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Executive Summary

Norfolk is a city shaped by water. Its bridges, streets, and neighborhoods are woven around rivers, creeks, and the bay. Our city and its green spaces are increasingly affected by environmental concerns such as flooding, extreme heat, pollution, habitat loss, and food insecurity. Addressing these resilience challenges requires more—and less—than large infrastructure projects. We can look at our landscapes, ask how they can work more efficiently for our neighbors and environment, and then take small but consistent steps forward.

The Norfolk Resilience Action Plan proposes a simple, scalable planting playbook.

The overall principle is straightforward:

Plant for the environment.

Plants have ideal environments, and environments have ideal plants. Let's align them to foster our resilience goals.

A flood-prone neighborhood street can benefit from flood-tolerant persimmons. A hot sidewalk beside a busy boulevard can be sheltered by shady fig trees. Swamp blueberries can be planted along creeks to counter erosion and pollution.

By matching plants to our environmental needs, Norfolk can use vegetation as part of its living infrastructure while fostering spaces that provide food, beauty, and resilience.

The plan focuses on five resilience priorities:

1. Water Management & Flooding
2. Urban Heat
3. Pollution
4. Pollinators & Urban Habitat
5. Food Security

These priorities are interconnected. The goal is not to assign each plant a single function, but to understand what each place needs and select plants that can contribute to several of those needs at once.

The Norfolk Resilience Planting Guide focuses on six fruiting plants suited to different conditions: figs, blueberries, American persimmons, thornless blackberries, beach plums, and pawpaws. Each is examined according to where it can grow, what it can contribute, what plants can support it, and how it can be incorporated into a larger landscape.

The plan then applies this approach to several proposed Norfolk case study sites, including Mowbray Arch / The Hague, Hampton Boulevard / Lambert's Point, Pescara Creek / Berkley, and First Lutheran Church / Ghent. These sites demonstrate how planting strategies respond in different environmental conditions and community contexts.

Implementation begins small. A median, creek edge, church property, trail, or other underused space can become a demonstration site. These plantings can be established, cared for, observed, and measured. Successful approaches can then be adapted and replicated elsewhere.

This work also depends on community stewardship. Residents, volunteers, neighborhood organizations, civic leagues, schools, churches, nonprofits, city departments, and other institutions can participate in planting, maintenance, education, and long-term care. The goal is to not only build resilient landscapes, but to foster education and relationships around those landscapes, as well.

Success will be measured by more than the number of plants installed. The plan will consider plant survival, environmental benefits, food production, pollinator support, community participation, and lessons learned. This allows Norfolk to determine what works, improve what does not, and confidently replicate successful approaches.

Over time, individual plantings can become part of a larger network of productive, biodiverse, and resilient landscapes throughout the city.

The Norfolk Resilience Action Plan does not suggest that plants can replace engineered infrastructure. Rather, it recognizes that living systems can work alongside existing infrastructure and complement the environmental goals Norfolk has already committed to. The opportunity is to begin with what we have, plant for the place, and take small but consistent steps toward a more resilient Norfolk**.**

Resilience Priorities

Norfolk's environmental challenges are interconnected. Flooding can affect soil and water quality. Heat is intensified by pavement and limited shade. Habitat can become fragmented as development changes the landscape. At the same time, access to fresh food remains an important part of neighborhood resilience.

The Norfolk Resilience Action Plan focuses on five interconnected priorities. These priorities provide the framework for selecting plants and identifying locations where planting can provide the greatest benefit.

Water Management & Flooding

Norfolk is a city shaped by water. Stormwater, tidal flooding, drainage, erosion, and sea-level rise can affect streets, neighborhoods, waterways, and public spaces.

Vegetation can complement engineered stormwater infrastructure by slowing runoff, increasing infiltration where conditions allow, stabilizing soil, and helping landscapes absorb and manage water.

Urban Heat

Pavement, buildings, and other hard surfaces can contribute to higher temperatures in exposed urban areas. Areas with limited shade can become particularly uncomfortable for pedestrians and more vulnerable to extreme heat.

Trees, shrubs, and other vegetation can introduce shade and reduce exposed surfaces while creating cooler, more usable public spaces.

