



LANDDESIGN SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER

I. A Commitment to the Environment

LandDesign is committed strongly to leading its clients, allies and employees by example to promote stewardship that preserves and protects our environment and natural resources.

We recognize that how we plan and design communities can ensure a positive impact on our environment. We will strive to achieve this commitment by:

1. Encouraging adoption and sharing of ideas with staff and clients that promote sustainable design practices within our sphere of influence.
2. Promoting within each project all feasible opportunities to encourage environmental stewardship through preservation and conservation to the maximum extent possible.
3. Striving to all feasible extents to preserve bio-diversity and habitat protection through planning and design practices built upon environmentally centered principles.

II. Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

LandDesign is founded on providing responsible stewardship of the land. Our philosophy supports that commitment by providing design solutions, development and sustainable use of a broad spectrum of natural resources. We recognize the importance of water, wetlands, wildlife, soils, recreation, agriculture and timber in maintaining a high quality of life for current and future generations. To this end:

1. We will encourage our clients to make sustainable use of renewable natural resources.
2. We will conserve wherever practical non-renewable natural resources through efficient use and careful planning.
3. We will promote and, where possible, participate in the efficient use of renewable energy.
4. Through individual project assessment, we will provide clients with inventories of natural resources that can be accentuated and presented on individual sites when applicable.

III. Reduction and Disposal of Wastes

We will actively integrate recycling into each of our offices to encourage responsible collection and minimize waste. We will establish goals in each office that reduce waste through source reduction and will monitor our disposal of waste using a documented waste management program.

1. We will use only recycled paper products for our deliverables when available and economically feasible.
2. We will designate a recycling program administrator for each office that will implement and enforce responsible recycling measures.
3. We will minimize the use of disposable food containers, including encouraging vendors to change or reduce packaging and provide eco-friendly products. We will provide suitable drinking materials to reduce or eliminate the use of bottled water.
4. We will donate old trade publications and seek other ways to recycle printed materials.

IV. Energy Conservation

We will strive to conserve energy, and use environmentally safe and sustainable energy sources. We will continually seek ways to reduce energy usage within our offices by promoting efficient and responsible conservation measures, including:

1. Annual evaluation through a third party expert for each office building's true energy efficiency status in order to develop recommendations for improvement and establishment of individual benchmarks.
2. Identification of internal "power bleeders" (power strips, computers, chargers) to minimize and avoid unnecessary leaks.
3. Annual evaluation of firm transportation needs to promote fuel-efficient leasing and rental options, minimize travel through "go-to-meetings" when possible, and provide suitable incentives to employees who utilize alternative transportation sources.
4. Encouragement of clients to make intelligent energy choices through promotion and use of local products, suppliers and services that minimize transportation costs.

V. Risk Reduction

We will strive to minimize the environmental, health and safety risks to our employees and the communities in which we operate and those that we plan through utilization of safe technologies, facilities and operating programs, and also through suitable preparation for emergencies. We will continually seek to provide new concepts, practices and opportunities to our employees and their families that suggest daily habits that through collective action can make a positive difference.

1. We will provide our employees with adequate training and educational opportunities to minimize risk and impact on our environment on both an individual and collective basis.
2. We will provide incentives to employees who commit and regularly adopt sustainable practices that reduce the environmental footprint (preferred parking for low-emission vehicles, mass transit commuting, etc.).

VI. Sustainability Products and Services

We are committed to providing services and using products that are sustainable and do not threaten or pose potentially negative impacts to our environment. To the greatest extent feasible, we will promote the use of alternative products that encourage reuse, and provide environmental, social and economic benefits.

1. We actively will seek where feasible the use of products in our offices that do not have an adverse impact on the environment. (cleaning products, inks, paper, and others)
2. We will inform our clients of alternate products when available that are not harmful to the environment for use on their projects.

VII. Public Education and Empowering Staff

As part of our social responsibility to the communities that we touch and people with whom we come in contact, we are committed to delivering a sustainable cultural message. We will inform those around us of the importance of being good stewards of the environment and communicate by example the importance of practicing in a sustainable fashion.

1. We will appoint a "Corporate Sustainability Officer" that will serve as LandDesign Ambassador in promoting and guiding the deployment of sustainable initiatives across all of our offices.

2. We will initiate “Green Teams” for each office that will serve as facilitators in educating staff and respective markets of the sustainable initiatives in which we are involved.
3. We will seek to promote to the general public the positive environmental and sustainable attributes that are a part of each project for which we are responsible.
4. We will seek to promote problem-solving strategies that identify and result in more sustainable projects and knowledge building, awareness, participation, networking and partnerships with local, national, and international organizations and groups.

VIII. Management Commitment

It is imperative that the firm’s management team provide full support of this implemented Charter. A sustaining process, adequate budgets and employee access to information will be supported by LandDesign’s partners and principals.

1. We will implement this Charter and sustain a process that ensures that the firm’s leadership is fully informed about pertinent environmental issues and are responsible for environmental policy.
2. We will develop and sustain a process that encourages employee access and input to this Charter with the full support of the firm’s leadership team.
3. In selecting our employees, business partners, vendors and others with whom we elect to do business; we will consider demonstrated environmental commitment as a selection factor.
4. We recognize that sustainability must be an ongoing effort, and that there is not a singular or unique approach. As a result, LandDesign is committed to reviewing and refining its Charter annually.

IX. Audits and Reports

The implementation and management of this Charter will be ensured through consistent follow-up through a “checks and balances” review and reporting process. We recognize that success will be measured by achievable short- and long-term goals that establish new benchmarks for our firm and its individual members. We are committed to reporting our progress to our staff and clients as we move forward in practicing a more sustainable role.

1. Each office will conduct semi-annual self-evaluation of its progress in implementing this Charter, performed by the Office Green Teams.
2. An annual summary of reports from each office will be produced that recognizes significant goals achieved toward sustainable operations and practices, and identifies areas for improvement.
3. A final summarized company report will be produced annually conveying initiatives deployed and goals achieved. This report will be available to the public to show that we take seriously the objective of creating and implement sustainable solutions that have a positive impact on our world and its citizens.
4. Each office will provide and post a document of office policies, management programs, and implementation strategies for viewing by all employees, referred to as the “LandDesign Charlotte (or other location) Office Green Program” This document will be revised as needed by the Office Green Team.