

Green spaces against heat waves

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Introduction

The Mayor of London has noticed the number of heat waves that were seen in Europe last summer. Some of them affected the United Kingdom substantially, as the highest air temperature from July 2019 (38.1°C) was only 0.4°C below the overall record for the United Kingdom. The Mayor of London and the London Assembly realized how important is the mitigation of climate change, especially for a city like London where the air temperature is even higher due to Urban Heat Island.

They have heard about the benefits of having green spaces in cities, as they are not only important to the physical and mental health of the citizens, but they also help fight pollution and modify the local climate. However, before they start promoting the construction of more green spaces in London, they would like to quantify the effect of them on the local climate of London boroughs.

Therefore, the task is to find and if possible quantify the effect of green spaces on the air temperature in London.



Fig. 1 People relaxing in the Japanese Garden, Holland Park, London