



## Organize a Community Relocalization Walking Tour

A Guide for Relocalizing our Communities

# The Relocalization Network

## Walking Tour • synopsis and roles

### Synopsis

Organize a walking tour of your community focused on the potential for Relocalization. Highlight your community's history, discuss local issues, and demonstrate to the participants the possibilities for Relocalization and working examples of Relocalization. A Relocalization Tour ideally serves three purposes:

- Uncovering the localized economic and social culture that historically existed in your area.
- Highlighting current issues related to Relocalization in your community.
- Illustrating the potential your community has for building a strong relocalized future.

### Roles

Researchers	Gather information on community history and specific points of interest
Script Writer	Write and develop the guide's script
Tour Guide(s)	Lead the walking tour
Participants	Individuals interested in learning more about their community

### Time Frame

1-2 months preparation

You might offer tours seasonally, once a month, or even more frequently, according level of demand.

### Tools

Research materials and information sources, including libraries, interview questionnaires and the internet

Script for the guide

Advertising material to promote the walking tour

Tour schedule



# The Relocalization Network

## Neighborhood Skills Database • project outline

### Project Outline

#### 1 Contextual research:

- Research your community's history. Start by consulting local libraries and historical societies, and as you develop a general picture of your local history, dig into specific topics by interviewing community leaders and elders. Interesting areas to research for Relocalization are local businesses, transportation methods, community growth, and community events.
- Research organizations, groups and programs within the community that are already working to relocalize the community, such as community gardens and car sharing programs.

#### 2 Site research:

- Locate and research places in your community that historically exemplified localization. For example: neighborhood manufacturing of basic goods, wartime "Victory Gardens" on municipal property, city markets, former farms.
- Locate and research places in your community that currently represent Relocalization. For example: community gardens, farmers markets, businesses that produce basic goods or sell locally-produced goods.
- Locate and research places in your community that represent potential for Relocalization. For example: public buildings in ideal locations for rooftop solar and wind power, vacant city-owned land that could be turned into garden, street trees bearing fruit and nuts that are going unharvested.

#### 3 Tour development:

- Use the information you have gathered to determine the most significant points of interest for your tour, including historical sites, current examples of Relocalization, and potential areas for Relocalization. The number of stops on your tour will depend on the amount of information you want to cover at each stop, and how far stops are from each other. Devise a route for the tour and decide on an order for the stops.
- Choose a format and an appropriate length for the tour. A walking tour that is accessible to most people should run no more than two hours: this could cover ten points of interest with eight minutes at each stop for script and questions, and ten minutes to talk to the next stop.
- Ensure the script contains an introduction explaining Relocalization, and a conclusion that directs people to further resources.

#### 4 Final steps:

- Run a few practice tours to iron out any potential problems.
- Develop a tour schedule outlining which days it runs, where it starts and at what time.
- Publicize the tour through community centers, walking clubs, schools, libraries, and your local government's parks and recreation program.

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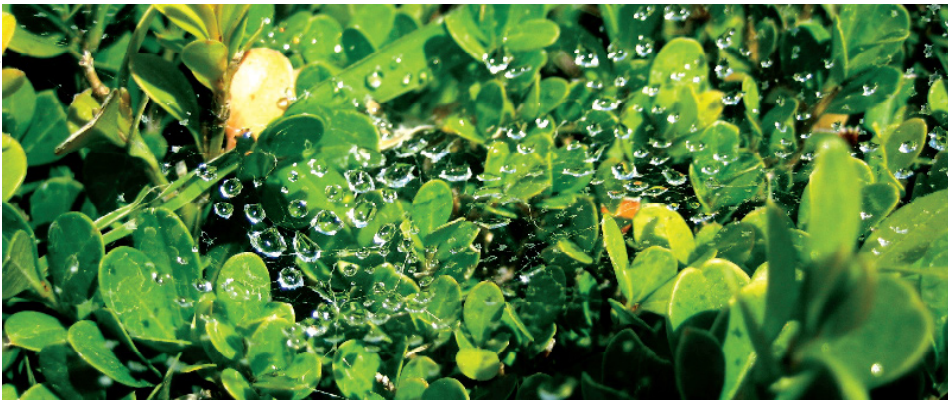
## Neighborhood Skills Database • other ideas

### 5 Other ideas:

- Develop a self-guided tour with a map and information booklet.
- Develop a larger version of the tour as a community bicycle tour.
- Work with the local parks and recreation department or historical society to incorporate your tour into their ongoing programs.
- Establish temporary or permanent markers to explain or highlight points of interest.



Photo Credit: David Sund (front cover / back cover)



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## Get Involved

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