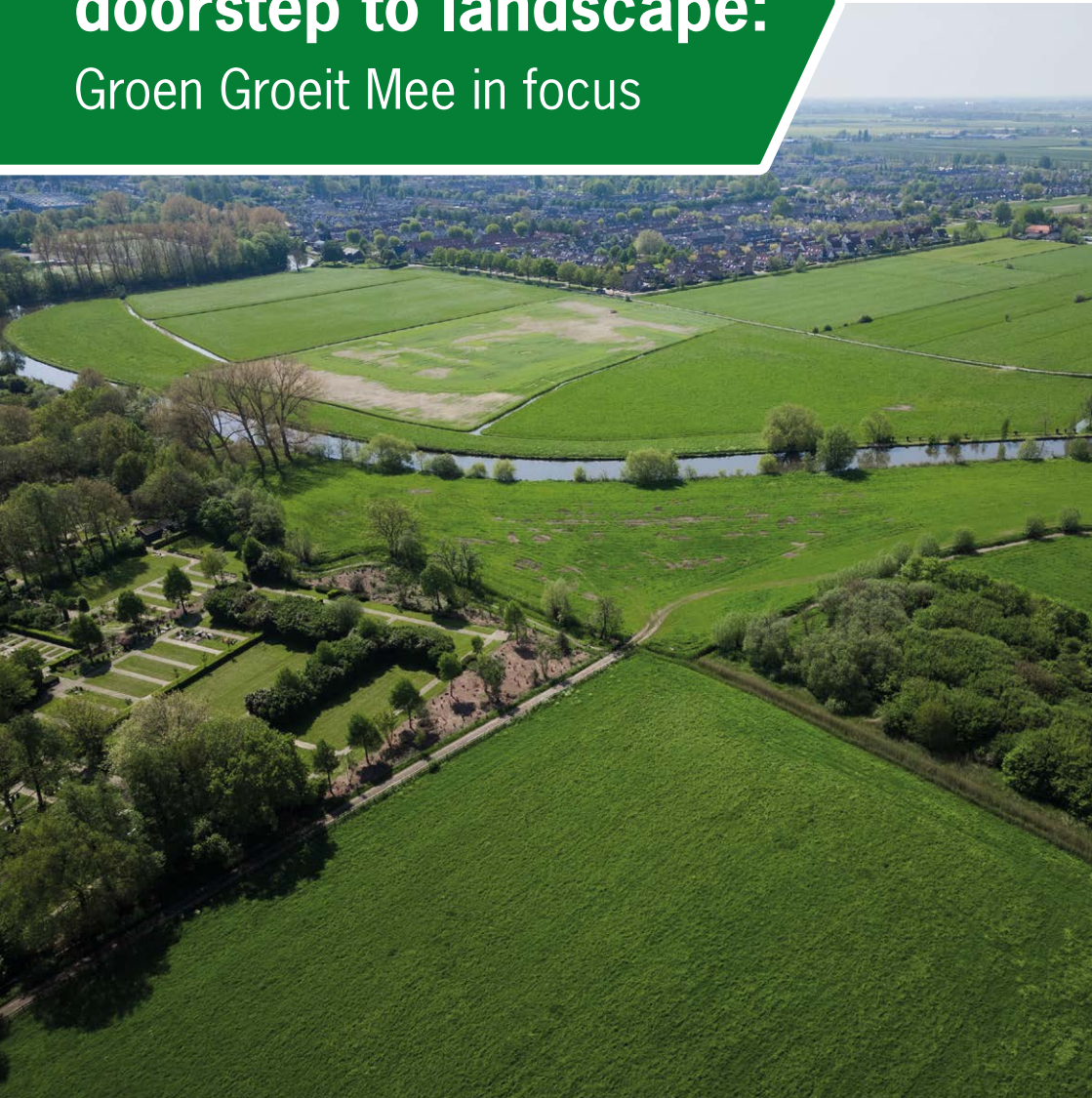


Green space from doorstep to landscape: Groen Groeit Mee in focus



Why Groen Groeit Mee?

More and more people want to live in the province of Utrecht. The demand for space is high and the amount of green space per resident is under pressure. At the same time, green spaces are of great importance for people's wellbeing and health, for climate adaptation and for biodiversity. Groen Groeit Mee (literally 'growing green space', GGM) ensures that regional, recreational, accessible and experiential green and blue spaces grow proportionately and meaningfully alongside urban development in the province of Utrecht.

The collaborative programme focuses primarily on green space, blue space and landscape around towns and villages. The quality of existing green space is improved and new green areas are added. Green wedges and the green-blue network create connections between built-up areas and the surrounding landscape. Barriers for cyclists and pedestrians between urban and rural areas are reduced as much as possible. In this way, Groen Groeit Mee contributes to a balanced mix of accessible green space, sustainable agriculture, resilient nature, a landscape that can be experienced, and visible water. This brochure explains how we approach this and what results have been achieved.





Groen Groeit Mee Pact

Stichting Parkmakers Utrecht (Parkmakers Utrecht Foundation) signed the Groen Groeit Mee Pact in September 2025.

Groen Groeit Mee works with a growing number of partners to deliver more and better green space in our rapidly growing province. More than forty parties have already signed the Groen Groeit Mee Pact.