Pollution & Environmental Health

Stormwater runoff can carry sediment and pollutants from streets, parking areas, and other developed surfaces into local waterways. Vegetated landscapes can help slow runoff, stabilize soil, and intercept sediment before it reaches nearby water.

Planting can therefore complement broader efforts to improve water quality and environmental health throughout Norfolk.

Pollinators & Urban Habitat

Urban development can fragment natural habitat and reduce the continuity of vegetation available to insects, birds, and other wildlife.

Planting diverse trees, shrubs, flowers, and groundcover can create habitat within developed areas and help connect existing green spaces. Selecting plants that provide different forms of vegetation and seasonal resources can strengthen these urban ecological networks.

Food Security

Access to fresh, locally grown food is another component of community resilience. Productive landscapes can make use of existing green spaces while providing fruit and opportunities for residents to participate in growing and harvesting food.

Fruit trees, shrubs, and other edible plants can therefore serve multiple purposes, combining food production with environmental benefits and community stewardship.

These priorities are not separate objectives. The strongest planting strategies address several at once by matching plants to the environmental conditions and needs of each site.

Norfolk Resilience Planting Guide

Fig

*Ficus carica(*Celeste and Brown Turkey)

Figs should be planted in **sunny, well-drained locations**. They perform best where they receive at least six hours of direct sunlight and where their roots are not left in standing water.

Potential locations include:

- Sunny sidewalk medians
- Open spaces along busy streets
- Sunny spots in public parks
- Full sun school and church green spaces
- Trail corridors
- South- or west-facing edges of buildings

useful rule of thumb:

Plant figs in empty, sunny, well draining green spaces and heat island.

Resilience Benefits

Urban Heat

Figs can help address urban heat by introducing shade into exposed areas. A mature fig develops a broad canopy that can shade portions of sidewalks, gathering spaces, and other hardscaped environments.

This is particularly useful along busy boulevards and in areas where pavement and buildings contribute to higher temperatures..

Street and Pollution Buffers

Figs can help soften busy roadside environments. Their foliage can support a buffer between pedestrians and traffic, helping intercept some dust and airborne particles while reducing the visual and physical exposure of pedestrians to the roadway.

Supporting Plants

- **White clover**—*Trifolium repens*
- **Yarrow**— *Achillea millefollium*
- **Self-heal** *Prunella vulgaris*
- **Rosemary—**Rosmarinus officinalis *prostratus*
- **Lavender—***Lavandula x intermedia* 'Phenomenal'

Blueberry

Vaccinium fuscatum

Black Highbush Blueberry

Vaccinium formosum

Swamp Highbush Blueberry

Black highbush and swamp highbush blueberries are suited to moist, acidic soils and wetland environments, making them useful for flood-prone portions of our urban landscape. Virginia's natural-heritage information specifically identifies Vaccinium formosum in wet hardwood forests, while V. fuscatum is associated with saturated and poorly drained environments.

Potential locations include:

- Flood-prone green spaces
- Low-lying areas
- Rain gardens and wetland edges
- Drainage areas
- Stream and creek buffers
- Areas that periodically hold water

Useful rule of thumb:

Plant swamp and black highbush blueberries in flood-prone, acidic, sunny green spaces.

Resilience Benefits

Flood Resilience
Vaccinium formosum occurs naturally in wet Virginia forests, while V. fuscatum is associated with wet and poorly drained habitats. These blueberries tolerate wet conditions and periodic flooding, making them useful for flood-prone green spaces. Their established root systems can also help hold soil in place during heavy rain and runoff.

Supporting Plants

- **Swamp milkweed** — *Asclepias incarnata*
- **Cardinal flower** — *Lobelia cardinalis*
- **Blue flag iris** — *Iris virginica*
- **Blue vervain** — *Verbena hastata*
- **Soft rush** — *Juncus effusus*

These are examples of plants associated with wet Virginia plant communities and can help create a more complete wet-site planting system.

