



Encouraging and Rewarding High Performance Landscapes with the SITES Rating System

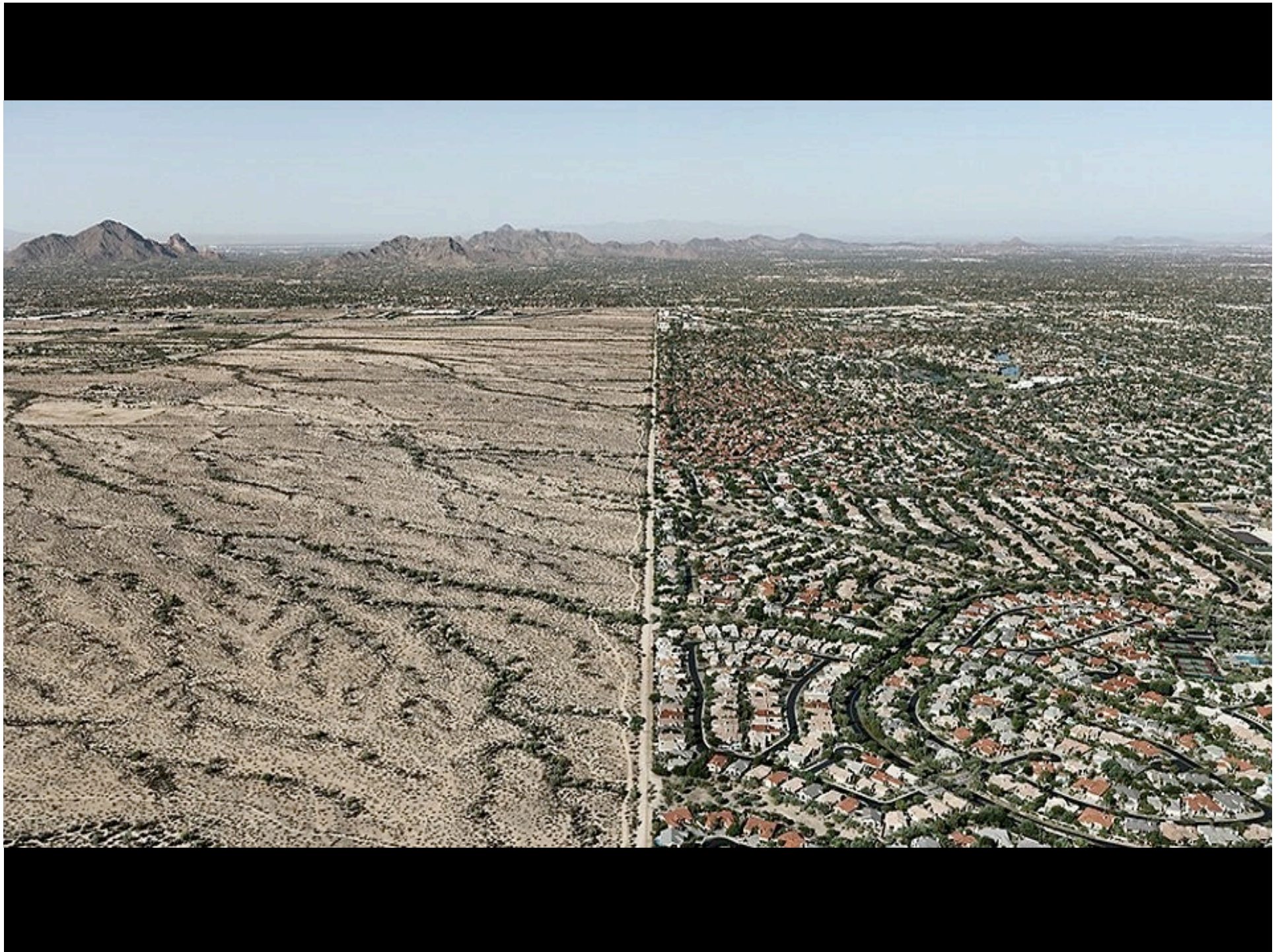
October 2, 2014 | 11th Annual Canadian Urban Forest Conference | Victoria, B.C., Canada

