

Cycle Superhighway Ruhr – RS1

Publisher

CITY OF ESSEN

Project office European Green Capital – Essen 2017

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As of April 2017

Creation and design

vE&K Werbeagentur GmbH & Co. KG, Essen

Print

Druckerei und Verlag Peter Pomp GmbH, Bottrop

PHOTOS / PICTURE CREDITS:

Johannes Kassenberg (title “Niederfeldsee, Essen-Altendorf”,

City Park) / Jochen Tack (Seaside Beach Baldeney, RS1)

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WE ARE THE EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL

Ruhr Metropolis, Zollverein UNESCO World Heritage Site and European Capital of Culture RUHR.2010 – Essen is all of this. And this year, Essen is the European Green Capital. The successful history of its transformation to the greenest city in North Rhine-Westphalia provides a role model of structural change for many cities in Europe. Essen has transformed from the pre-industrial convent with its abbess gardens and emperor parks to a pulsating coal and steel town to today's metropolis with a green heart. Throughout this process, Essen has been and is being carried into its green future by good ideas, sustainable urban planning, and the commitment of citizens, modern companies, and innovative institutions. Examples include the Garden Town Margarethenhöhe, built at the start of the 20th century, and the recent programme “ESSEN.New ways to the water”. Essen as a green city can be discovered in countless places and through many different ideas. Therefore our claim is: Green up your life!



City Park, Essen-Südviertel

MY GREEN ESSEN

THE GREEN CITY OF ESSEN MOVES PEOPLE

A well developed network of cycle paths, bus, tram and rail routes, as well as bike- and car-sharing stations between the districts city quarters Karnap in the North and Kettwig in the South ensure clean mobility, both in everyday life and during leisure time. In addition, ever more charging stations are being added for electric cars and eBikes. The citizens are getting going on the RS1, the first inter-city cycle superhighway in Germany.

ESSEN IS THE CITY OF NEW WAYS TO THE WATER

From Spring 2017 on, swimming in Lake Baldeney will finally be allowed again after 46 years. And with the largest European renaturation process reaching completion soon, the Emscher region will be characterised by an ecologically-redesigned water landscape. The construction of an underground sewage system means that in future only clean river and rain water will flow into the River Emscher. By then, the Emscher Landscape Park will have its central feature restored to former beauty.

ESSEN IS THE LARGE CITY WITH A GOOD CLIMATE

More than half of the municipal area is made up of parks and open spaces, water, woodlands, fields and urban green spaces, ensuring a good climate. Parks within walking distance are places for meeting people, activity and relaxation, like the City Park Stadtgarten, which is over 150 years old. And the local recreation area Grugapark Essen offers a green experience at all seasons. It was created for the Great Ruhrland Gardening Exhibition (GRUGA) of 1929.

ESSEN IS THE CITY WITH GREEN QUALITY OF LIFE

Eating healthily, saving electricity and using resources sustainably, are simple in Essen. In allotments and community gardens, citizens can harvest the fruits of their own labour. Furthermore, there are many shops that stock sustainably produced and fairly traded products.

ESSEN IS THE CITY WITH GREEN BUSINESS AND EDUCATION

Green education starts with the youngest in Essen. The Schule Natur (Nature School) in the local recreation area Grugapark offers experience-based courses for schools. The University of Duisburg-Essen also conducts green research: The Faculty of Engineering, for example, is developing processes for using algae to remove residual pharmaceuticals in wastewater treatment plants.



“Swimming in the Ruhr”, Seaside Beach Baldeney

MY COMMITMENT

Essen's citizens love their Green Capital, and they are enthusiastically involved in their green city. They have demonstrated this with around 400 proposals for citizens' projects already submitted. They are also showing this as committed volunteers, however, making an important contribution at tourist attractions and events to support the European Green Capital.

DIGITAL GREEN CAPITAL

The European Green Capital – Essen 2017 can also be found in the social networks. Whether it's event tips or insider information – Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are always up-to-date.

Facebook: [gruene.hauptstadt.essen](https://www.facebook.com/gruene.hauptstadt.essen)

Instagram: [gruene_hauptstadt_essen](https://www.instagram.com/gruene_hauptstadt_essen)

Twitter: [GreenCapital17](https://twitter.com/GreenCapital17)

The official **App of the Green Capital “Dein Grünes Essen” (Your Green Essen)** is the clever companion when you're on the move and provides you with location-based information.

The **TV magazine programme “Heimatgrün.TV”** on YouTube has a new edition each month and provides an overview of the current programme in the Green Capital year.

A FULL PROGRAMME FOR A YEAR

Aside from infrastructure projects, there are a lot of hands-on activities in 2017, large-scale events, urban-gardening activities, discussions and workshops as well as regional and national trade conventions. Here are five examples from the programme:

SÄEN, ERNTEN, ESSEN (Sowing, Harvesting, Eating)

Alongside to the natural rhythm of the seasons, the local production and the sustainable consumption of food are presented in the city on one day each in spring, summer and autumn. Dates: 14 May, 9 July and 1 October 2017.

KREUZESKIRCHE PANEL DISCUSSIONS

At the venue Kreuzeskirche, experts from science, business, culture and history engage in conversation with Essen's initiatives and citizens. Dates: 11 May, 13 July, 7 September, 16 November 2017 and 18 January 2018.

