The Sustainable Sites initiative

SITES™



An interdisciplinary effort to create

national guidelines and rating system for sustainable land **design**, **construction**, and **maintenance**

www.sustainablesites.org

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
ASLA Library & Education Advocacy Fund

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflowercenter
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

United States Botanic Garden

SITES Framework: *Ecosystem Services*

- 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

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)

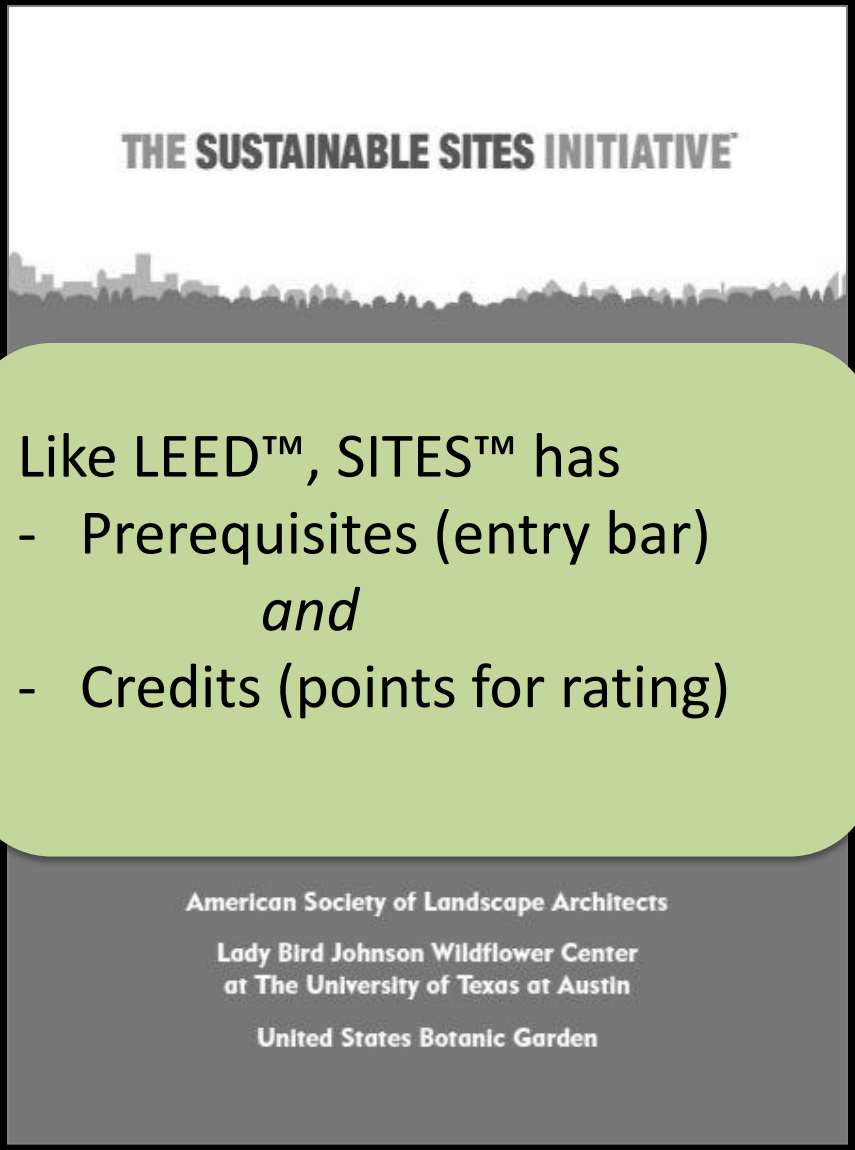
Promote use of guidelines and principles (without certification)

Timeline

Development and expert panels begin work	2005
1st 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
SITES v2 2013 Rating System/Reference Guide	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*



Like LEED™, SITES™ has

- Prerequisites (entry bar)

and

- Credits (points for rating)

