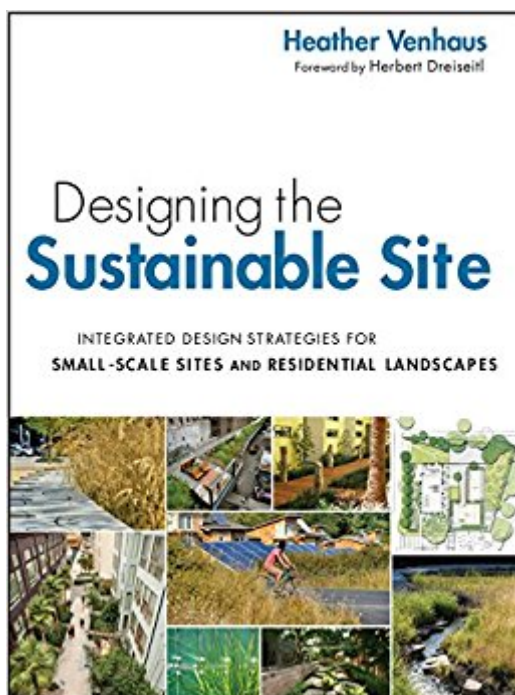


The book was found

Designing The Sustainable Site: Integrated Design Strategies For Small Scale Sites And Residential Landscapes



Synopsis

The full-color, practical guide to designing sustainable residential landscapes and small-scale sites "Going green" is no longer a choice; it's a necessity. Developed landscapes have played a significant role in exacerbating the environmental and social problems that threaten humanity; however, they can also be part of the solution. *Designing the Sustainable Site: Integrated Design Strategies for Small-Scale Sites and Residential Landscapes* gives site designers and landscape architects the tools and information they need to become a driving force in the quest for sustainability. Advocating a regenerative design approach in which built landscapes sustain and restore vital ecological functions, this book guides readers through a design process for new and redeveloped sites that not only minimizes damage to the environment but also actively helps to repair it. *Designing the Sustainable Site:* Assists designers in identifying and incorporating sustainable practices that have the greatest positive impact on both the project and the surrounding community, within a regional context Uses photographs, sketches, and case studies to provide a comprehensive look at successful green landscape design Illustrates how sustainable practices are relevant and applicable to projects of any size or budget Demonstrates how built environments can protect and restore ecosystem services Explains the multiple and far-reaching benefits that sustainable design solutions can provide Assists project teams in fulfilling credit requirements of green building assessment tools, such as LEED, BREEAM, or SITES With attention to six global environmental challenges—including air pollution, urban flooding and water pollution, water shortages, invasive species, and loss of biodiversity—along with guidance on how to meet these challenges, *Designing the Sustainable Site* is a practical design manual for sustainable alternatives to small-scale site and residential landscape design.

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Customer Reviews

Designers who want to incorporate elements that improve air quality, capture stormwater, or protect biodiversity will benefit from the clear examples in this well-written book. [Architectural Record](#) - Landscape Architecture Magazine "Venhaus's book is carefully organized and offers clear, concise guidance on how to deal with sites in ways that uphold both livability and ecological functions. Designing the Sustainable Site ranges from big-picture explanations of current ecological thinking to detailed techniques that can be applied at the level of the individual site." ([Better! Cities & Towns](#) , September 2012)

Using her background in landscape architecture and ecological restoration, HEATHER VENHAUS works with teams of scientists, designers, and educators to develop sustainable and regenerative design solutions. Ms. Venhaus facilitated and led the development of The Sustainable Sites Initiative: Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks 2009, the nation's first rating system for landscapes, and has held multiple leadership positions in the U.S. Green Building Council and the American Society of Landscape Architects. Heather is the founding principal of Regenerative Environmental Design and lives in Austin, Texas.

Heather Venhaus has done a remarkable job of explaining sustainability for small-scale sites in a manner which is practical and relevant. The book is clear, thorough and beautifully illustrated. It contains scores of references for further exploration. If you own, build, design, maintain, finance, regulate or legislate housing, this book is an eye-opener. If you want your next landscaping or gardening project to be earth-friendly, this book is a great tool. Even if you do not plan to pursue a Sustainable Sites certification, I still recommend this book. It is full of practical approaches and the science behind them. You will also find tips that will actually save you money over the "because that's the way we've always done it" construction methods. This book, as well as the Sustainable Sites initiative in general, provides a key ingredient in the building process which has largely been missing from Western construction methods -- holistic assessment and planning. As a veteran of real estate development for 35 years, I know that very few houses or communities are planned with the full lifecycle impact of the site in mind. The developer, builder and landscape contractor will be

gone in a few months -- the house in 50-100 years. This book will help you create a house and landscape which will perform sustainably and comfortably throughout it's lifetime.

What a great resource! This book gives practical and applicable principles through detailed case studies with proven results. As a landscape architect designing and developing projects for the last 15 years, sustainability is always the forefront going into every project, but budgets typically "value engineer" out these "ideas" early on. Now I have the "proof is in the pudding" to back up our ideas as well as integrate new ones with our projects and our clients!

As a professional engineer and sustainable land developer I am constantly looking for ways to design and build better neighborhoods. I found this book to be full of valuable examples and ideas for the design and implementation of sustainable sites. Even more valuable was the discussion about the interrelated nature of the design team to meet the project objectives. This book is a **MUST READ** for anyone engaged in the field of sustainable site design.

It is a complex subject and this is good coverage but difficult to just read. I guess it is like a textbook which makes it a resource I hope to use more in the future.

Excellent examples. I bought a second copy for my nephew who is a civil engineer.

This book is just ok for learning not what I expected. Has more examples of completed projects and less 'how to' detail for construction of the landscape using sustainable methods. They should have been more specific on the specifications aspect of design.

With 1.5 million acres of farmland, forest, and other rural land lost annually in America to urban development and the continued ballooning of population worldwide (reaching 8 billion within the coming twelve years), Heather Venhaus' excellent guidebook on sustainable design couldn't be more timely. Having served as a prime hand in preparation of the Sustainable Sites Initiative: Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks, the LEED-comparable volume published in 2009, Venhaus brings a fully educated sensibility and grasp of the issues - contextual, site analysis, site planning, design, construction period oversight, and post-completion monitoring, environmental stewardship, and much more - that are essential to any professional's learning curve and practice in the fields of sustainable site, community, and regional planning and design arts. Readers will find

extensive and relevant coverage on topics related to the realization of residential sites as well as public plazas, gardens, parks, and institutional and commercial grounds. There's much else as well--on stormwater-catching swales in public rights-of-way and parking lots, rainwater and air conditioning condensate harvesting, the optimal standards for roof garden and green wall design, and much, much more. We have here a cornucopia of practical technical knowledge and deep insights shaped by the author's many years of research, writing, and authorship in the field. The book's numerous case studies, taken from locales in the U.S. and several in Europe, are well selected and enlightening. The photographs, diagrams, plans, cross-sections, and other illustrations, in addition to the book and page design, are attractive and effective. This book's a must.

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