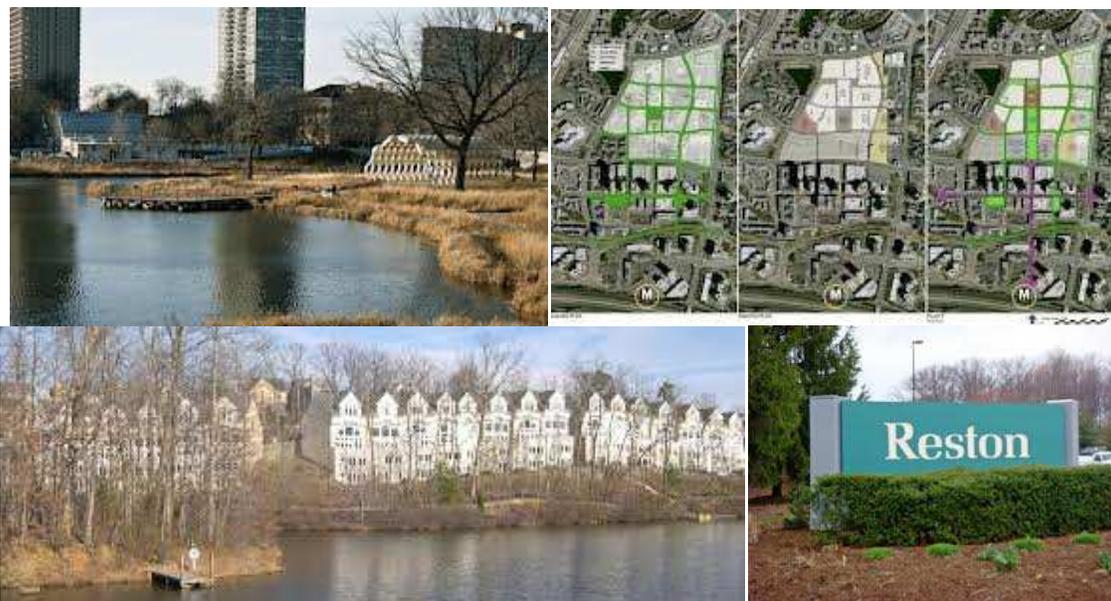


Growing Green: Lessons from Cities on Creating and Sustaining Livable Communities

Walker Nature Center

April 22, 2014

7:00-9:00 PM



The United States and the world are rapidly urbanizing. Nearly 82% of Americans are in urban regions according to the 2010 Census. Creating livable cities that are sustainable and afford access to natural areas -- rivers, forests and open spaces - is a challenge. But many cities and towns have stepped forward with innovative and successful approaches to assuring that their citizens have "near-by nature." Rachel Muir, a Reston resident and scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey will present a whirlwind tour of successes and lessons learned by private-public partnerships and facilitate a discussion on how the experiences of other cities and towns might inform Reston as we are poised to undergo rapid growth and change. Refreshments will be served -- everyone is welcome.



Biography: Rachel Muir is an aquatic ecologist currently serving as a science advisor for the Northeast Region for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Her recent experiences have included Acting Director for the Northeast Climate Center, a partnership of university and federal agencies to research climate change impacts on natural and cultural resources. Her experience includes research and monitoring on water quality at the national level and addressing research and policy regarding protecting wetland environments for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U. S.

Environmental Protection Agency. She has also served as a liaison to the Executive Office of the President, Office of Science and Technology Policy on behalf of the USGS and as a technical liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives regarding the Clean Water Act for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Rachel has lived in Reston for 30 years. She has two sons, both graduates of School Lakes High School. Her interests include swimming, biking and running and training for Reston's two annual triathlons and outdoor education. She can be contacted on line at dr.nature@gmail.com.