

The Sustainable Sites initiative

SITES™



An interdisciplinary effort to create
national guidelines and rating system for sustainable
land **design, construction, and maintenance**

www.sustainable sites.org



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

ASLA Library & Education
Advocacy Fund



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UNITED STATES
BOTANIC GARDEN

SITES Framework: *Ecosystem Services*

MOUNTAIN AND POLAR

- Local climate regulation
- Water supply and regulation
- Erosion and sediment control
- Human health and well-being benefits
- Food and renewable non-food products
- Cultural benefits

• Regulate local and global climate

• Erosion and sediment control

• Cleanse air and water

• Provide habitat

• Provide food and non-food renewable products

• Decompose and treat “waste”

• Regulate water supply

• Improve human health and well being

• Provide cultural benefits

FOREST & WOODLANDS

- Local climate regulation
- Local climate regulation
- Erosion and sediment control
- Human health and well-being benefits
- Food and renewable non-food products
- Cultural benefits

DRYLANDS

- Erosion and sediment control
- Pollination
- Food and renewable non-food products

CULTIVATED

- Pollination
- Food and renewable non-food products

URBAN

- Global climate regulation
- Local climate regulation
- Air and water cleansing
- Human health and well-being benefits
- Cultural benefits

ISLANDS

- Air and water cleansing
- Water supply and regulation
- Hazard mitigation
- Human health and well-being benefits
- Food and renewable non-food products

INLAND WATER

- Hazard mitigation
- Waste decomposition and treatment
- Human health and well-being benefits

COASTAL

- Hazard mitigation
- Habitat functions
- Waste decomposition and treatment
- Human health and well-being benefits
- Food and renewable non-food products
- Cultural benefits

MARINE

- Global climate regulation
- Waste decomposition and treatment
- Food and renewable non-food products
- Cultural benefits

SITES guidelines and rating system uses

**Stand-alone Rating System launched Oct. 2013:
Project Certification (Professional Training coming 2014)**


**Influence existing
rating systems
and codes**

(Collaborates &
coordinates with
LEED™ building
rating system)



**Promote use of
guidelines and
principles
(without certification)**

Timeline



Development and expert panels begin work	2005
1 st draft and public/professional review	2008
Guidelines & Performance Benchmarks 2009:	Released November 2009
Pilots to test system – 163 projects	June 2010 – June 2012
Public Comment on Proposed 2013 Credits	Sept. 26 – Nov. 26, 2012
<i>SITES v2 2013 Rating System/Reference Guide</i>	Fall 2013
Open Project Enrollment / Education + Training	Fall 2013
Professional Credentialing Program	Anticipated in 2014

SPU and WASLA will organize SITES user trainings early 2014

2013 Rating System – *credit sections*

THE SUSTAINABLE SITES INITIATIVE™

Like LEED™, SITES™ has

- Prerequisites (entry bar)
and
- Credits (points for rating)

American Society of Landscape Architects

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
at The University of Texas at Austin