Vaccinium corymbosum × Vaccinium darrowii

Southern Highbush *(* O'Neal, Camellia, Magnolia)

Vaccinium virgatum

rabbit eye (Premier, Powder Blue)

Highbush and Rabbit eye blueberries are native fruiting shrubs suited to sunny locations with acidic, well-drained soils. They can be incorporated into residential landscapes, community gardens, public spaces, and other areas where a low-growing woody plant can provide habitat and seasonal fruit. These blueberries offer an opportunity to replace ornamental landscaping with productive vegetation.

Potential locations include:

- Full sun street medians
- Parks and public gathering spaces
- School and church properties
- Residential yards
- Trail corridors
- Replace ornamental bushes(Indian hawthorn)
- Sunny edges of wooded areas

A useful rule of thumb is:

Plant *highbush and rabbit eye* blueberries in sunny, acidic, well draining spaces.

American Persimmon

Diospyros virginiana

American persimmon is a native fruiting tree well suited to Norfolk's climate and a wide range of soil conditions. It performs best in full sun and can tolerate periods of wet soil once established, making it useful for locations where flooding or poor drainage occur. American persimmons can provide shade, habitat, and seasonal food while adding vertical structure to parks, streetscapes, and creek corridors.

Potential locations include:

- Flood-prone streetscapes
- Creek and drainage corridors
- Parks and public gathering spaces
- Community gardens
- School and church properties
- Trail corridors
- Open green spaces
- Sunny edges of wetlands and natural areas

A useful rule of thumb is:

Plant an American persimmons in a sunny space flood prone place

Resilience Benefits

Flood Resilience

American persimmons can tolerate periodic wet conditions better than many commonly planted fruit trees. This makes them a useful option for landscapes that experience temporary flooding but are not permanently saturated.

Urban Canopy

As a native tree capable of reaching substantial size, American persimmon can contribute to long-term tree canopy where adequate growing space is available. Planting trees in appropriate locations can provide shade while adding structure and ecological diversity to Norfolk's green spaces.

Supporting Plants

- **Swamp highbush blueberry** (*Vaccinium formosum*)
- **Buttonbush** (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- **Blue flag iris** — *Iris virginica*
- **Cardinal flower** (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- **Soft rush** (*Juncus effusus*)
- **Virginia sweetspire** (*Itea virginica*)
- **Switchgrass** (*Panicum virgatum*)

Thornless Blackberry

***Rubus* spp.** (thornless cultivars)

Thornless blackberries are productive fruiting plants well suited to Norfolk's warm climate. They prefer full sun, well-drained soil, and support for their long, arching canes. They perform best where they receive at least six hours of direct sunlight and have enough room for their canes to spread or be trained along a support.

Potential locations include:

- Along fences and property boundaries
- As borders around gardens and community spaces
- Along the edges of parks and public gathering spaces
- Community gardens
- School and church properties
- Trail corridors
- Other sunny locations where the canes can be supported

A useful rule of thumb is:

Plant thornless blackberries along fences, borders, and sunny edges where their canes can be trained and maintained, as well as in spaces where a blackberry planting can gradually expand and fill available growing space.

Resilience Benefits

Urban Heat

Blackberry foliage adds vegetation to exposed landscapes and can provide localized shade, helping reduce heat around the planting.

Erosion & Soil Stability

The perennial root system helps hold soil in place, while the canes and foliage provide vegetation that can reduce exposed soil and slow surface runoff.

Supporting Plants

- White clover (*Trifolium repens*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*)
- Bee balm (*Monarda fistulosa*)
- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Beach Plum

Prunus maritima

Beach plum is a native fruiting shrub well suited to coastal environments and sandy soils. It tolerates salt and wind and can help stabilize soil along exposed edges. It performs well in full sun, well drained soil and exposed locations particularly along borders, slopes, and other areas where wind and coastal conditions are a consideration.

Potential locations include:

- Coastal parks and open spaces
- Sandy or well-drained slopes
- Waterfront properties
- Trail corridors
- Park and street edges

A useful rule of thumb is:

Plant beach plum along sunny, exposed edges where its dense growth can help stabilize soil and create a resilient coastal landscape.

Resilience Benefits

Erosion & Soil Stability

Beach plum develops a dense root system and branching structure that can help hold soil in place. Its ability to grow in sandy conditions makes it particularly useful for stabilizing exposed slopes and coastal landscapes.

