

Long-term Visioning for Long-term Benefit

Building climate resilience and creating social and environmental value through sustainable landscaping requires a long-term vision. Investing now in green infrastructure projects on your property will lead to cost-savings in the future. The key to achieving the best return on investment is planning ahead.

Get Started with a Sustainable Landscaping Plan

A sustainable landscaping plan (SLP) is a high-level planning tool used to identify short and long-term opportunities on your property. Opportunities can range from smaller projects, like enhancing an existing garden with native plants, to larger initiatives, like including stormwater management technologies in a parking lot retrofit. The SLP is the foundation upon which you build out your sustainable landscaping vision and project details. For example, if your SLP shows an opportunity for planting in an existing bed, you will require a plant list and planting plan. A reforestation project might require a multi-year invasive species management plan before tree planting begins. Your SLP is your roadmap to project management and implementation.

Be Realistic About Project Timelines

Timelines for project planning and implementation vary, averaging one season to three years. It's good practice to align your project timelines with corporate budget planning or deadlines for external funding applications. For smaller planting projects, it's not unusual to start planning six months in advance. For larger projects, like a parking lot retrofit, you may be planning 1-3 years before a shovel hits the ground. Don't forget to take into consideration seasonality and the potential for weather disruptions. Ordering materials and booking contractors early is your best guarantee for getting your project in the ground on schedule.

There's No Better Time Than Now

Greening Corporate Grounds helps business and institutions turn their long-term vision into on-the-ground action. Here's how to get started.

- Join CVC's Greening Corporate Grounds. See our [Program Guide](#) and [Services Table](#) to find out what's involved and [email](#) or call us (905-670-1615 ext 439) to apply.
- Review our [Project Vision document](#) to help identify opportunities for sustainable landscaping projects or site constraints on your property.

Already a member? Start planning your next project!

Best Practice

Long-term Visioning

- Book a site assessment. We'll provide a custom SLP for your property along with a report and factsheets to explain recommended projects.
- Get your whole organization involved. *Book an employee or volunteer engagement event.*
- Work with us to manage your project to ensure ongoing success.