Philadelphia LandCare — Citywide Vacant-Lot Greening, Tested in a 541-Lot Randomised Trial

City Innovation Library · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 81/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Philadelphia's LandCare programme (PHS, since 1999) cleans and greens vacant lots; a cluster randomised trial of 541 lots reported up to 29% less gun violence near treated lots in poor neighbourhoods.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	3/3
Sustainability / continuity	3/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-10

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) with the City of Philadelphia — accessed 2026-11-10

Columbia Mailman School of Public Health — randomised study summary — accessed 2026-11-10

Shelterforce — Greening vacant lots: low cost, big effect in Philly — accessed 2026-11-10

WHYY — Philly's LandCare program cleans, greens and reduces crime — accessed 2026-11-10

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