

The publication **BiodiverCITY_A matter of vital soil!** teaches that living soil in the city needs more attention. The BiodiverCITY team (municipality of Amsterdam, in collaboration with Naturalis and NIOO-KNAW) is therefore launching a **series of meetings about soil** and warmly invites you to attend these meetings.

The fourth meeting will take place on:

Thursday evening 11 July from 19.00 to 21.30 (walk-in 10 min. before start)

in the Oostzaal of the Groote Museum Artis, Amsterdam. Address is Plantage Middenlaan 41, but the museum entrance is on Artisplein, next to the Chilean flamingos.

The meeting is the fourth in the series, organised by **Academic Workshop Soil (AWS)**. The series' overarching question is: How does it all come together in the soil of public spaces, now and in the future?

Invited by the Chief Science Office of the City of Amsterdam, the AWB was started by the BiodiverCITY team and is an interdisciplinary lab and workshop for professionals and other interested parties to arrive at new insights and research questions around soil.

The speakers were:

Wouter van Eck - Lecturer and co-founder and farmer at Voedselbos Ketelbroek (the oldest food forest in the Netherlands) and founder of Stichting Voedselbosbouw Nederland

Thijs van Spaandonk - Founding partner and urban designer BRIGHT Cooperative (member of The Cloud Collective) and researcher lectorate Future Urban Regions (FUR)

Leo Pols - Until recently working at the PBL/Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency and author of numerous articles such as Whose landscape is it? and co-author of publications on the (urban)landscape

Based on the theme of Time, the speakers will talk from their various disciplines about acting for a vital soil and climate-proof city, with and in the soil. The lectures will be followed by stimulating questions.

You are most welcome invited to join the discussion.

Housekeeping notice:

The meeting is free to attend, but admission to the Groote Museum Artis requires an entry card (<https://dagtickets.artis.nl/>) or an annual museum pass required. This meeting will be filmed.

For more information on the AWB, the meetings, speakers, see: <https://openresearch.amsterdam/nl/page/85036/academische-werk-plaats-bodem>

For more information on BiodiverCITY, see here: <https://openresearch.amsterdam/en/page/71091/biodiversity>

In today's petrified city, heat stress, flooding, soil subsidence and loss of biodiversity all occur, and soil vitality is under great pressure. Climate change and energy transition are placing increasing demands on the urban subsurface. Slowly, awareness is beginning to sink in of what a healthy soil means for a city and country, and that it is precisely the other living species - Flora Fauna Funga (FFF) - that create, nourish and sustain life.

The current bottlenecks in the city are well known, but how do we tackle the major infrastructure challenges? By being innovative, integrated and interdisciplinary. By seeing the city as a metabolism, and improving and future-proofing the existing city and its urban systems with innovative design tools.

Promoting biodiversity requires working towards a healthy and robust infranature so that important cycles are restored and supported. This can be done by greening instead of petrifying and, above all, connecting city and country at the blue-green level. How do we do this? What role can time play? How much green and open soil is needed for a healthy balance? Whose turn is it? Who actually owns the landscape and soil?

TIME

