

# Miyawaki Forests: Restoring Nature Downtown

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Maya Dutta



Biodiversity for a Livable Climate

*Restoring Ecosystems to Reverse Global Warming*

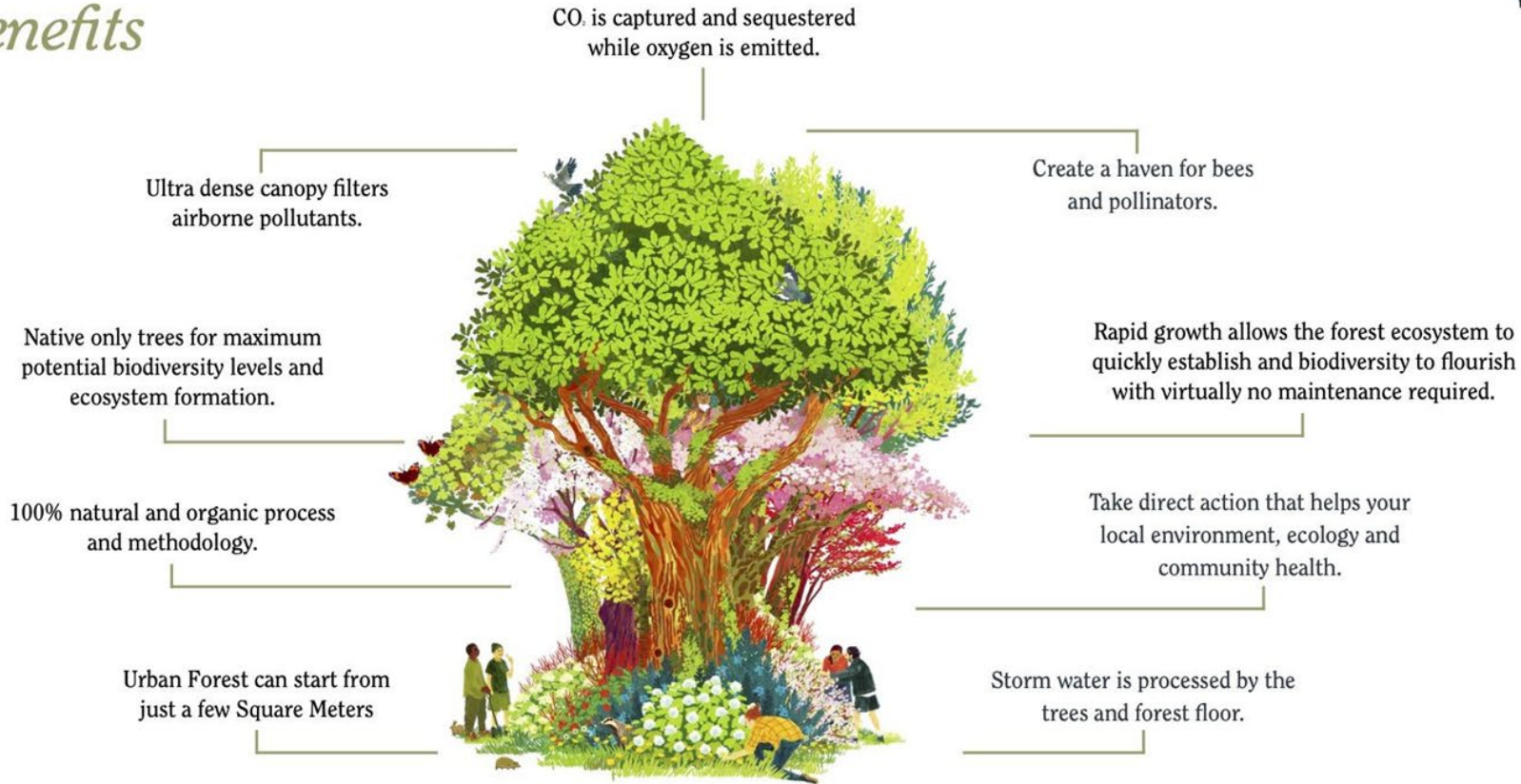
# Biodiversity, Climate, and EcoRestoration

- Understanding the active role of biodiversity in shaping the climate and conditions of life
- Shift from single focus on carbon to appreciating the systems that govern life on our planet
- Changing our relationship to our ecosystems to create resilience



