COMMUNITY ADAPTATIONS TO CITY HEAT

URBAN HEAT ACTION AND POLICY DATABASE

How do Boston, Phoenix, and New Orleans making outdoor activities safer during extreme heat?

the CATCH HEAT PROJECT

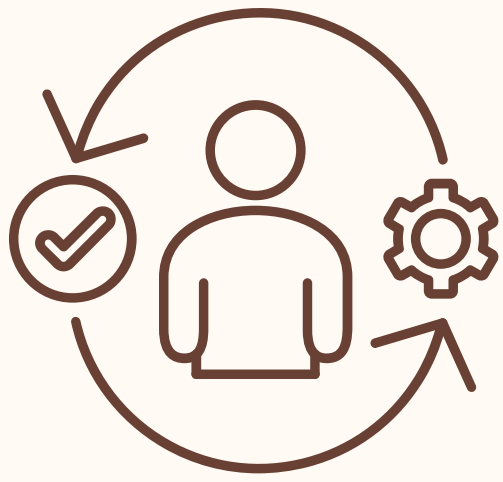
BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Funded by: wellcome

As temperatures rise, extreme heat is changing how people experience cities, whether they're commuting, shopping, biking, hiking, or visiting local attractions.

Cities are adopting a variety of strategies to help residents and visitors stay safe and comfortable while enjoying outdoor spaces during hot weather.

The following examples highlight just a few ways Boston, New Orleans, and Phoenix are adapting outdoor experiences for extreme heat.



Scroll to learn more!

Boston

Boston's **Cool Main Streets** strategy incorporates shade, cool pavements, and cooling resources into commercial corridors to create more comfortable streets for shopping, dining, and community gatherings.

Scan to read more about the Cool Main Streets (Strategy 7.3)!

🛍️ Cooler streets can support healthier, more vibrant neighborhoods.

Phoenix

Phoenix's **Trail Heat Safety Program** provides guidance and seasonal trail closures to help hikers and other outdoor recreation users safely enjoy parks and trails during extreme heat.

Scan to read more about Maricopa County's Heat Surveillance Program !

🥾 Outdoor recreation requires heat safety planning.

New Orleans

New Orleans is expanding **Complete Streets** and bicycle infrastructure through initiatives like **Moving New Orleans Bikes**, creating safer and more comfortable options for walking and cycling throughout the city.

Scan to read more about bicycle expansion!

🚲 Comfortable streets encourage active transportation.

Heat protections vary widely across cities — with major gaps in coverage and enforcement.

Do you know if your city has heat protection laws? Tell us!

Check out our database to learn more about heat action and policies!

Making **extreme heat** impacts visible in **frontline communities.**

Working in Boston, Phoenix, and New Orleans.

the CATCH HEAT PROJECT

A project at Boston University School of Public Health funded by a Climate Impact Award from Wellcome Foundation.

https://www.catchcityheat.org/

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