

SPATIAL ARROWS



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Team: Spatial Arrows

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App: The Coolest Place in Town

Mission Statement: Help North Vancouver residents avoid hot spots and find cooler areas nearby during the summer.

Climate change is expected to cause extreme weather events to happen more frequently, including heat waves. During hot summer months, many people get sick and die in extreme heat events. The people who are most at risk during heat waves are the elderly, sick, and young children. To keep their loved ones safe during the summer, residents of North Vancouver can use this app to find ways to beat the heat for themselves and their family members. The app identifies the areas that are the hottest based on distance from the ocean, rivers, lakes, and parks. It also identifies the nearest cool areas, to enable people to move from away from heat islands and into shaded greenery.

This app was created using open data from the District of North Vancouver. To determine the distance from nearest parks and water bodies, a multi-ring buffer was used. Two location widgets were added to the application, allowing you to find the nearest park or water body, or the nearest lit park. Strenuous exercise is to be avoided during extreme heat, but access to a lit park allows user to exercise outdoors at night when temperatures are lower.

For more information on how to use the app, please watch the following video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bcGmprNkxM>

The District of North Vancouver can use this map to identify priority areas for creating shade or adding parks to keep residents cool. In the future, we hope to expand the functionality of the map to include fountains, parks with wheelchair accessibility, as well as pet friendly parks. Pets can be at risk of overheating too!

This app will be a useful tool for the residents of North Vancouver. We hope you enjoy discovering the coolest places in the city!