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Growth of Green Building



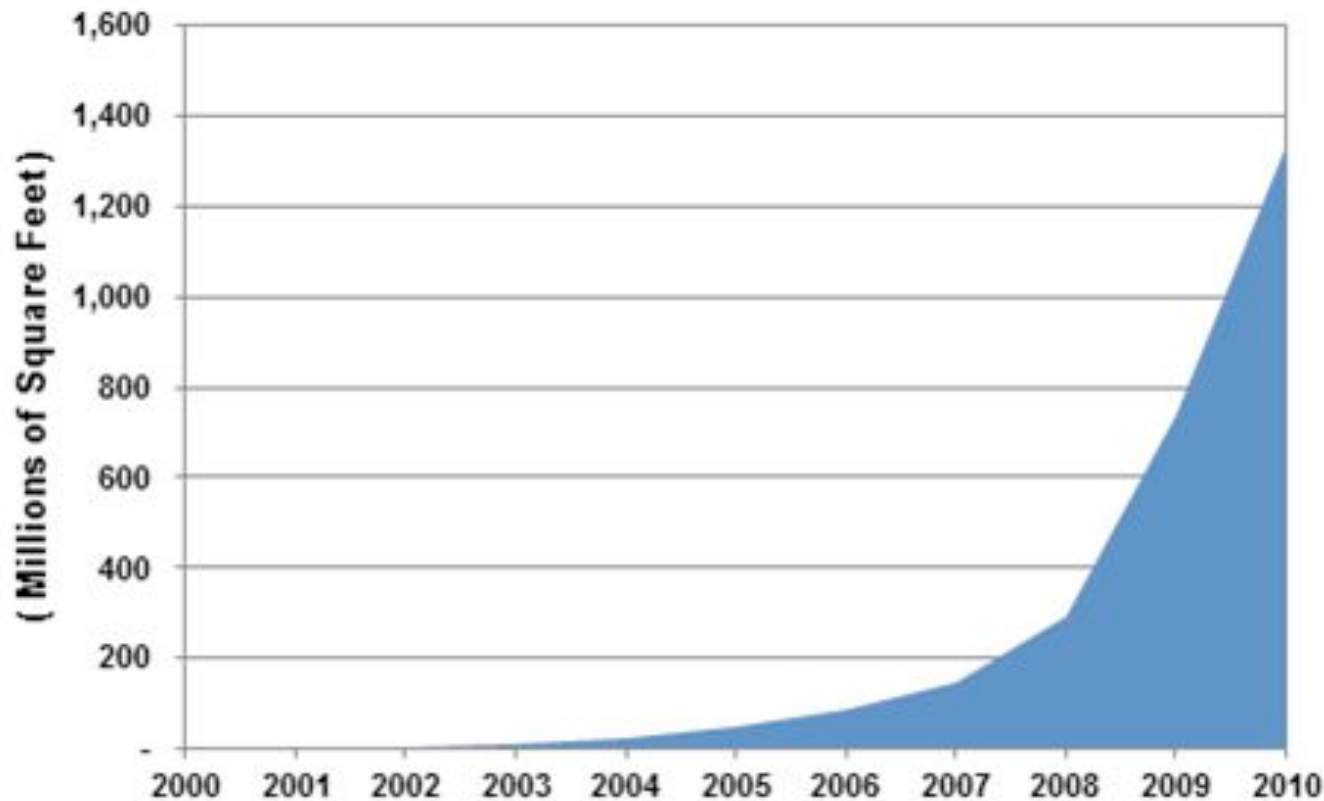
Growth of Green Building

3 billion square feet (or 278.7 km²)
of LEED certified space

April 2014



Cumulative LEED Certified Space, World Markets: 2000-2010



(Source: Green Building Certification Institute)







trees regulate climate shade clean air

flood protection healthy soil

pollinator species habitat

reduced energy transportation

windbreaks place water supply

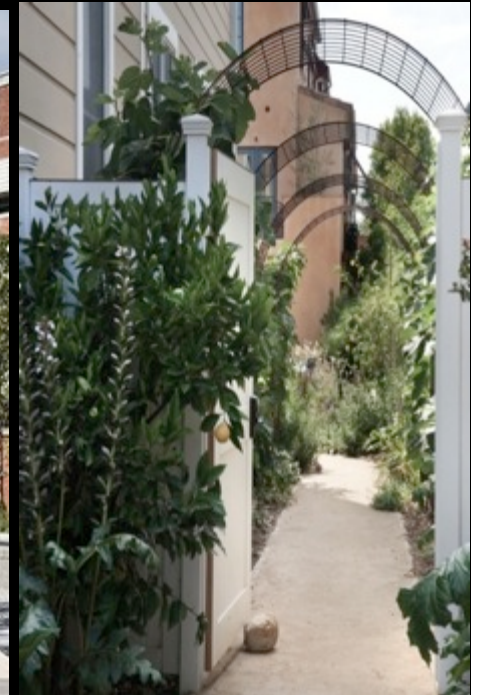
recreation atmosphere healthy


vegetation erosion control

local food store carbon cultural value



Sustainable SITES Initiative™





2005	Forming Relationships
2006	Research and Development process begins
2007	<i>Standards & Guidelines Preliminary Report</i>
2008	<i>Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks Draft 2008</i>
2009	<i>Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks 2009</i>
2010 – 2012	Pilot Program
2013	Research and Development continues
2014	<i>SITES v2</i> [Education + Outreach Open Enrollment
2015	Professional Credentialing
2016	
2017	