Coastal Resilience

Beach plum is adapted to coastal conditions, including salt exposure, wind, and sandy soils. Incorporating it into coastal plantings can add vegetation and structural diversity to areas exposed to these conditions.

Urban Heat

Beach plum adds foliage and vegetation to exposed landscapes, providing localized shade and reducing the amount of bare ground and hardscape directly exposed to sunlight.

Supporting Plants

- Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)
- Seaside goldenrod (*Solidago sempervirens*)
- Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

Pawpaw

Asimina triloba

The pawpaw is a native fruiting tree well suited to Norfolk's climate. It naturally grows in moist, fertile soils and is often found along stream banks and in forest understories. Its large leaves create a broad canopy, making it useful for adding shade and vegetation to urban landscapes. Potential locations include:

- Creek and drainage corridors
- Parks and natural areas
- Trail corridors
- Community gardens
- School and church properties
- Woodland edges
- Shaded or partially shaded public spaces
- moist locations with adequate room for mature trees

A useful rule of thumb is:

Plant pawpaws in moist, partially shaded locations where their broad canopy can provide shade and contribute to a layered landscape.

Resilience Benefits

Urban Heat

Pawpaws develop large leaves and a broad canopy that can provide shade and reduce direct exposure to sunlight. Groups of pawpaws can contribute to cooler, more vegetated spaces.

Supporting Plants

Pawpaws naturally occur as part of layered woodland communities. Lower-growing plants can be incorporated beneath and around the trees to provide additional ground cover and habitat.

- Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)
- Blue flag iris (*Iris versicolor*)
- Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Woodland phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)
- Coral bells (*Heuchera americana*)

Case Study Sites

Mowbray Arch / The Hague



Resilience Priority: Water Management & Flooding

Site Conditions

Across from Mowbray Arch, along the Elizabeth River Trail, is a green space that presents an opportunity to better manage water while improving an underused landscape. The site is exposed to flooding and sits within the most travy part of The Elizabeth River Trail. The site could be used as a demonstration of how productive vegetation can be incorporated into flood-prone urban landscapes.





Planting Strategy

The planting strategy will focus on species that can tolerate the site's wet conditions while helping stabilize soil and slow the movement of stormwater. American persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) and swamp highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium formosum*) can form the foundation of the planting, with wet-tolerant understory plants incorporated around them.The goal is not to create a traditional orchard, but a layered landscape that responds to the site's relationship with water.

Proposed Plantings

- American persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)
- Swamp highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium formosum*)
- Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)
- Blue flag iris (*Iris virginica*)
- Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
- Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*)

Resilience Benefits

The planting can help slow and intercept stormwater, stabilize soil, and increase vegetation in a flood-prone landscape. Deep-rooted trees and shrubs can provide longer-term structure, while lower-growing plants can help cover exposed soil and reduce erosion.





The site would also demonstrate how fruiting plants can contribute to resilience infrastructure while providing food, habitat, and a more attractive public landscape.

Long-Term Opportunity

Mowbray Arch / The Hague could serve as a demonstration site for flood-resilient planting along Norfolk's waterfront and trail network. Plant survival, growth, erosion, and changes in site conditions could be observed over time, providing information that can guide similar plantings at other flood-prone sites throughout the city.

Hampton Boulevard / Lambert's Point



Resilience Priority: Urban Heat

Site Conditions

Along Hampton Boulevard, just north of the underpass, are steep green spaces exposed to intense sunlight, traffic, and heat. The slope also shows signs of erosion. With increasing pedestrian activity around Lamberts Point, Old Dominion University, and the surrounding corridor, these spaces present an opportunity to address heat and erosion while improving the landscape.





Planting Strategy

The planting strategy should introduce vegetation that can provide shade, stabilize the slope, and make productive use of the existing green space. Figs can serve as a primary planting where there is sufficient sunlight and room for their mature canopy.

Supporting vegetation can be incorporated around the trees to provide additional soil coverage and create a more layered landscape.

