

Mapping out ideas for a green space plan

The city of Joensuu is working on a green space plan, and wanted to retrace the inhabitants' experimental knowledge about the city's parks and forests. Mapita carried out two map based surveys, in autumn 2012 and in spring 2013. A total of 856 people responded and made 3780 map entries.

First, the respondents marked their most important green spaces on the map. Then, they told about their experiences, their ideas and improvement suggestions — using the interactive map, of course.

The survey showed that the residents of Joensuu use the green spaces in different ways, for recreation and for activities. The park areas of river banks got a lot of map entries, as well as wild nature reserves. When asked to draw preferred outing itineraries, the respondents drew many loop routes. They also gave a lot of feedback about areas in need of renovation.

“It was easy to organize the survey. The final report was clear, but the most beneficial part for the city was the location information we received from the survey.”

— **Katarina Surakka**, Planning Architect, City of Joensuu

“There are traces of a white-backed woodpecker here. It's a silent hideaway between big roads.”

“A great place to walk and admire the old trees. I like how many paths intersect - sample answers

