

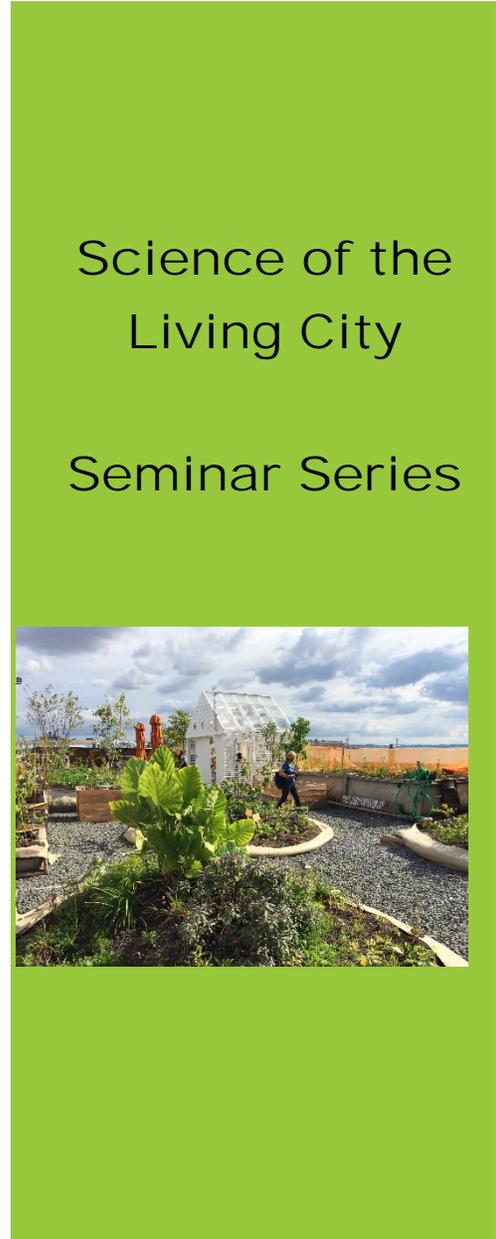


*Oct. 4, 2016 6:00-8:00 pm  
Brooklyn Bridge Park-Pier 6  
Brooklyn, New York, NY*

# Public Food: A Science of the Living City Panel aboard Swale

What if healthy, fresh food could be a public good? Community gardening has deep roots in many New York City neighborhoods, while new forms of urban farming – including entrepreneurial models, rooftop farms, and controlled environment agriculture – are also emerging and proliferating. Activists define food justice as access to healthy, fresh, affordable, and culturally appropriate food. Some argue that food justice is a right. Swale, a collaborative floating food project, is dedicated to rethinking New York City's connection to our needs for sustenance. Built on a 130-foot by 40-foot floating platform, Swale contains an edible forest garden. Functioning as both a sculpture and a tool, Swale provides free healthy food at the intersection of public art and service. With Swale, the creators want to reinforce water as a commons, and work towards fresh food as a commons too. Please join us in a conversation with community practitioners, city managers, and researchers about growing, foraging, and harvesting public food in public spaces.

- Mary Mattingly, Visual Artist, SWALE Creator
- Leenda Bonilla, Outreach Coordinator, Partnerships for Parks
- Lindsay Campbell, Research Social Scientist, US Forest Service
- Marla Emery, Research Geographer, US Forest Service
- Ray Figueroa, President, Director of Social-Ecological Community Development Projects at Friends of Brook Park and President, NYC Community Garden Coalition
- Bram Gunther, Co-director, NYC Urban Field Station, NYC Parks
- Brittany Quale, Project and Design Coordinator, GreenThumb



Science of the Living City

Seminar Series



*Science of the Living City* is organized by the  
NYC URBAN FIELD STATION  
[www.nrs.fs.fed.us/nyc/](http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/nyc/)



**Mary Mattingly** is an artist who builds ecosystems and mobile environments and is a current Urban Field Station artist-in-residence. She has led projects including the Waterpod Project, Triple Island, Pull, and WetLand. Her work has been exhibited at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes de la Habana, the International Center of Photography, the Seoul Art Center, the Brooklyn Museum, deCordova Museum, the Cullman Center at MoMA, and the Palais de Tokyo. Her work has been featured in Art in America, Artforum, Sculpture Magazine, The New York Times, Financial Times, Le Monde Magazine, New Yorker, The Wall Street Journal, and on BBC News, MSNBC, Fox News, NPR, WNBC, and on Art21.



**Leenda Bonilla** is an interdisciplinary artist, creative placemaker, and community advocate. Her work is based in the visual arts, her dual background (raised in the Bronx and in Puerto Rico), and her multiple roles working in community organizations to support (im)migrant artists, cultural workers and educators. Her art-making practices incorporate art mediums inspired by social movements, feminism, and ethnography. Leenda currently works as an Outreach Coordinator for Partnerships for Parks at the NYC Parks and Recreation. Ms. Bonilla graduated with a Masters in Arts/Cultural Management with distinction and merit at the Pratt Institute. She earned a dual BA in International Studies/Political Science at Manhattan College.



**Dr. Lindsay K. Campbell** is a Research Social Scientist with the US Forest Service Northern Research Station, based at the New York City Urban Field Station. Her current research explores the dynamics of urban politics, natural resource stewardship, and sustainability policymaking. She is joint Principal Investigator on several long-term, interdisciplinary research projects. She is the author of *City of Forests*, *City of Farms: Constructing Nature in New York City*, forthcoming from Cornell University Press. Lindsay also helps direct the Science of the Living City program for the Urban Field Station, including fellows, seminars, and artists-in-residence. Dr. Campbell holds a BA in Public Policy from Princeton University, a Masters in City Planning from MIT, and a PhD in Geography from Rutgers University.



**Dr. Marla R. Emery** is a Research Geographer with the US Forest Service Northern Research Station, where her research looks at the role of forests in providing food and sustaining cultures. Marla's recent work focuses on provisioning and cultural ecosystem services from urban greenspaces. She is (co)author of more than 50 publications, including the first scientific articles on urban foraging in the United States. Her international research on foraging includes work in Colombia, México, Mongolia, and Scotland, and partnerships with several American Indian tribes in northeastern North America. Marla received her Ph.D. in Geography at Rutgers University.



**Ray Figueroa** is Director of Social-Ecological Community Development Projects at Friends of Brook Park, where he engages court-adjudicated and formerly-incarcerated youth in the Youth Community Farm. As President of the New York City Community Garden Coalition, he is engaged in a systems approach to defending food sovereignty via policy advocacy and community organized campaigns to institutionalize regulatory protections for community gardens/farms. Ray is a Visiting Assistant Professor at the Pratt Institute, Graduate School of Architecture-Programs in Sustainable Planning and Development.



**Brittany Quale** is the Project & Design Coordinator at GreenThumb, NYC Parks' community garden program. In this role she facilitates participatory design initiatives in community gardens throughout the five boroughs in addition to managing special projects, grants, and more. Brittany comes to GreenThumb with a background in urban planning, community organizing, and design. As a Conservation Corps Fellow at NYC Parks' Planning & Parklands Division she aided in re-visioning and transforming former landfill and brownfield sites. Brittany graduated cum laude from the University of Oregon with a B.A. in Planning, Public Policy & Management and a minor in Architecture.