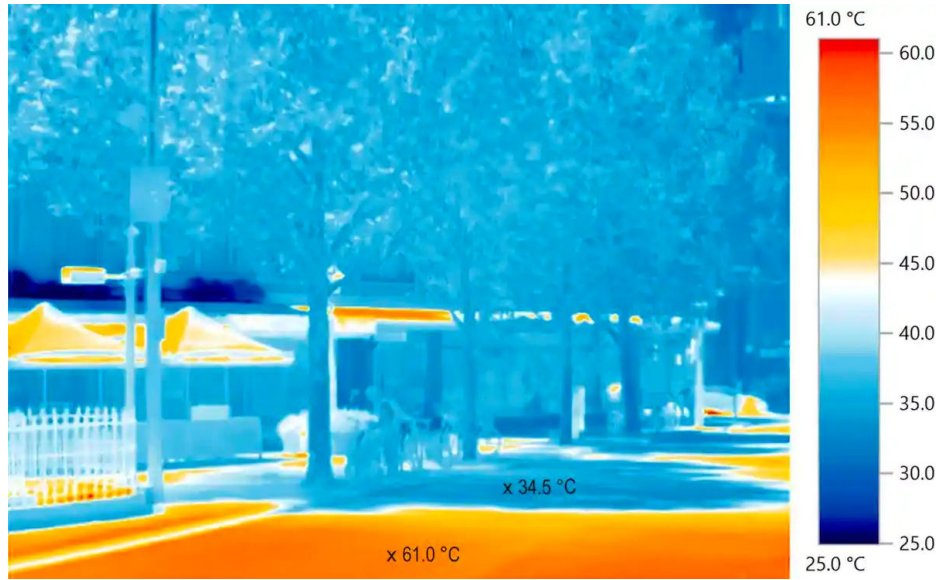
# SUGi Pocket Forests

## — *Benefits*



# Global Warming Requires a Cooling Solution

Nature keeps the Earth cool and buffers extremes



A systems approach multiplies those benefits



# The Beauty of the Mini-Forest

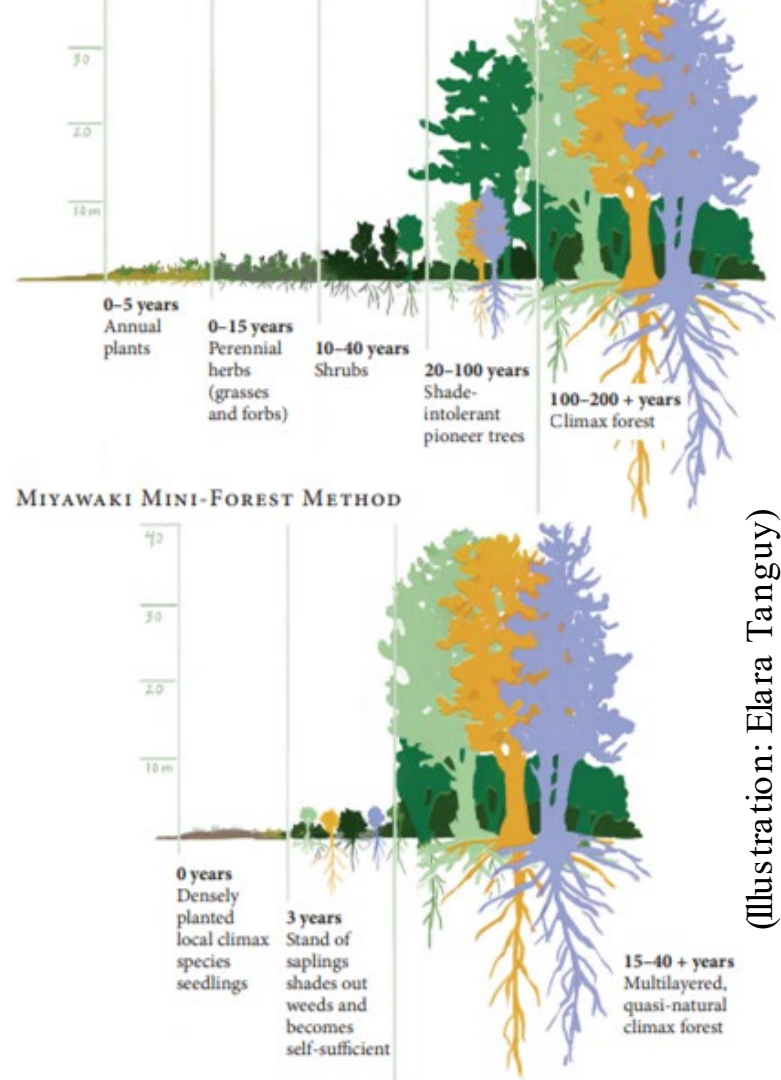
- Miyawaki method can create small pocket forests (> 1000 sq ft)
- Footholds for biodiversity
- Spread education, appreciation for native ecology, and stewardship ethic
- Combat environmental injustice



