



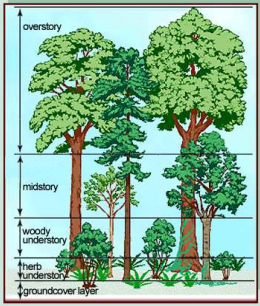

CHECKLIST for URBAN HABITAT DESIGN GUIDELINES*

FOR CITIES, COUNTIES, CAMPUSES
PRIVATE DEVELOPERS
& RESIDENTS

Project Name _____

<p>1. Executive Summary</p>	<p>Urban and suburban landscapes have significant potential to support wildlife and provide key ecosystem functions within the developed matrix</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of sustainable habitat areas, interwoven into the urban setting, is mutually beneficial to ecosystems and humans • Therefore it is an enterprise worthy of serious investment (i.e., of time, money, and limited physical resources such as land and water) <p>Aim to establish functional wildlife habitat, blended with sensitive design that allows for human use and enjoyment of these habitats</p>
<p>2. Ecological Approach: <i>Design landscapes for habitat value to contribute to the ecological health of the region</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop complex and diverse ecosystems at the scale needed to provide key habitat functions and landscape resilience over time. 2. To develop habitat areas that can persist and regenerate over time. 3. To plan habitat enhancements that will complete or complement other conservation and restoration plans at a city or regional level. 4. To create habitat corridors connecting patches of habitat in the urban fabric in a manner that provides a variety of benefits to the community and educates the public about the value and functions of natural ecosystems. 5. To prioritize the use of native plant species, especially trees and shrubs (which support high wildlife value) in new landscaping to the greatest extent feasible.
<p>3. Goals and Priorities <i>in order to reestablish healthy ecosystem elements that have been virtually eradicated from the region, and which will provide important habitat to special-status wildlife species, birds, insects and people</i></p>	<p>What type of habitats are priorities for this project?</p> <hr/> <p>What groups of species should be targeted for habitat benefits?</p> <hr/> <p>Where should the habitat areas be located in the area being considered?</p> <hr/> <p>What types of habitat development projects present multiple benefits to the most recipients (natural communities as well as the human community)?</p> <hr/> <p>Are there easy-to-measure goals to ensure progress is being made?</p> <hr/> <p>Can a “peoples’ science” approach be used to involve the community via social media?</p> <hr/> <p>How to recognize/celebrate success to ensure positive reinforcement & education value? Backyard Habitat Program/ City Butterfly Day/ Native Plant Society tours/etc.</p>



Below is a list of issues to consider for the project area- use right column as checklist	
<p>4. Design Parameters Several key factors influence the selection of plantings and canopy</p> 	<p>Native Plant Selection- <i>Hydrology –Affinity for water- key to suitable plant selection</i></p> <p>Native Plant Selection- <i>Sun/Shade Tolerance</i></p> <p>Soils Conservation and enhancement and Good Drainage</p> <p>Soil Development – encourage organic improvement over time</p> <p>Rain water management</p> <p>Recycled water vs. Potable Water use</p> <p>Planning for Horizontal density & Vertical Structure of trees, shrubs, groundcovers</p> <p>Visual Aesthetic plan for native planting in Urban/Suburban setting</p> <p>Urban Street Corridor Areas – Safety, shade, habitat</p> <p>Areas between buildings and Courtyard Planting</p> <p>Urban Fringe Areas – Creek Corridors, buffer areas</p> <p>Core Habitat Areas – Rich habitat plan for parks, woodland areas</p> <p>Re-oaking to recreate a network of oak trees with gaps of no more than 75-120 feet apart for historical habitat for this area</p> <p>Urban Agriculture, rooftop gardens</p>
<p>5. Landscape Management: <i>Maintenance Crews and Education</i></p>	<p>Nonnative (and weed) plant control</p> <p>Non-toxic pesticide use and pest control</p> <p>Irrigation</p> <p>Recycled Water</p> <p>Replanting</p>
<p>6a. Bird-Safe Design for Buildings</p> 	<p><i>Bird-Safe Architectural Lighting</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pull shades after dark to reduce light pollution • Direct lighting downwards • Use blue or green light <p><i>Bird-Safe Architectural Surfaces to minimize bird collisions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid highly reflective glass coatings throughout all glazing systems • Create visual obstacles such as patterned glass • Eliminate atria and courtyard designs that trap birds • Minimize see-through situations
<p>6b. Bird-Safe Design for Landscapes</p>	<p>Strategically place vegetation to minimize collision risk with buildings</p> <p>Use local, native vegetation.</p> <p>Lighting Design: Reduce the use of artificial light.</p> <p>Lighting: Direct light downward.</p> <p>Lighting: Use colored light. Blue and green</p>
<p>6c. Bird-Safe Construction Practices</p>	<p>Schedule construction to avoid nesting season</p> <p>Pre-construction/Pre-disturbance Surveys</p> <p>Inhibition of Nesting in areas where construction is planned to occur</p>
<p>6d. Bird-Safe Landscape Management</p>	<p>Avoid the use of chemicals, use organics</p> <p>Take care to avoid impacting nesting birds while managing the landscape.</p> <p>Reduce wildlife access to anthropogenic food (garbage etc.).</p> <p>Install bird feeders.</p> <p>Install bird baths and water features</p> <p>Install nest boxes.</p> <p>Minimize pet encroachment into habitats.</p>
<p>7. Plant Palettes <i>Use native and high habitat-value plants*</i></p>	<p>Native Plants for Over story- Urban Canopy</p> <p>Add to Urban tree canopy with high habitat-value trees</p> <p>Native Plants for Midstory</p> <p>Shrubs, Vines</p> <p>Native Plants for Undestory</p> <p>Shrubs, Groundcovers</p>