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American Public Gardens Association

What does sustainability mean to you? How would you define sustainability?

To sustain: To cause or allow something to continue for a period of time; to keep alive (Cambridge Dictionary)



SUSTAINABLE GALS













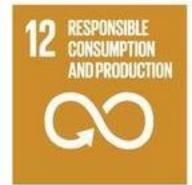








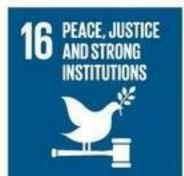






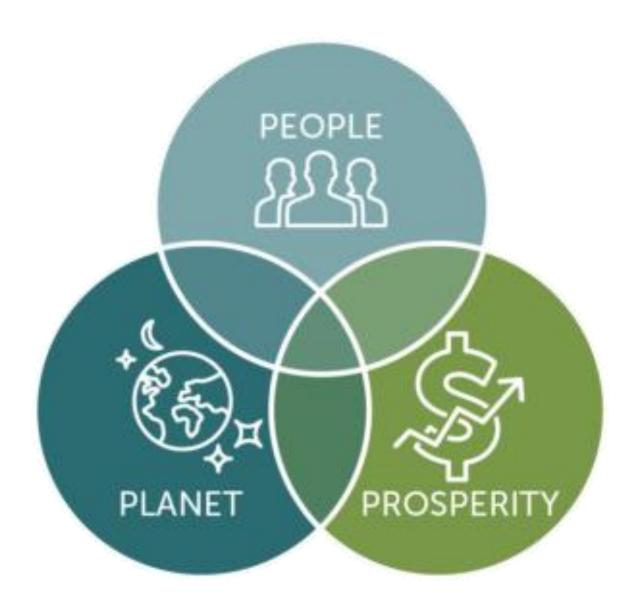












Environmental



Biodiversity & Conservation

Energy Use & Impacts Materials Management

Social

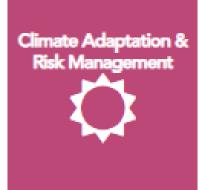
Employee Development, Diversity, & Inclusion