# Origin and method



Dr. Akira Miyawaki (1928-2021) pioneered the method based on decades of work and observation, and his understanding of ecological succession and potential natural vegetation (PNV)



# Miyawaki Method

## — *Steps & Growth*





Danehy Park,  
Cambridge MA



October 2021



October 2023





November 2022



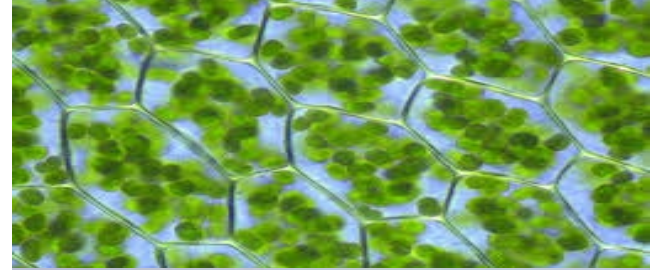
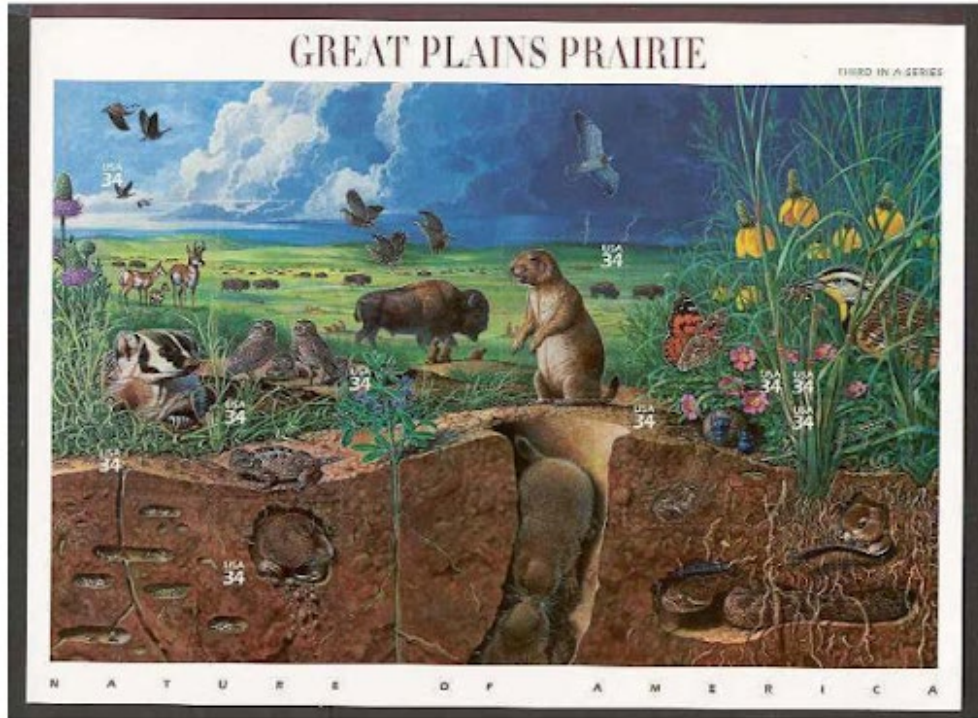
Greene-Rose Park,  
Cambridge MA

October 2023



# Work with allies

- Harness the power of photosynthesis
- Foster living soil, partner with wildlife