SITES Timeline

SITES v2

Rating System

For Sustainable Land Design and Development



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Section 1: Site Context

Section 2: Pre-Design Assessment + Planning

Section 3: Site Design – Water

Section 4: Site Design – Soil + Vegetation

Section 5: Site Design – Materials

Section 6: Site Design – Human Health + Well-Being

Section 7: Construction

Section 8: Operations + Maintenance

Section 9: Education + Performance Monitoring

Section 10: Innovation + Exemplary Performance

Section 1: Site Context



Prerequisite/Credit	Title	Points
Context P1.1	Limit development on farmland	Required
Context P1.2	Protect floodplain functions	Required
Context P1.3	Conserve aquatic resources	Required
Context P1.4	Conserve habitats for threatened and endangered species	Required
Context C1.5	Redevelop degraded sites	3-6 points
Context C1.6	Locate projects within existing developed areas	4 points
Context C1.7	Connect to multi-modal transit networks	2-3 points



before



after



Context C1.5: Restore degraded sites

Section 2: Pre-Design Site Assessment + Planning



Prerequisite/ Credit	Title	Points
Pre-Design P2.1	Use an integrative design process	Required
Pre-Design P2.2	Conduct a pre-design site assessment	Required
Pre-Design P2.3	Designate and communicate Vegetation and Soil Protection Zones	Required
Pre-Design C2.4	Engage users and stakeholders	4-6 points

Section 4: Site Design – Soil + Vegetation



Prerequisite/Credit	Title	Points
Soil+Veg P4.1	Create and communicate a soil management plan	Required
Soil+Veg P4.2	Control and manage invasive plants	Required
Soil+Veg P4.3	Use appropriate plants	Required
Soil+Veg C4.4	Conserve healthy soils and appropriate vegetations	4-6 points
Soil+Veg C4.5	Conserve special status vegetation	4 points
Soil+Veg C4.6	Conserve and use native plants	3-6 points
Soil+Veg C4.7	Conserve and restore native plant communities	4-6 points
Soil+Veg C4.8	Optimize biomass	1-6 points
Soil+Veg C4.9	Reduce urban heat island effects	4 points
Soil+Veg C4.10	Use vegetation to minimize building energy use	1-4 points
Soil+Veg C4.11	Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire	4 points

www.sustainablesites.org/rating-system

SITES v2 Rating System

For Sustainable Land Design and Development



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SITES v2 Reference Guide

For Sustainable Land Design and Development



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Eligible Projects

- New construction or major renovations
- No maximum size
- Minimum of 2,000 square feet
- All project types on sites with or without buildings
- Applicable outside U.S.



200 Points Total

70 points

SITES CERTIFIED

85 points

SITES SILVER

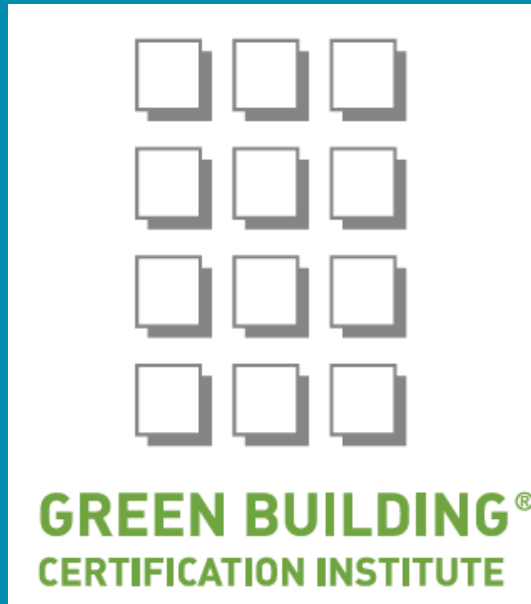
100 points

SITES GOLD

135 points

SITES PLATINUM

SITES v2 Certification Levels



SITES v2 Certification

SITES Certified Pilot Projects



Victoria Garden Mews: Santa Barbara, CA



The Green at College Park at The University of Texas at Arlington



The Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden: Durham, NC



The Woodland Discovery Playground at Shelby Farms Park: Memphis, TN

15 Open Space/ Park
8 Institutional/ Educational
5 Garden/ Arboretum
5 Commercial
3 Government
2 Residential
1 Industrial
1 Mixed Use
....and 30+ continue to pursue
certification through 2014