United States Botanic Garden

Site Context

Pre-Design Assessment and Planning

Site Design – Water

Site Design – Soil and Vegetation

Site Design – Materials Selection

Site Design – Human Health and Well-Being

Construction

Operations and Maintenance

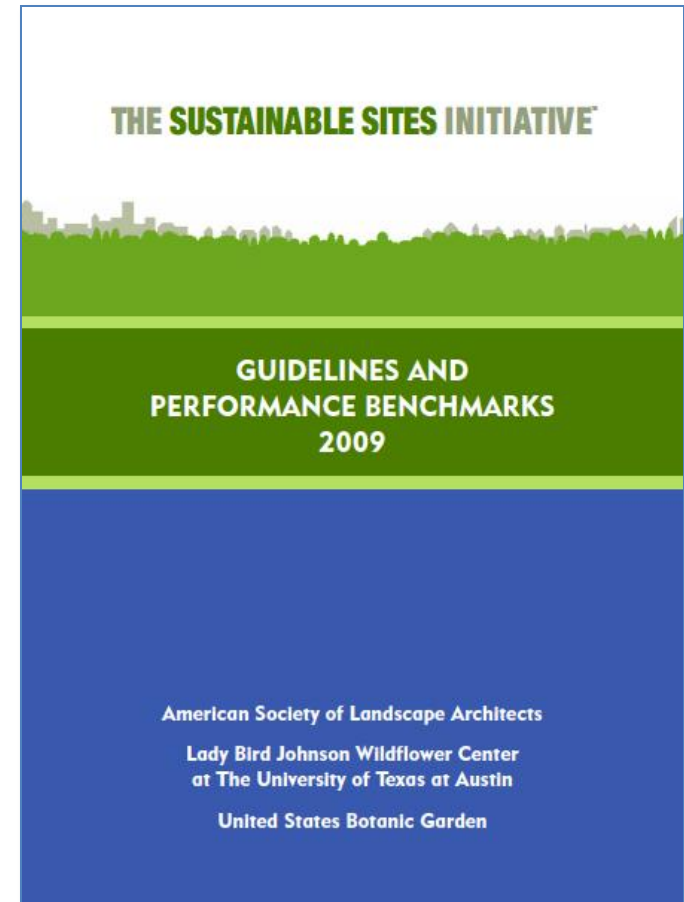
Education and Performance Monitoring

Thinking of enrolling a project for SITES certification?

Start now!

- Review Prerequisites
- Gather Documentation
- Strategize credits
- Read the 2013 SITES v2 Rating System

www.sustainable sites.org



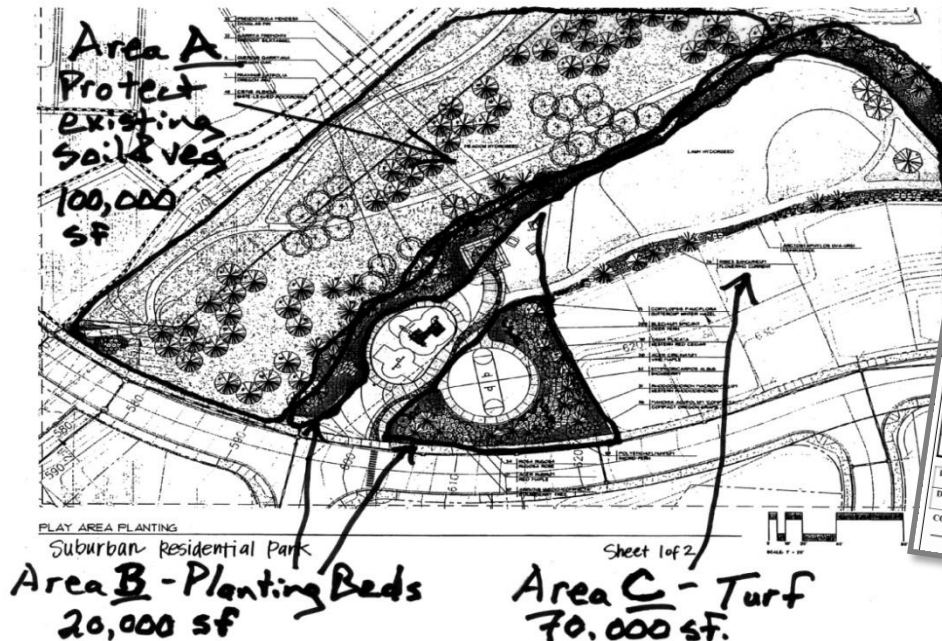
example: prerequisite 4.3

Create & communicate a Soil Management Plan

- Document existing soil conditions in Prereq. 2.1
— this will include early soil testing.
- Identify vegetation and soil protection zones (protect throughout project)
- For each area that will be disturbed during construction, specify how it will be restored to meet Prereq 7.2



Seattle Public Utilities



Model SOIL MANAGEMENT PLAN for BMP T&I
Complete all information on page 1; only site address and permit number on additional pages. Page # of pages

PROJECT INFORMATION
Site Address / Lot No. _____ Permit Number: _____
Permit Holder: _____ Phone: _____
Marketing Address: _____
Contact Person: _____
Plan Prepared By: _____

ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED (Check off required items that are attached to this plan)
Site Plan showing: to scale: _____
Soil test results (required if proposing custom amendment rates) _____
Product test results for proposed amendments _____

AREA # _____ (Obtain match Area # on Site Plan)

PLANTING TYPE _____
Turf _____
Planting Beds _____
Other: _____

SQUARE FOOTAGE OF THIS AREA: _____ Square feet
Scarification _____
Soil will be scarified _____ inches (depth) of scarification needed to achieve finished total 12" loosed depth.