# Community forests sustained by community members

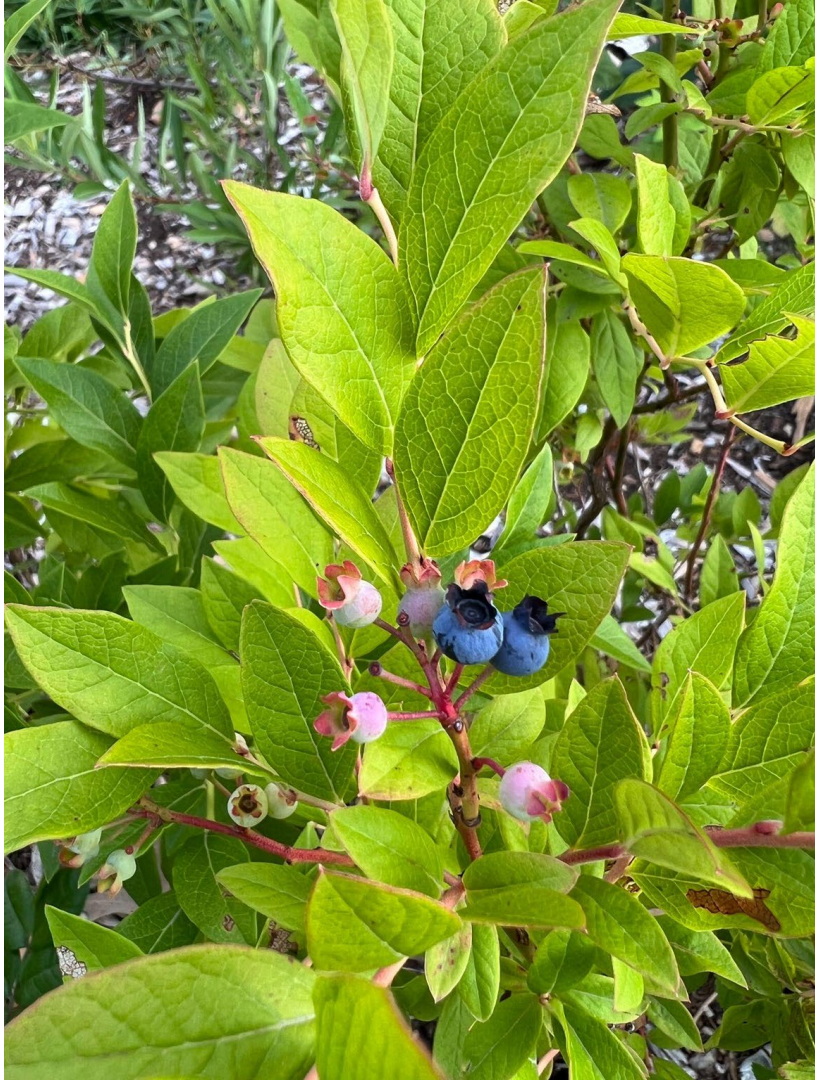
- Planting
- Mulching & Weeding
- Monitoring
  - Growth & Survival
  - Biodiversity & Health