- 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

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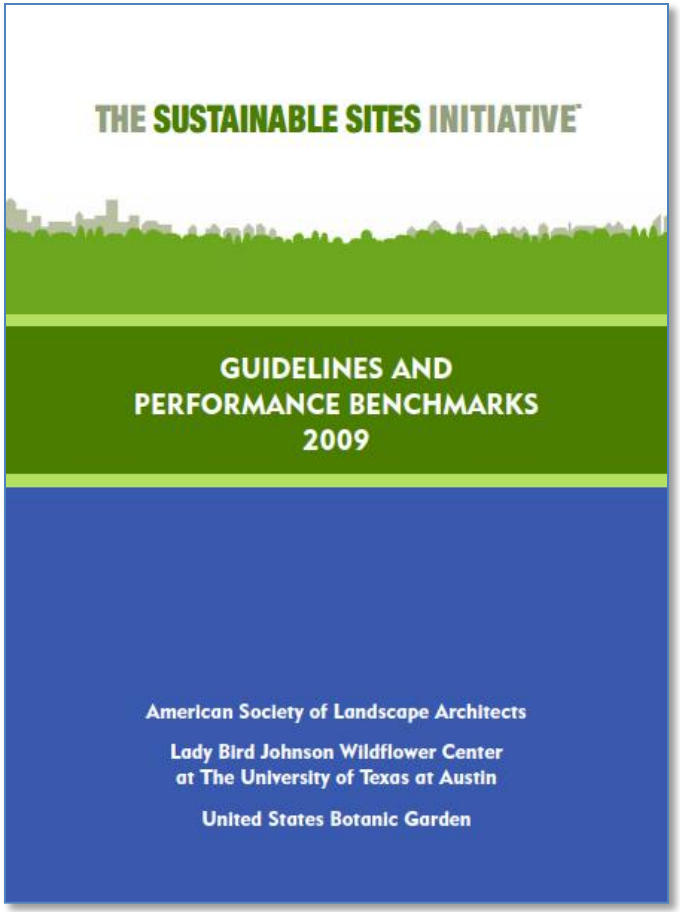
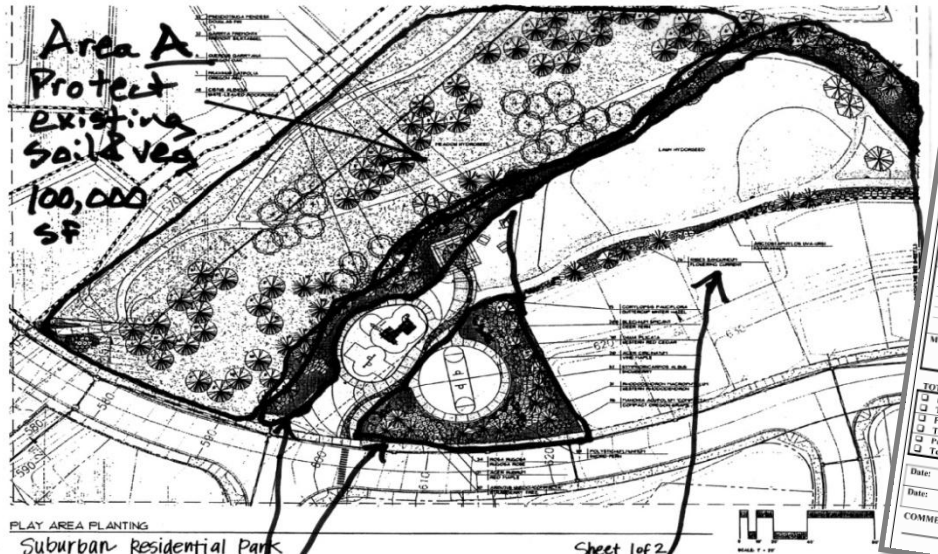
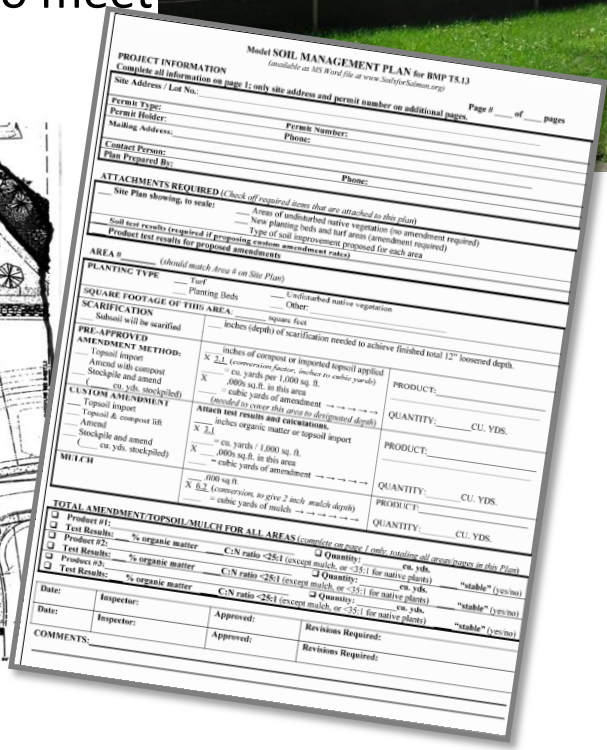


example: prerequisite 4.3
Create & communicate a Soil Management Plan

- 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





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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