Sustainable Community
Development

Engagement, Outreach & Education

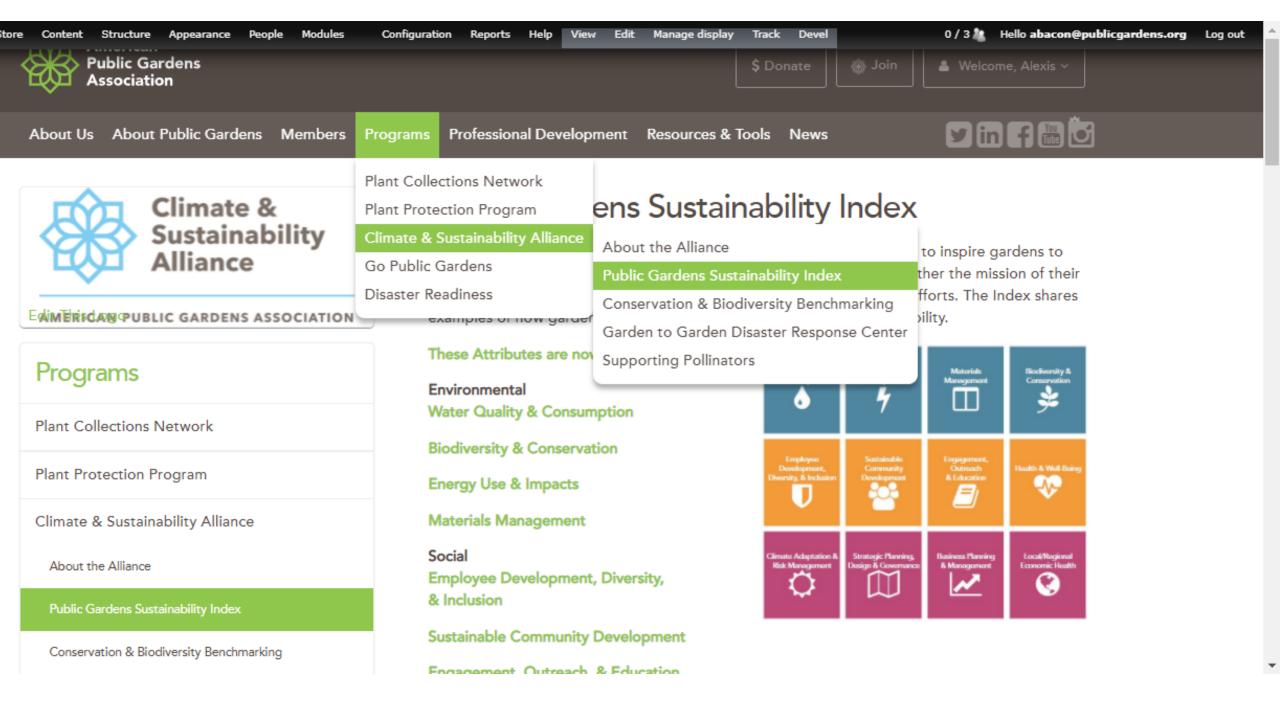
Health & Well-Being

Economic



& Management

Local/Regional Economic Health Strategic Planning, Design & Governance



Gain Recognition

Demonstrate garden achievements on Water Quality and Consumption and receive Excellence in Water Quality and Consumption recognition.



The Workbook: KPIs, Outcomes, Strategies



Self-Assessment: Where is my garden on this journey?



Garden Profiles: What are other gardens doing to promote this attribute?



Making the Case: Why should we care about this attribute in public gardens?



UN Sustainable Development Goals: Alignment with Attribute



Resources:

Goals >

Key Performance Indicators >

Strategies to achieve goals >



Water Goal 1: Develop transparent standards for the governance and management of water and ensure this is apparent in garden's plans, policies, and operational norms.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI)

- a. Garden creates a plan, policy, or protocol that guides water conservation and quality decisions and actions on site.
- b. Garden water management practices include reducing municipally supplied water.
- Garden's water management practices include measuring, improving and reducing annual water discharge.
- d. Garden adopts/aligns water conservation and quality strategies with broader local/regional efforts.
- e. Garden makes informed decisions about water resource management involving or hiring experts for projects and programs.

Outcomes

- a. Garden has (or will have) a water conservation and quality plan, policy or protocol.
- b. Garden water management practices include efficient methods for reducing municipally supplied water (if applicable).
- c. Water management practices include tracking/measuring annual water discharged from property (stormwater management). Water quality on site is tested regularly. Garden implements green infrastructure features to retain and reuse water.
- d. Garden aligns water management strategies with government plan or policy, and/or collaborates with external agencies for conservation, quality, and water-wise projects.
- e. Garden has program for professional development in water resource management. Garden utilizes expertise on projects. Garden has obtained special accreditation for water use and quality.

Suggested Strategies



Ensure that irrigation infrastructure is monitored and any issues such as leaks are reported and addressed in a timely manner. Operations and maintenance staff should determine a timeline for older infrastructure that may need to be replaced both in the short term and long term. Do pilot tests for new irrigation strategies before investing in a new system (Water.1.a).



Ensure that plant collection policies are aligned with landscape design and architecture goals. Determine your most valued plant collections and the months of the year where your water usage is highest. Plant collections that require the same amount of water should be grouped together when possible. Avoid putting plant collections that require different amounts of water adjacent to one another,



Train staff that are in charge of evaluating and monitoring water quality and usage in any new irrigation or data collection procedures and methods that are more efficient. Develop a maintenance/operations plan to guide schedule and decision-making processes (Water.1.a).

a. KPI 1a: Garden creates a plan, policy, or protocol that guides water conservation and quality decisions and actions on site. *

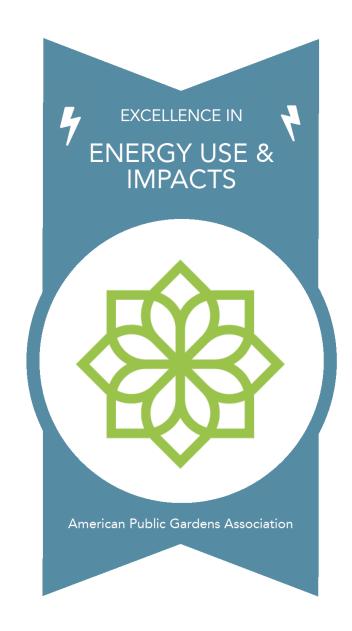
Choose as many as you like

- A Garden has a water conservation and quality plan, policy, or protocol.
- B Garden has a sustainability or operational norms plan, policy, or protocol that includes carefully monitoring water use and quality.
- c Garden will have a water conservation and quality plan, policy, or protocol in the next year.
- D Garden does not have a water conservation and quality plan, policy, or protocol.
- E Other

OK ✓

Why participate?