Proposed Plantings

- **Fig—***Ficus carica*
- **Thornless blackberry—***Rubus* spp
- **White clover**—*Trifolium repens* .
- **Yarrow**—*Achillea millefollium*
- **Self-heal—***Prunella vulgaris*
- **Rosemary—**Rosmarinus officinalis *prostratus*
- **Lavender—***Lavandula x intermedia* 'Phenomenal'

Resilience Benefits

The primary benefit is reducing urban heat through increased vegetation and shade. Mature fig trees can provide meaningful canopy along an exposed corridor, while lower vegetation can reduce exposed soil and help slow surface runoff on the slope.





The planting can also make an otherwise underused green space more useful and visually connected to the surrounding pedestrian environment.

Long-Term Opportunity

Hampton Boulevard / Lamberts Point could demonstrate how strategic planting can turn exposed urban green space into a cooler, more productive, and more stable landscape. Successful approaches could be adapted to other hot, heavily trafficked corridors throughout Norfolk.

Pescara Creek / Berkley



Resilience Priority: Pollution

Site Conditions

Pescara Creek runs through Berkley and connects to the Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River. The creek and surrounding landscape are affected by stormwater runoff, flooding, erosion, and pollution. These conditions make the creek corridor an opportunity to use vegetation as part of a broader water-quality and resilience strategy.





Planting Strategy

The planting strategy should establish a diverse vegetated buffer along appropriate portions of the creek and surrounding drainage areas. Plants should be selected according to their ability to tolerate the site's moisture, stabilize soil, slow runoff, and withstand local conditions.

Proposed Plantings

- Swamp highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium formosum*)
- Fig (*Ficus carica*)
- Beach plum (*Prunus maritima*)
- Black willow (*Salix nigra*)
- Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)
- Eastern baccharis (*Baccharis halimifolia*)
- Marsh hibiscus / swamp rose mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)
- Smooth cordgrass (*Sporobolus alterniflorus*)
- Saltmeadow cordgrass (*Sporobolus pumilus*)
- Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*)
- Maypop (*Passiflora incarnata*)

Resilience Benefits

Vegetated buffers can slow stormwater runoff, capture sediment, stabilize creek banks, and help reduce the movement of pollutants toward the water. Root systems also help hold soil in place and reduce erosion.





A diverse planting can provide additional ecological function while creating a more continuous green corridor along the creek.

Long-Term Opportunity

Pescara Creek / Berkley could demonstrate how neighborhood-scale planting can complement larger stormwater, water-quality, and resilience projects. The site could also provide a model for restoring vegetated buffers and connecting environmental improvements with neighborhood stewardship.

First Lutheran Church / Ghent

Resilience Priority: Food Security



Site Conditions

First Lutheran Church provides an opportunity to transform an open portion of its property into a small community orchard. The site can demonstrate how an institutional landscape can support food production while creating a shared resource for the surrounding neighborhood.





Planting Strategy

The planting strategy would establish a **fig and berry orchard**, combining fruiting trees and berry-producing plants with flowering plants and low-growing vegetation. Figs can provide the upper canopy, while blackberries can occupy the lower layers and edges of the orchard.

Appropriate portions of lawn can be converted into planted areas, increasing productive vegetation while reducing the amount of turf that must be maintained.

Proposed Planting

- Fig *Ficus carica*
- Thornless blackberry *Rubus* spp.
- Blueberries
- Supporting flowering plants and groundcovers selected by the church and congregation

Nonnative bushes can be replaced by fruiting shrubs, while up sunny spaces can be filled with a fig tree.

Resilience Benefits

The orchard would increase access to locally grown fruit while making productive use of existing institutional land. Its layered planting can also provide pollinator resources, vegetation, and habitat within the neighborhood.

The site could demonstrate how food-producing landscapes can become part of neighborhood resilience while creating opportunities for community participation, stewardship, and harvesting.

Long-Term Opportunity

First Lutheran Church/Ghent could serve as a model for small institutional orchards throughout Norfolk. Churches, schools, and other community institutions could adapt the approach to their own properties, creating a network of productive neighborhood landscapes.

Collaboration, Partnerships & Allies

Community Participation & Stewardship

Residents and volunteers participate in identifying sites, planting, watering, mulching, pruning, harvesting, monitoring, and ongoing care. Community involvement can also help ensure that plantings reflect the needs and character of each neighborhood.