Groen Groeit Mee Pact

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl (in Dutch)



The GGM Pact partners include

ANWB, BPD Bouwfonds Gebiedsontwikkeling, the municipalities of Amersfoort, Baarn, Bunnik, Bunschoten,

De Bilt, De Ronde Venen, Eemnes, Houten, IJsselstein, Leusden, Lopik, Montfoort, Nieuwegein, Oudewater, Renswoude, Rhenen, Soest, Stichtse Vecht, Utrecht, Utrechtse Heuvelrug, Veenendaal, Vijfheerenlanden, Wijk bij Duurstede, Woerden, Woudenberg and Zeist, De Stichtse Rijnlanden water authority, Het Utrechts Landschap, IVN, Landschap Erfgoed Utrecht, Natuur en Mileufederatie Utrecht (Utrecht Nature and Environmental Federation), Natuurmonumenten (Society for the Preservation of Nature Monuments), Utrechtse Heuvelrug National Park, Parkmakers Utrecht, Schevichoven Groeit!, Staatsbosbeheer (Forestry Commission), Utrechts Particulier Grondbezit, the Delta Metropolis Association, Wandelnet, the Rivierenland water authority and the Vallei en Veluwe water authority.

Example areas



Noorderpark



Southern Eem Valley



Hollandsche IJssel area



Kromme Rijn area



De Roode Haan

The Province, municipalities, water authorities and other Pact partners gain practical experience with Groen Groeit Mee in the example areas. These areas are not theoretical or purely statistical projects, but real places where people live, where learning takes place, and where different parties work together in practice towards a greener province.

Example areas

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl (in Dutch)

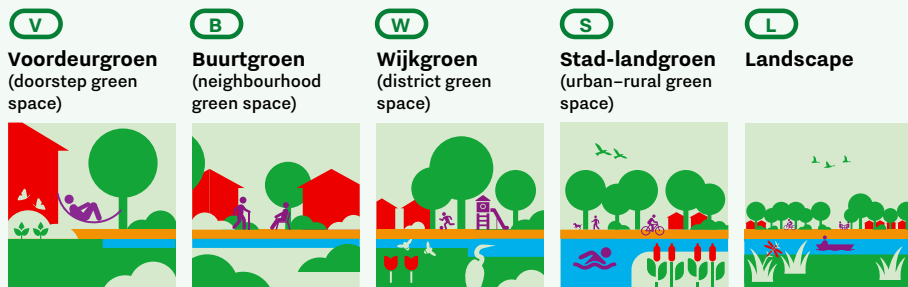


Guidance on green space for new residential areas

The provincial environmental regulation requires that green space grows in balance with housing development at new residential areas of fifty homes or more. In the guidance, we use indicative figures for green space: 75 m² of residential green space and 500 m² of regional green space

per dwelling. Application is always tailored to the specific situation. The *Guidance on green space for new residential areas* supports municipalities and project developers in meeting this requirement. It includes two instruments and a step-by-step approach to arrive at appropriate criteria and plans.

Instrument 1: Groene Schakels (green links)



The Groene Schakels van voordeur tot landschap (Green Links: from doorstep to landscape) represent different levels of green space in the context of housing development.



Instrument 2: Schijf van Vijf (Wheel of Five)

When regional and local green space is developed according to the Groene Schakels, and when each Groene Schakel incorporates the aspects from the Schijf van Vijf, this leads to multiple value creation through green space.

Guidance on green space for new residential areas

↓ pdf, 10,4mb



Catalogus

The Groen Groeit Mee Catalogue provides insight into potential green-blue developments that grow alongside urbanisation in the province of Utrecht. The discussion cards included in the catalogue offer inspiration for integrated spatial planning.

Groen Groeit Mee Catalogue

↓ pdf, 13,6mb



Groen Groeit Mee tender scheme

Through the Groen Groeit Mee tender scheme, the Province of Utrecht makes funding available to strengthen existing green space and to develop new green areas. With this dedicated scheme, the province primarily invites public parties to submit green area development plans that ensure that recreational green space, nature, water and landscape grow alongside the increasing number of homes in the province of Utrecht.

A new boost for the Zuilen nature area thanks to the Groen Groeit Mee tender scheme

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl (in Dutch)



Financial and landscape advice

To support public parties in developing concrete project proposals that ensure that recreational green space, nature, water and landscape grow alongside the increasing number of homes in the province of Utrecht, Groen Groeit Mee provides financial and landscape advice. For more information, watch our webinar on the Groen Groeit Mee tender scheme and the support available in the field of financial and landscape advice.

Financial and landscape advice for concrete project proposals

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl (in Dutch)



More information

On our website, you can find much more information about the programme, our news, and how to follow Groen Groeit Mee on LinkedIn, YouTube and Spotify. (In Dutch)

Website

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl



More inspiration (in Dutch)

Polder Blokhoven combines water storage, recreation and the New Dutch Waterline

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl



The power of cross-boundary collaboration

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl



In De Tuinen van BPD (The gardens of BPD), housing development, agriculture and nature reinforce one another

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl



From Groen Groeit Mee to Groen Groeit Meer

→ Read more at groengroeitmee.nl





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