

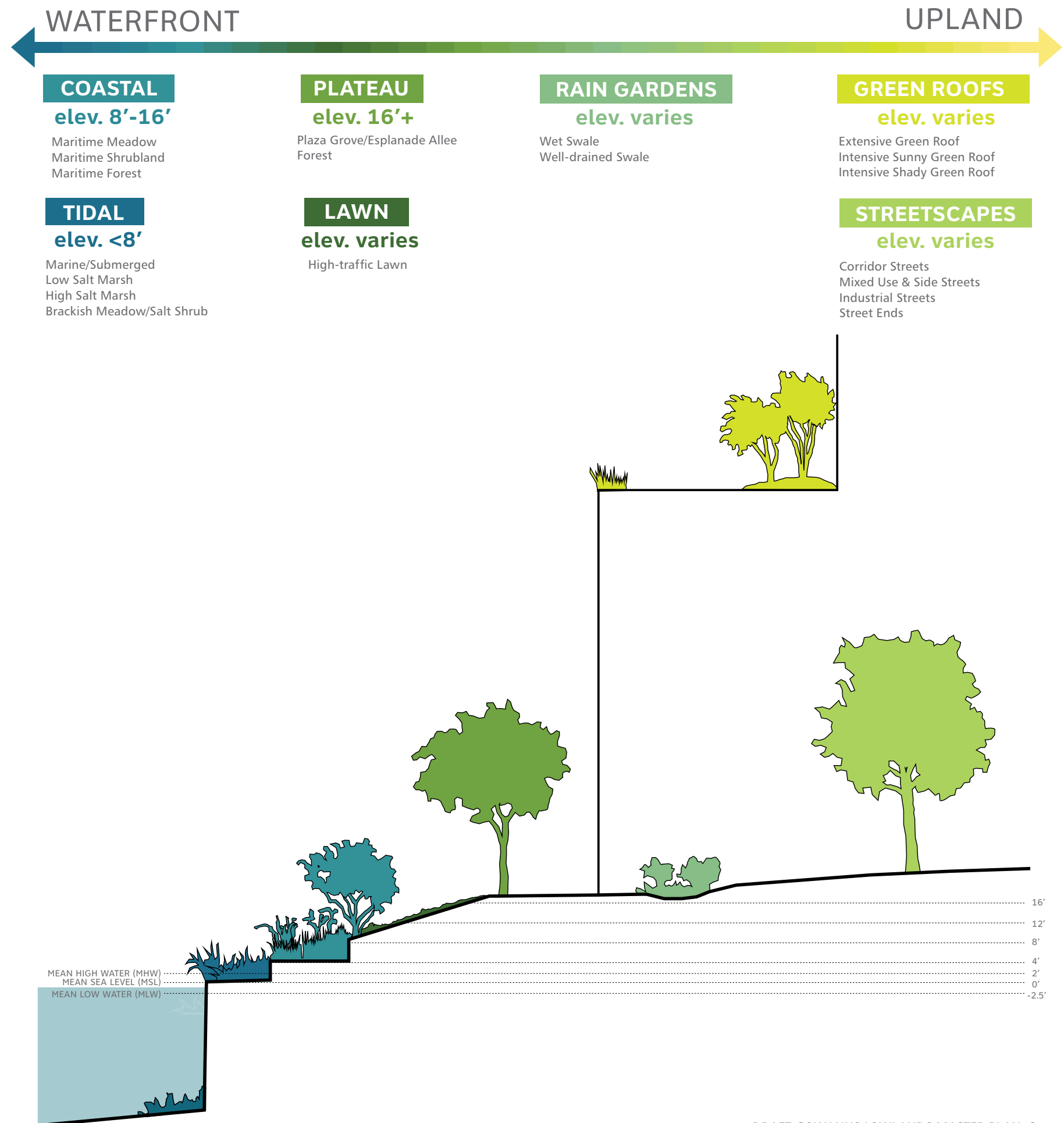
GOWANUS LOWLANDS PLANT PALETTE

Gowanus was once a tidal salt marsh fed by freshwater streams from the surrounding forested hillsides that are now the neighborhoods of Park Slope, Boerum Hill, and Carroll Gardens. Gowanus still hosts a variety of plant life that includes both native vegetation and those plants that arrived through human transport. This plant palette pulls from guides to plant communities developed by the City and State, as well as from the found plant life in Gowanus, as documented during bioblitzes conducted by Gowanus Canal Conservancy in 2017 and 2018.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1 ESTABLISH DIVERSE, RESILIENT PLANT COMMUNITIES**
 - Select plants that can tolerate the range of disturbances found in Gowanus, from storms and flooding to drought and salt to human impacts.
 - Allow plantings to adapt to climate change and sea level rise.
- 2 DESIGN PLANTINGS THAT PROVIDE BROAD ECOSYSTEM SERVICES**
 - Provide habitat for wildlife, stormwater management, erosion control, carbon sequestration, and mitigation of urban heat island.
- 3 ENHANCE THE WILD GOWANUS FEEL THROUGH PLANTINGS**
 - Build on existing wild and opportunistic plant communities in Gowanus.
 - Pull from local wild plant communities of NYC and NY State.