Seasonal Care & Education

Use the seasonal cycle as the educational framework:

Fall: Plant
Winter: Prune
Spring: Fertilize
Summer: Harvest

Master Gardeners and other knowledgeable partners can use case-study sites as demonstration locations, giving residents practical experience caring for fruiting plants and supporting vegetation.

Civic, Neighborhood & Institutional Partnerships

Civic leagues, neighborhood associations, churches, schools, universities, nonprofits, city departments, environmental organizations, businesses, and other institutions can contribute land, expertise, funding, volunteers, education, outreach, and long-term support.

Existing Partners & Allies

- Elizabeth River Trail (ERT)
- Elizabeth River Project (ERP)
- City of Norfolk Office of Resilience
- Tidewater Compost
- Norfolk Environmental Commission
- Norfolk Tree Commission

Long-Term Vision & Replication

The Norfolk Resilience Action Plan is designed to begin with small, practical interventions and grow through experience. Each planting can provide an opportunity to observe what works, learn from challenges, and improve future projects.

Implementation

- **Demonstration Sites** — Establish the four case-study sites as models for environment-specific resilience planting.
- **Small-Scale Plantings** — Identify individual sites where one or a few fruiting plants can address a specific resilience opportunity.
- **Park Planting Initiative** — Aim for **1–3 appropriate fruiting plants in every Norfolk park**, based on site conditions, available space, and park use.

Measurement & Learning

The success of a planting should be measured by more than the number of plants installed. Observing plant survival, growth, maintenance needs, environmental conditions, food production, community participation, and other site-specific outcomes can help determine whether a planting is achieving its intended purpose.

Case-study sites can provide opportunities to document these outcomes over time. Simple observations and consistent recordkeeping can help identify which plants perform well under particular conditions, what maintenance is required, and how different planting approaches affect the surrounding landscape.

This creates an opportunity to cross pollinate data collection with education not only from kindergarten through college but also with the community, master gardeners, master naturalists and civic leagues.

Lessons Learned

Not every planting will perform exactly as expected. Soil conditions, flooding, heat, drought, pests, maintenance, vandalism, and other site-specific factors can affect the success of a landscape.

These challenges should be treated as opportunities to learn rather than reasons to abandon the approach. Documenting failures as well as successes can help improve plant selection, site preparation, maintenance practices, and community stewardship.

Over time, each project can contribute to a growing body of local knowledge about what works in Norfolk.

Replication

Successful planting strategies can be adapted to additional locations with similar conditions.

A flood-resilient planting developed along a creek, for example, could inform another wet site. A successful approach to shade and erosion along an urban corridor could be adapted to another exposed slope. A productive institutional orchard could provide a model for other churches, schools, or community properties.

Replication does not mean reproducing every planting exactly. Each site should still be assessed according to its environmental conditions, available space, intended use, and community needs.

The goal is to develop repeatable principles that can be adapted throughout Norfolk.

Long-Term Vision

Over time, individual demonstration sites can become part of a larger network of productive, biodiverse, and resilient landscapes throughout the city.

Fruit trees and shrubs can become familiar features of neighborhoods, trails, institutional properties, parks, and other shared spaces. Seasonal care and harvesting can become recurring opportunities for education and community participation. Successful planting strategies can inform future projects and complement Norfolk's broader green and blue infrastructure.

What begins as a single planting can therefore become a demonstration, a lesson, a partnership, and eventually a model for another place.

By planting, observing, learning, and replicating, Norfolk can build resilience one landscape at a time.

Conclusion

Resilience is not something Norfolk will build all at once. It is something we cultivate over time, in neighborhoods, along side streets, and waterways, and the shared green spaces that make up our city.

The Norfolk Resilience Action Plan begins with a simple premise: **plant for the environment**. When we understand what a landscape needs and choose plants that can help meet those needs, even small spaces can become part of a larger resilience network.

The opportunity before us is not simply to plant more fruit . It is to create landscapes that provide for people and the environment at the same time, while giving our communities opportunities to learn, participate, and care for the places they share. A resilient Norfolk is one that grows with intention: where today's planting becomes tomorrow's shade, food, habitat, and community resource.

We can begin with one place, learn from it, and grow from there.