PRE-APPROVED AMENDMENT METHOD:
Topsoil import _____ inches of compost or imported topsoil applied
Amend with compost _____ cu. yards per 1,000 sq. ft.
Stockpile and amend _____ cu. yds. stockpiled _____ PRODUCT: _____ QUANTITY: _____ CU. YDS.
(Include to cover the area to designated depth)

CUSTOM AMENDMENT:
Topsoil import _____ inches organic matter or topsoil import
Amend _____ cu. yards / 1,000 sq. ft. PRODUCT: _____ QUANTITY: _____ CU. YDS.
Stockpile and amend _____ cu. yds. stockpiled _____
Amend _____ cu. yds. / 1,000 sq. ft. PRODUCT: _____ QUANTITY: _____ CU. YDS.
Stockpile and amend _____ cubic yards of amendment _____
Amend _____ cubic yards of amendment _____ PRODUCT: _____ QUANTITY: _____ CU. YDS.

MULCH
X 2.1. Incorporation, to give 2 inch mulch depth) _____ cubic yards of mulch _____ PRODUCT: _____ QUANTITY: _____ CU. YDS.

TOTAL AMENDMENT/TOPSOIL/MULCH FOR ALL AREAS (complete on page 1 only, totaling all areas shown in this Plan)
Product #1: _____ % organic matter C:N ratio <25:1 (except mulch, or <35:1 for native plants) _____ Quantity: _____ cu. yds. "stable" (12/20/01)
Product #2: _____ % organic matter C:N ratio <25:1 (except mulch, or <35:1 for native plants) _____ Quantity: _____ cu. yds. "stable" (12/20/01)
Product #3: _____ % organic matter C:N ratio <25:1 (except mulch, or <35:1 for native plants) _____ Quantity: _____ cu. yds. "stable" (12/20/01)
Product #4: _____ % organic matter C:N ratio <25:1 (except mulch, or <35:1 for native plants) _____ Quantity: _____ cu. yds. "stable" (12/20/01)

Date: _____ Inspector: _____ Approved: _____ Revisions Required: _____
Date: _____ Inspector: _____ Approved: _____ Revisions Required: _____

COMMENTS: _____

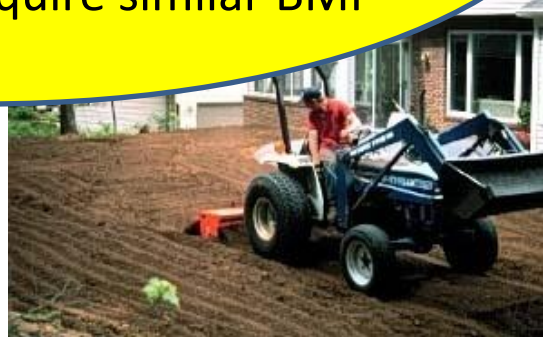
example: prerequisite 7.2

Restore soils disturbed during construction

- Read 7.2 restoration requirements – use them to plan 4.3 Soil Management Plan
- Plan for soil testing after construction to document 7.2 is completed
- 2-for-1 value if compost is used for temporary erosion control, then tilled into meet 7.2

Modeled on WA Stormwater Manual's
Post-construction Soil Quality & Depth

- guidance at www.soilsforsalmon.org
- local WA codes require similar BMP



Images: Seattle Public Utilities

Learn more:

- Read the 2013 Rating system and the *Reference Guide*
- Sign up for email updates



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www.sustainablesites.org

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Step 2 > Consultation Site Visit

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