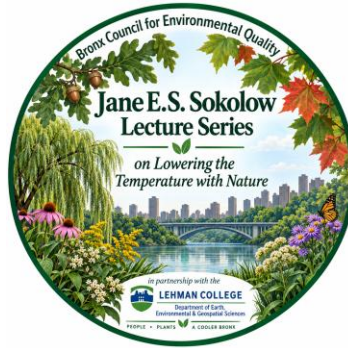


How can nature reduce the effects of recent extreme weather events?



How can natural solutions reduce extreme heat and temperature fluctuations?

The Bronx Council for Environmental Quality in partnership with Lehman College Department of Earth, Environmental & Geospatial Sciences present Jane E.S. Sokolow Lecture Series*: “Lowering the Temperature with Nature”.

The first lecture will be held on **Friday, October 9, 2026**, from **2 pm to 4 pm**. The location is the **Faculty Dining Room** in the Music Building at Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York, Bedford Park Boulevard at Paul Avenue in the Bronx NY 10468. The venue is one block from the #4 train and easily accessible by public transit. Metered street parking is available near the campus.

Please bring a reusable water bottle with you; a water faucet is on site. Light snacks will be served. We are also offering a hybrid session, but **registration will close October 6**.

REGISTER in person at [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) / for virtual at <mailto:rsvp@bceq.org>

The series will highlight scientists, ecologists, and agency practitioners who work on the creation, restoration, and improvement of New York City’s natural carbon sinks, including salt marshes, seagrass beds, forests, urban parks and woodlands, street trees and green roofs. Highlights will advance climate resilience, ecological restoration, clean energy replacement of fossil fuels, equity and community-environmental benefits. We plan to hold several lectures throughout the school year. This new direction will focus on reducing extreme heat and temperature fluctuations with natural solutions.

For October 9, 2026, our guest speaker PROGRAM will be

- **Dr. Paul S. Mankiewicz** is a Biogeochemist with over 30 years of experience in ecological restoration and green infrastructure. Paul has demonstrated the transformative power of integrating greenery into urban environments. By designing and constructing living structures across the city, he aims to combat heat islands, capture CO₂, and remove air pollutants, improving public health and well-being.
- **John McLaughlin** is the Managing Director of the Office of Ecosystem Services, Green Infrastructure and Research at the NYC DEP. He has spent over three decades leading ecological restoration, wetland and natural resource protection, and green infrastructure projects across New York City.

Thank you to our partners: **Dr. Holly Porter-Morgan**, Department Chair Earth, Environmental & Geospatial Sciences (EEGS), Herbert H. Lehman College, and corporate sponsor **Con Edison**.

**The BCEQ Jane E.S. Sokolow Lecture Series is in honor of our beloved Board Member who died too soon. Jane loved trees, the Bronx and everything green. She was a prominent environmental conservationist, community activist, and master’s graduate of the Yale School of Forestry and Environment Studies, who worked at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx NY.*