# LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

## Designing a Sustainable Environment that Works for You

Landscape architects in public practice work for local, state and federal government agencies. They work with teams that design parks, trails, streets, plazas, roof top gardens, storm water systems and outdoor places to reduce the affects of the built environment on human health in balance with nature.

### Guiding Principles of Sustainable Infrastructure

- Consider the whole system rather than focusing on a single outcome.
- Balance use of resources such as land, money, energy, water and maintenance time.
- Plan ahead for re-use or disposal of materials used today after the useful life of the project.
- Use energy, water, and other resources carefully.
- Create places that are easy to use by all people.
- Make choices based on the entire life of the project.

View examples of healthy and sustainable environments designed by landscape architects »

Learn more at asla.org/design

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### GREEN STREETS

- People, cars, bicycles, buses and trams all share use and fully support retail and commercial uses.
- Storm water is filtered by landscape before entering storm drains.
- Human scale and experience are pleasant.
- Urban heat is reduced.

### GREEN ROOFS

- Heating and cooling costs are reduced.
- Storm water is filtered by plants before entering storm drains.
- Roofs are usable as gardens.
- Service life of roof is increased.
- Habitat for birds and insects is created.

### WATER MANAGEMENT

- Storm water runoff is controlled naturally.
- Water is filtered and percolates back into the ground.
- Water captured on site reduces local flooding.

- Water is harvested and stored for use as irrigation later.
- Low tech solutions are used to manage water.
- Grey water is used for landscape irrigation.
- Ground water supplies are replenished on site.
- Usage and cost of potable water is reduced.

## How Do Public Practice Landscape Architects Benefit Communities?

- Design projects that improve our quality of life.
- Preserve and protect environmental resources.
- Improve the function, safety, and appearance of public places.
- Engage communities to make thoughtful decisions about the use of public resources.

**Make a difference and include a landscape architect on your design team for healthy, sustainable and beautiful public places.**

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
Your Environment. Designed.

This document was prepared by the Public Practice Advisory Committee of the American Society of Landscape Architects.