



## KATHLEEN L WOLF, PH.D. SOCIAL SCIENTIST

### WHAT I DO

In 2022 I retired from the University of Washington, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences after 28 years of research and teaching activity. Across the years I developed and accessed funding for a research program on the human dimensions of urban greening and urban forestry. My research, based on the principles and methods of environmental psychology, initially exploring public preference, perception, and behavior concerning urban forestry and green infrastructure. Recent, more collaborative studies focus contributions of nature experiences to human health and well-being.

I've devoted substantial effort to research translation and outreach products that synthesize my findings with related empirical publications. More recent focus in this activity has been to translate evidence about nature benefits (particularly human health and well-being) for local government policy and planning. Such science access has generated invitations for presentations and conference keynotes across North America as well as extensive international outreach opportunities.

### PROFESSIONAL MISSION

To discover, understand &  
communicate . . .  
human behavior & benefits . . .  
as people experience  
nature in cities

### EDUCATION

B.A. Biology, Whitman, WA  
M.L.A. & Ph.D. University of MI,  
Ann Arbor

### RESEARCH OUTREACH

[Green Cities: Good Health](#)  
[Human Dimensions of Urban  
Forestry & Urban Greening](#)

### EXTERNAL SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Interdisciplinary Research Leadership  
World Economic Forum – Uplink grants  
Nature & Health Alliance, U of WA collaborator  
Sustainable Sites Initiative – US Green Building Council  
FutureShape – American Planning Association

### TEACHING & COMMUNICATIONS

Guest lecturer in forestry, landscape architecture and environmental health courses at University of Washington

Graduate course in urban environmental education, Antioch

Guest lecturer in urban forestry at University of British Columbia, Bogota Botanical Garden, U.N. International Day of Forests, University of Venice NAAD



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## REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS

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### HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Hazlehurst, M.F., Wolf, K.L., Simmons, C., Nieto, C., Steiner, M. K., Garrett, K. A., Faino, A. V., Ubalde López, M., López-Toribio, M. & Tandon, P.S. 2023. Physical activity and social interaction assessments in schoolyard settings using the system for observing outdoor play environments in neighborhood schools (SOOPEN). *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity* 20, 1.
- Hazlehurst, M.F., Muqueeth, S., Wolf, K.L., Simmons, C., Kroshus, E. & Tandon, P.S. 2022. Park access and mental health among parents and children during the Covid-19 pandemic. *BMC Public Health* 22, 1, 800.
- Wolf, K.L., Lam, S.T., McKeen, J.K., Richardson, G.R., van den Bosch, M., & Bardekjian, A.C. 2020. Urban trees and human health: A scoping review. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17, 12, 4371.
- Wolf, K.L., Derrien, M., Kruger, L.E., & Penbrooke, T.L. 2020. Nature, outdoor experiences, and human health (pp 85-99). In: Selin, S., Cervený, L.K., Blahna, D.J. & Miller, A.B. (eds.), *Nature, Outdoor Experiences, and Human Health*. USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Portland, Oregon.
- Derrien, M.M., Cervený, L.K. & Wolf, K.L. 2019. The human health dimensions of sustainable tourism (pp 140-158). In: McCool, S.F., K. Bosak (eds.), *A Research Agenda for Sustainable Tourism*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Browning, M.H.E.M., Lee, K. & Wolf, K.L. 2019. Tree cover shows an inverse relationship with depressive symptoms in elderly residents living in U.S. nursing homes. *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening* 41, 23-32.
- Wolf, K.L. & Wyatt, M. 2019. Meaningful nature places: Experiencing sacred in the everyday (pp 270-291). In: Campbell, L.K., Svendsen, E., Sonti, N.F., Hines, S.J. & Maddox, D. (eds.), *Green Readiness, Response, and Recovery: A Collaborative Synthesis*. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-P-185. Newtown Square, PA: US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 358 p.p.
- Schertz, K.E., Sachdeva, S., Kardan, O., Kotabe, H.P., Wolf, K.L. & Berman, M.G. 2018. A thought in the park: The influence of naturalness and low-level visual features on expressed thoughts. *Cognition* 174, 82-93.
- Ulmer, J.M., Wolf, K.L., Backman, D.R., Tretheway, R.L., Blain, C.J., O'Neil-Dunne, J.P. & L.D. Frank. 2016. Multiple health benefits of urban tree canopy: The mounting evidence for a green prescription. *Health & Place* 42, 54-62.

### GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CO-BENEFITS

- Janowiak, M.K., Brandt, L.A., Wolf, K.L., Brady, M., . . . & Swanston, C.W. 2021. *Climate Adaptation Actions for Urban Forests and Human Health*. Gen. Tech. Rep. Nrs-203., Madison, WI: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station, p. 115.
- Wolf, K.L., Brinkley, W. & Blahna, D.J. 2021. Civic environmental stewardship: Aligning organizational and participant motivations. *Cities and the Environment (CATE)* 14, 2, 3.
- Barron, S., Nitoslawski, S., Wolf, K.L., Woo, A., Desautels, E. & Sheppard, S.R.J. 2019. Greening blocks: A conceptual typology of practical design interventions to integrate health and climate resilience co-benefits. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 16, 4241.
- Wolf, K.L. & The Nature Conservancy. 2018. *Cascading Benefits: Designing Green Stormwater Infrastructure for Human Wellness*. Seattle WA, The Nature Conservancy.
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- Wolf, K.L. & Housley, E. 2017. Young adult conservation jobs and worker health. *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* 60, 10, 1853-70.
- Wolf, K.L. 2017. Social aspects of urban forestry and metro nature. In: Ferrini, F., Konijnendijk van den Bosch, C. & Fini, A. (eds.), *Handbook of Urban Forestry*. Routledge.

### SCIENCE, POLICY & PLANNING

- Wolf, K.L. 2021. From sanitary to sustainable to sacred: Metro nature experiences and engagement (pp 135-159). In: Muramatsu, S., McGee, T.G. & Mori, K. (eds.), *From Sanitary to Sustainable to Sacred: Metro Nature Experiences and Engagement*. Springer.
- Ordóñez Barona, C., Wolf, K., Kowalski, J.M., Kendal, D., Byrne, J.A. & Conway, T.M. 2022. Diversity in public perceptions of urban forests and urban trees: A critical review. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 226, 104466.
- Wolf, K.L., Derrien, M.M., Kruger, L.E. & Penbrooke, T.L. 2020. Nature, outdoor experiences, and human health (pp 85-99). In: *Igniting Research for Outdoor Recreation: Linking Science, Policy, and Action*. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-987. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station.
- Wolf, K.L. 2019. Bringing it home: Forest therapy, policy and cities (pp 188-207). In: Kotte, D., Li, Q., Shin, W.S. & Michalsen, A. (eds.), *International Handbook of Forest Therapy*. Cambridge Scholars, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK.
- Frumkin, H., Bratman, G.N., Breslow, S.J., Cochran, B., Kahn, P.H., Lawler, J.J., Levin, P.S., Tandon, P.S., Varanasi, U., Wolf, K.L. & Wood, S.A. 2017. Nature contact and human health: A research agenda. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 125, 7, 075001.
- Wolf, K.L. & Brinkley, W. 2016. *Sites To Systems: Nearby Nature for Human Health*. Annapolis, MD: The TKF Foundation, 17 pp
- Wolf, K.L. & Kruger, L.E. 2010. Urban forestry research needs: A participatory assessment process. *Journal of Forestry* 108, 1, 39-44.

### CITY NATURE & ECONOMICS

- Wolf, K.L. 2020. The urban forest and shopping environments (pp 233-256). In: Musso, F. & Druica, E. (eds.), *Handbook of Research on Retailing Techniques for Optimal Consumer Engagement and Experiences*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global.
- Wolf, K.L., Measells, M.K., Grado, S.C. & Robbins, A.S.T. 2015. Economic values of metro nature health benefits: A life course approach. *Urban Forestry and Urban Greening* 14, 694-701.
- Wolf, K.L. & Robbins, A.S.T. 2015. Metro nature, environmental health, and economic value. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 123, 5, 390-8.
- Wolf, K.L. 2009. Strip malls, city trees, and community values. *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry* 35, 1, 33-40.
- Wolf, K. L. 2005. Business district streetscapes, trees and consumer response. *Journal of Forestry*, 103, 8, 396-400.

