

Illustration 10.5 - Cooler, greener, safer neighbourhoods

10.5 ONE BRIGHT THING

Cooler, greener, safer neighbourhoods

Smart design and nature-based solutions can help cities stay cooler, use less water and reduce fire risk.

TOO HOT

Dark surfaces absorb heat.
Few trees or shade.
Water runs away instead of soaking in.

PALE & REFLECTIVE SURFACES

Lighter roofs and pavements reflect sunlight and reduce heat buildup.



TREES & SHADE

Trees cool the air, provide shade and make streets more comfortable.



GREEN ROOFS & BALCONIES

Plants on roofs and balconies provide shade, cool buildings and support wildlife.



TIMBER BUILDINGS

Timber stores carbon and creates healthy, comfortable homes and workplaces.



WATER-WISE PLANTING

Plants that need less water thrive in dry conditions and help keep the neighbourhood cool.



RAIN GARDENS & PLANTED SWALES

Soils and plants soak up rain when it falls and store moisture for dry times.



FIRE-SAFE LANDSCAPES

Using the right plants, keeping spaces between vegetation where removing excess dry matature can reduce fire risk.

COOLER SHADES SAFER TOGETHER



THE BIG IDEA

Designing with nature, using better materials and planning carefully can help reduce heat, support water in dry times and lower fire risk.



More trees & shade



Green roofs & pale surfaces



Timber & low carbon materials



Water-wise landscapes



Fire-smart design



BETTER PLACES, BETTER FUTURE

Small changes, together, create neighbourhoods where people, wildlife and nature can thrive.