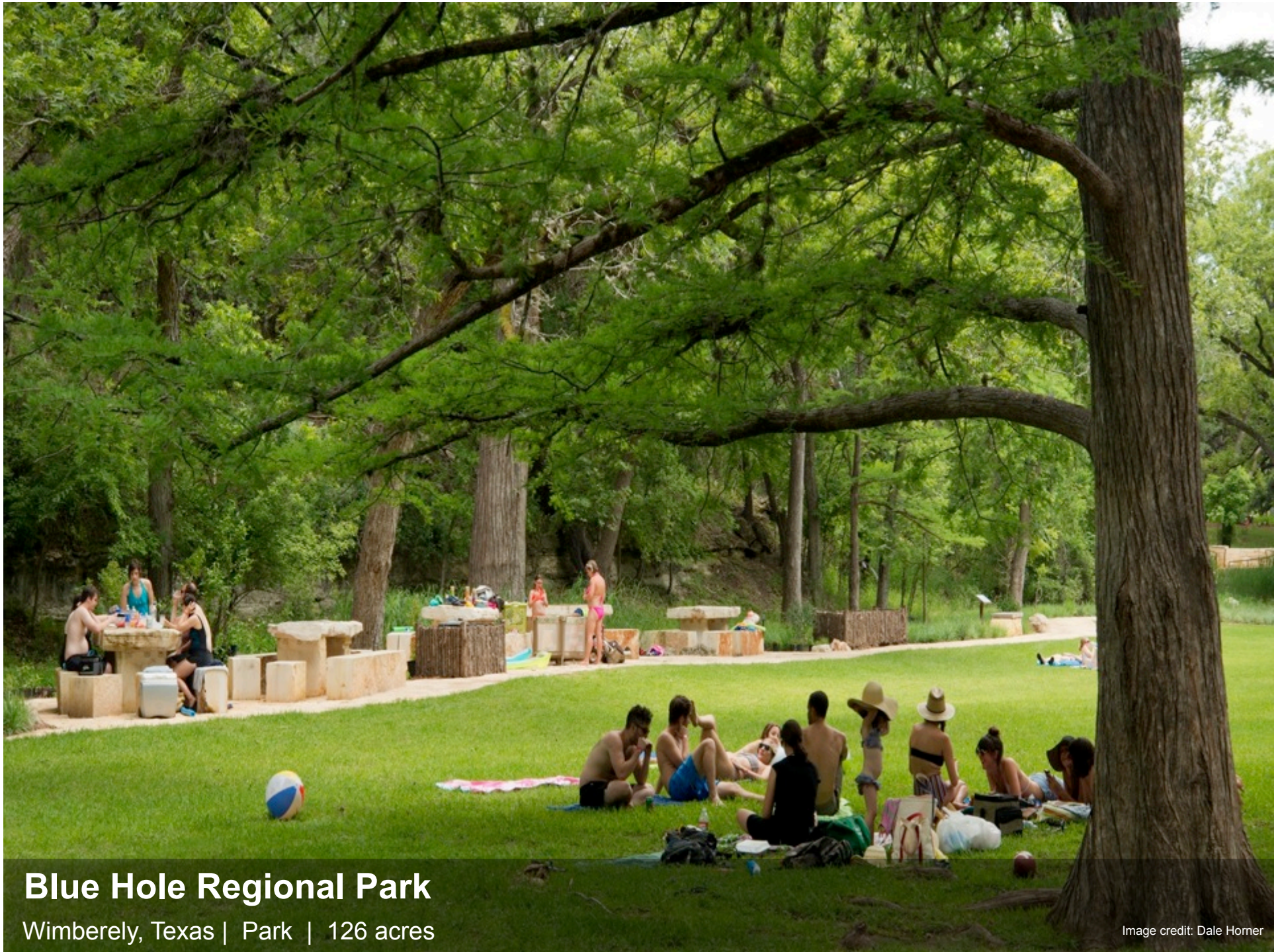
34 Certified Pilot Projects



before



after



Blue Hole Regional Park

Wimberely, Texas | Park | 126 acres

Image credit: Dale Horner





before



Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park

Beacon, New York | Park | 14 acres



Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park

Beacon, New York | Park | 14 acres

Image credit: Robert Rodriguez, Jr.
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Scenic Hudson's Long Dock Park