GOWANUS LOWLANDS PLANT PALETTE

TIDAL elev. <8'

COASTAL elev. 8'-16'

PLATEAU elev. 16'+

RAIN GARDENS elev. varies

STREETSCAPES elev. varies

GREEN ROOFS elev. varies

PLANT COMMUNITIES

- **Marine**
<-2.5' submerged
- **Low Salt Marsh**
-2.5' - 2' daily tidal inundation
- **High Salt Marsh**
2-4' frequent tidal inundation
- **Brackish Meadow and Salt Shrub** 4-8' occasional tidal inundation

- **Maritime Meadow**
8-16' salt spray, may flood in major storms
- **Maritime Shrubland**
8-16' salt spray, may flood in major storms
- **Maritime Forest**
8-16' salt spray, may flood in major storms

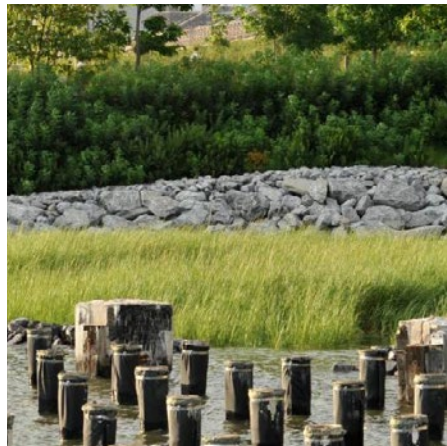
- **Plaza Grove/Esplanade Allee**
16' + restricted planting area
- **Forest**
16' + larger planting area

- **Wet Swale**
0-16' frequent run-off inundation; poorly-drained
- **Well-drained Swale**
16' + frequent run-off inundation; well-drained

- **Corridor Streets**
canopy trees for shade
- **Mixed Use & Side Streets**
wild character
- **Industrial Streets**
frequent run-off inundation, poorly-drained, heavy truck traffic
- **Street Ends**
frequent run-off inundation, poorly-drained

- **Extensive Green Roof**
<6" thick soil
- **Intensive Sunny Green Roof**
>6" thick soil
- **Intensive Shady Green Roof**
>6" thick soil

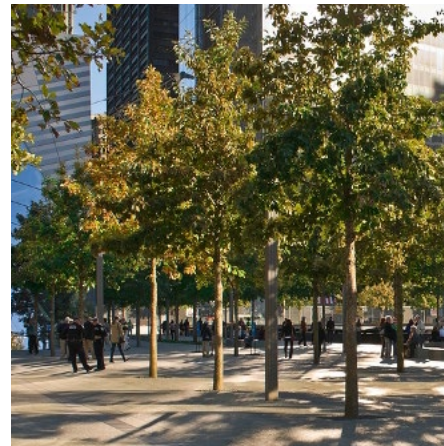
PRECEDENT



Salt marsh at Brooklyn Bridge Park



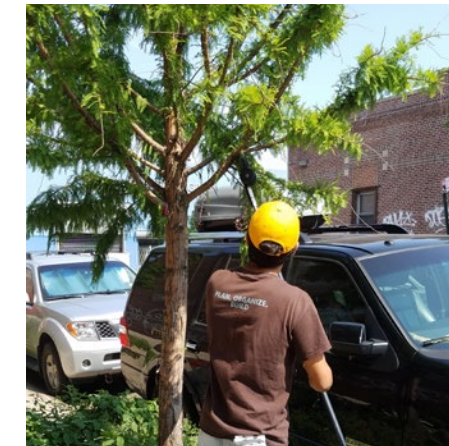
Coastal planting at the Salt Lot in Gowanus



Plaza trees in 911 Memorial Park



Right-of-way rain garden in Gowanus



Street tree in Gowanus



Accessible green roof at Kingsland Wildflowers

HIGHLIGHT SPECIES



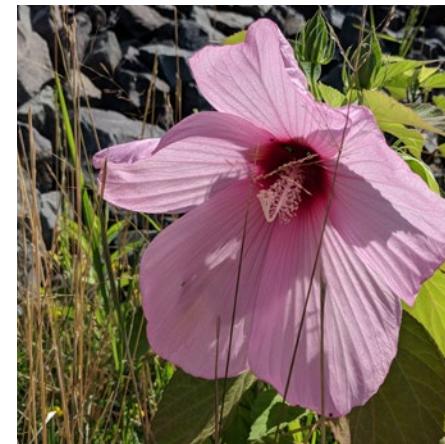
Spartina patens
Saltmeadow Cordgrass



Rhus typhina
Staghorn Sumac



Populus tremuloides
Quaking Aspen



Hibiscus moscheutos
Swamp Mallow



Liquidambar styraciflua
Sweet Gum



Solidago speciosa
Showy goldenrod