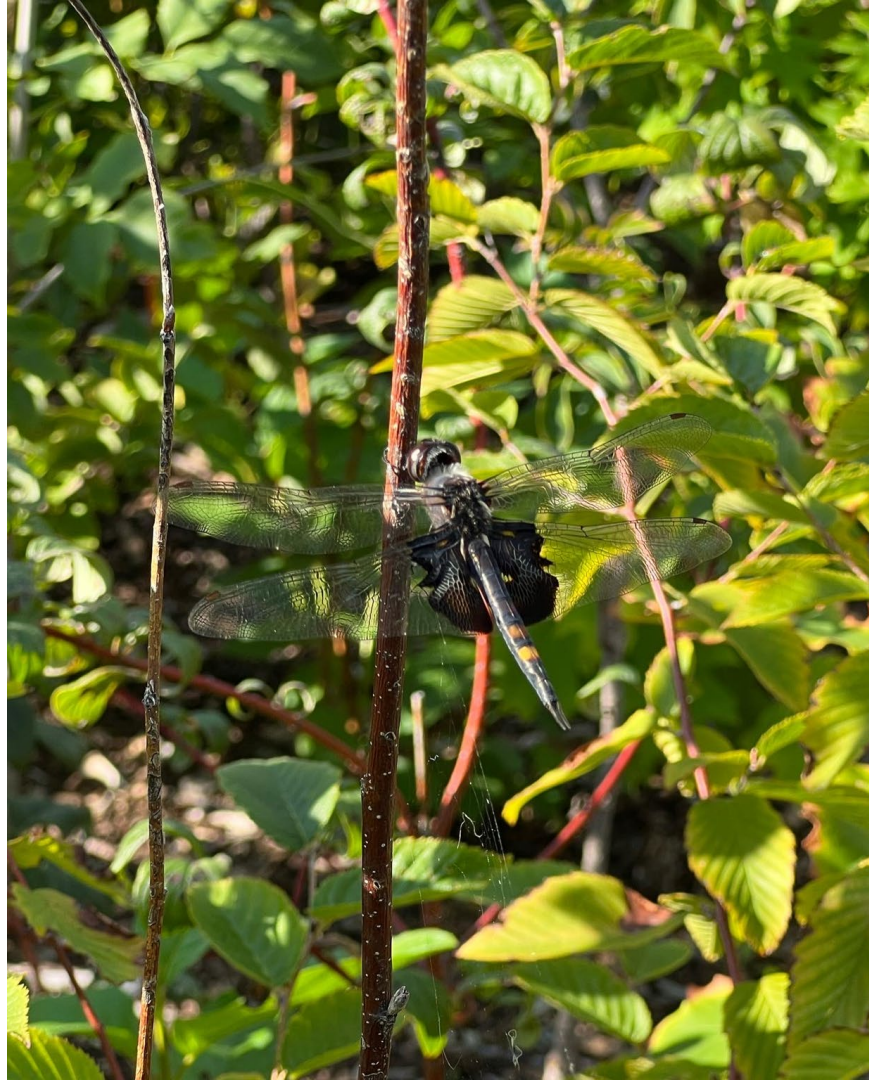




















































# Miyawaki Forest movement

- Miyawaki Forests / Mini Forests / Tiny Forests around the world
- School forests from Lebanon to the Netherlands
- Regional forests in Cambridge, Somerville, Natick, Brookline, Ayer, and counting
- Opportunities for education, planting, stewarding, and seed starting

## Mini-Forest REVOLUTION

*Using the Miyawaki Method to  
Rapidly Rewild the World*



HANNAH LEWIS

*Foreword by* PAUL HAWKEN



Photo by Cassandra Klos





Photo by Cassandra Klos



Photos by Cassandra Klos





Photo by Cassandra Klos



















# Growth and expansion

- School forests, hospital forests, food forests
- Biodiversity and cooling corridors
- Collaborating with research institutions
- Appreciation for wild spaces and biodiversity
- Appreciation for native plants and trees; pollinator gardens; community gardens; rain gardens, and other nature based solutions
- Beware an Either/Or mindset - this is NOT a replacement for conserving intact trees and forests







# Get Involved

- Planting today at McGrath Lot
- Sign up for ongoing stewardship
- Keep up with Green Worcester

Let's turn this...



...into this!



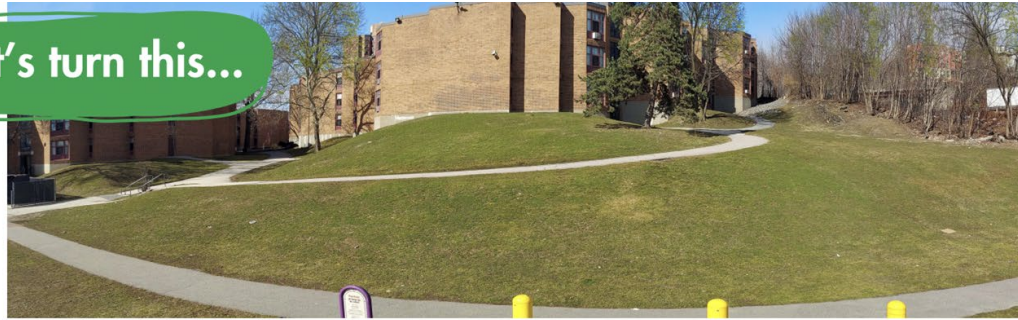




# Get Involved

- Planting next Saturday, May 18 at Plumley Village
- Sign up for ongoing stewardship
- Keep up with Green Worcester

Let's turn this...



...into this!





# Get Involved

- Learn more about Bio4Climate's projects at [bio4climate.org](https://bio4climate.org)
- Join in person and online classes and events
- Volunteer at mini forest projects around Greater Boston
- Stay tuned for photos and videos



# “The Great Work of Our Time”

... to cool the climate, make water and food available, increase health, resilience, biodiversity, and the power of people and communities



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON  
**ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION**  
2021-2030



Thank you!