- Get to know your gardens strengths and weaknesses
- Get inspired by what other gardens are doing!
- Recognition: Digital ribbon, garden profile, social media coverage, and eligibility to win the Association's Operational Sustainability award











Social: Employee Development, Diversity, and Inclusion Photo by **fauxels** from **Pexels**





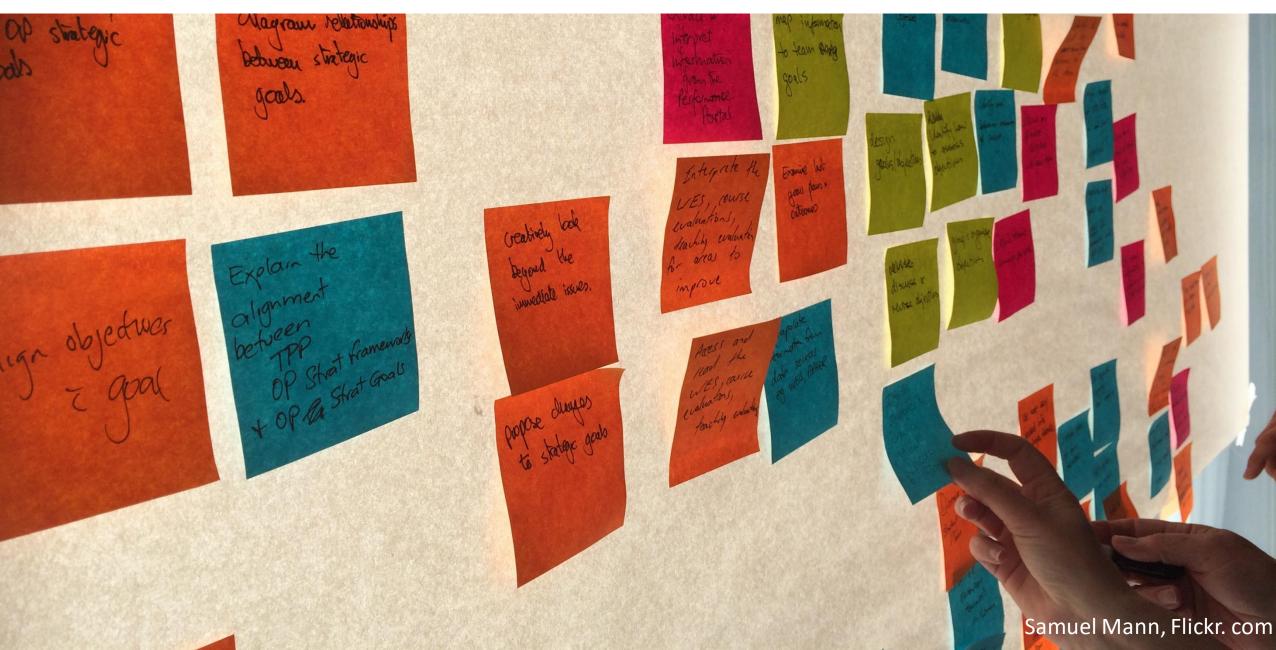








Economic: Strategic Planning, Design, and Governance





Biodiversity and Conservation at Public Gardens: Sustainability Index Webinar Series



Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Event Time

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Event Timezone ET

Virtual

Registration Link http://portal.publicgardens.org/SIJULY21

Join us during this webinar to learn more about how your garden can enhance its biodiversity and conservation goals. Gardens worldwide engage in biodiversity and conservation work through wild collecting trips, preserving specimens in herbaria and seed banks, championing research programs to learn about at-risk plants, and protecting and propagating native plants throughout their region as well as in their own gardens. Beatriz Maruri-Aguilar from Cadereyta Regional Botanic Garden, Damon Waitt from North Carolina Botanic Garden, and Silvia Alvarez Clare from The Morton Arboretum will present on biodiversity and conservation initiatives at their gardens. Each of the procepting gardone received recognition through our Sustainability Index for their extraordinary

