

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY

West Chester University Landscape Master Plan

West Chester, Pennsylvania



In recent years, West Chester University, located outside of Philadelphia, PA, has experienced record growth that has stretched the capacity of its campus. To address this, the university sought a holistic approach to growth that reflects its

unique urban character and the local ecology. The planning team, led by Landworks Studio, collaborated with University staff to develop a master plan that promotes learning, community connections, ecological and social resilience, and adaptability.

Integrating ecology and stormwater into a holistic landscape master plan enhances resilience and ecological awareness for the West Chester University campus community.

A key member of the planning team, Biohabitats focused on evaluating the natural resources found on campus, through data analysis and site assessment. With this information, Biohabitats developed specific green infrastructure recommendations and guidance, and provided input on integrated spaces for learning and experimentation. Biohabitats also advised on a regionally appropriate native plant palette for the campus. Team members participated in a series of planning workshops with members of the staff, faculty, and student body.

The resulting master plan responds to the unique character of this urban campus, weaving it into the fabric of

the surrounding neighborhoods and local ecology, while strengthening a sense of community and connection for the student body and providing more integrated opportunities for learning and socializing.

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