Beacon, New York | Park | 14 acres

Image credit: Reed Hilderbrand LLC
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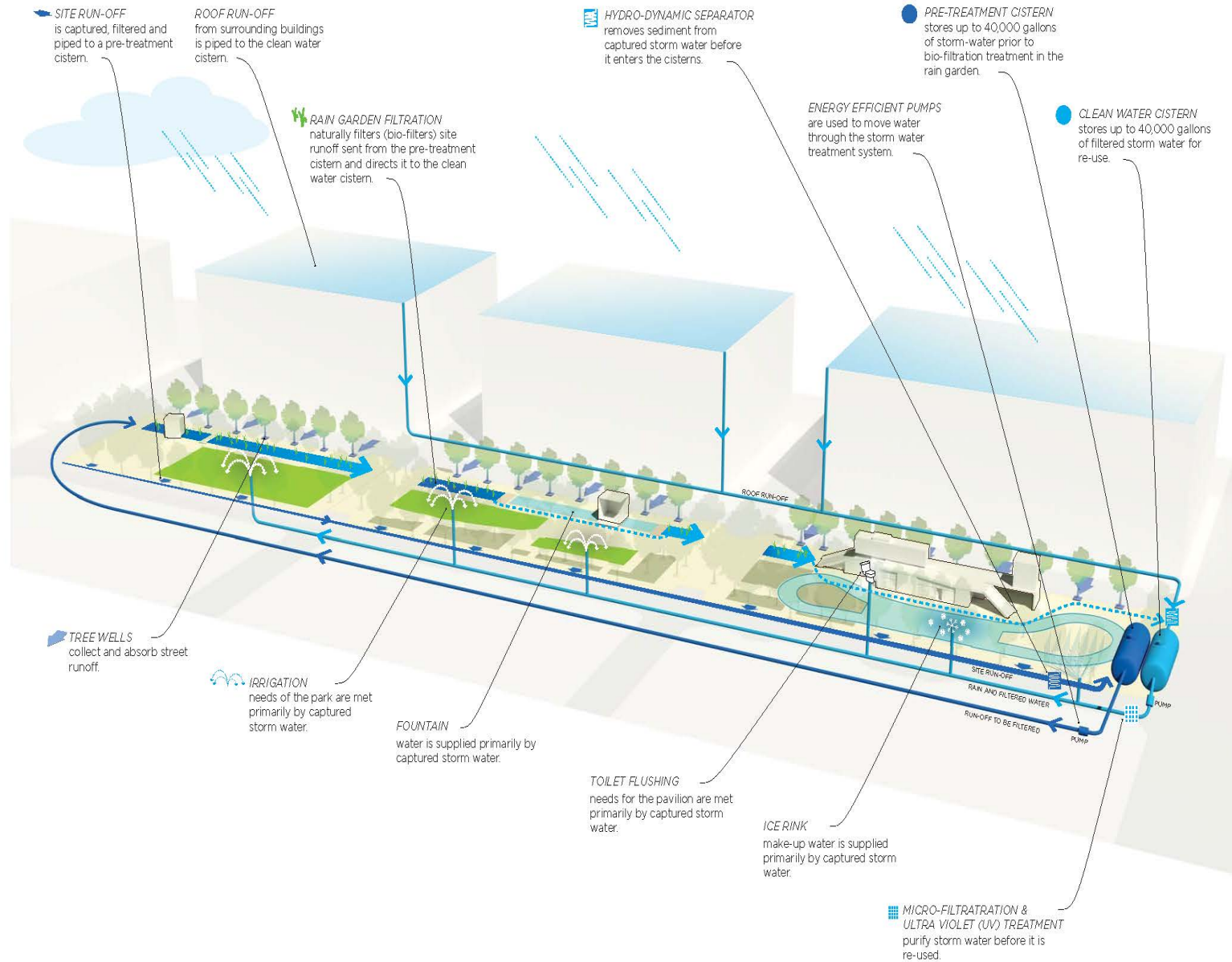


Washington Canal Park

Washington, D.C. | 3 acres | Open Space - Park

Image credit: OLIN / Karl Blumenthal
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STORMWATER STRATEGY





Washington Canal Park

Washington, D.C. | 3 acres | Open Space - Park

Image credit: OLIN / Karl Blumenthal
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Thank You!



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WEBSITE: www.sustainablesites.org

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