

Arthropods:

- 1) What traits are common to successful urban species (mentioned or unmentioned) and why are those traits beneficial in the urban environment?
- 2) “Challenge for future work is to unravel the processes that generate community response”... What processes might cause the observed urban community patterns?
- 3) Because urban assemblages differ from rural assemblages “...biodiversity management will differ from less developed landscapes”. Do you agree or disagree? How might it differ? How might it be similar?
- 4) “Unique urban environments” Any general thoughts on this section? Which of the mentioned UUE’s might have the most conservation value? Can you think of any management strategies that could be used to enhance the conservation value of these areas?
- 5) What did you think of the authors’ justification of Arthropod conservation in the urban environment? Do you like it or do you think of other reasons to support arthropod conservation?

Herps:

- 1) What are the selection pressures and ecological contexts that enable some herp species to survive and thrive in urban areas while others disappear?
- 2) How might the ‘unique urban environments’ mentioned in the Arthropod section affect amphibian and reptile species?
- 3) The authors suggest that herp species can be important indicators of environmental quality. What do you think? Better than other taxa?
- 4) Herps as educators: Why might amphibians and reptiles be useful for environmental education?

Biodiversity/Community Composition

- 1) How does urban community assembly differ from community assembly in natural environments?
- 2) Do you agree with the predictions of community similarity as a function of distance and environmental similarity proposed in Figure 3.5.2
- 3) In what ways do social factors affect community assembly/structure/dynamics?