

Performance Benefits

"We are drowning in information, while starving for wisdom. The world henceforth will be run by synthesizers, people able to put together the right information at the right time, think critically about it, and make important choices wisely." E.O. Wilson

Each student in the group will choose a performance benefit related to the design proposal. The benefit cannot be water conservation, as the entire group is doing this one together.

STEP ONE: Modified Literature Review

The first step is to create a clear definition of your chosen performance benefit. You are becoming your group's expert on this topic. Performing a literature review will help you do this.

1. Review three recent sources related to your topic. These may be journal articles or chapters from books. Note that the Fast Facts Library on the LAF website is one source for these articles, as is Kennedy Library. For each source, identify a definition of the benefit, ways that benefit might be achieved, and measures or metrics related to the benefit.

EXAMPLE:

Roger Kjelgren, et al, "Water Conservation in Urban Landscapes", HortScience October 2000 vol. 35 no. 6 1037-1040

Definition: Water conservation means reducing water used for amenity landscapes while still meeting the expectations of the users.

Methods: Precision landscape irrigation; reduced use of turf

Metrics: Audit water meters; estimated water use of proposed plants; check for runoff to pavement during irrigation (indicates excess irrigation or rapid delivery)

2. Identify three case studies on the Landscape Architecture Foundation website related to your chosen benefit. For each case study, identify how the project addressed your benefit and how the benefit was calculated. Use the "Download Methodology" button to see how the researchers calculated the benefit.

3. Synthesize the six sources by discussing in 300 words your working definition of the benefit (as informed by your sources) and what methods of achieving and measuring your benefit you will use. Make it clear why you chose the ones you did.

DUE WEDNESDAY FEB 18 - A list of the six sources you will use via PolyLearn as a pdf

Due MONDAY FEB 23 – Completed literature review