GREEN IN THE CITY OF ESSEN. MORE THAN PARKS AND GARDENS

The City of Essen has a wide variety of different kinds of parks and green areas. They are based on the structure of the Ruhr Area as an industrial conurbation and are unique in Germany in terms of their diversity. This will be demonstrated from 21 May to 27 August 2017 in an exhibition presented by the Ruhr Museum with pictures, films and objects in Hall 5 of the Zollverein UNESCO World Heritage Site.

EXERCISE DAY

On 2 July, a part of the Essen city centre ring road will be closed to traffic. On the closed stretch between Hindenburgstraße and Viehofer Platz, it will be possible to experience every aspect of the Green Capital.

PARADISES AND UTOPIAS

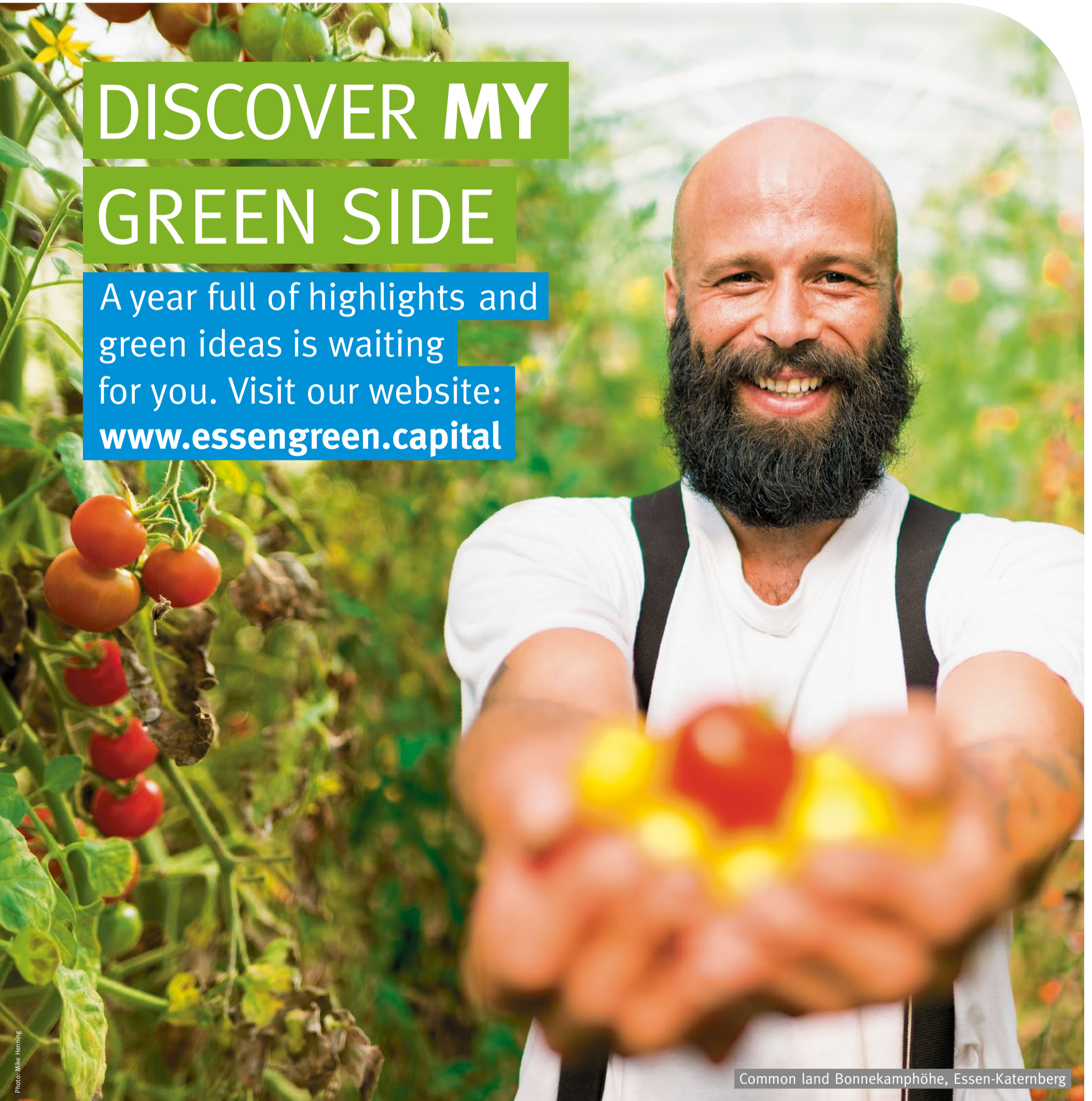
On the weekend of 8 and 9 July, the two-day festival will draw visitors to the City Park Stadtgarten, which is turned into the creative headquarter of the Green Capital. Visitors can look forward to a colourful stage programme, mobile citizens' projects and exciting upcycling projects. On 7 July, the Essen Philharmonic will transform the City Park Stadtgarten into a sound garden at the summer concert of the North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) state government.

The whole programme can be found under:

www.essengreen.capital

DISCOVER MY GREEN SIDE

A year full of highlights and green ideas is waiting for you. Visit our website: www.essengreen.capital



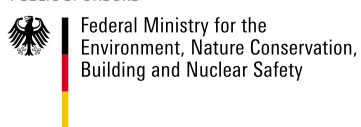
Common land Bonnekamphöhe, Essen-Katernberg

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