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September 2008

architecture/engineering/site

planning/interiors

The Green Scene

Ask The Architect

guea For You

The following are teaser questions to get you thinking about LEED considerations.

To get certified, a building project must qualify for points in specific credit areas. 26 points are required to be Entry Level Certification on a scale of up to 69 points required for Platinum Certification.

Category: SUSTAINABLE SITES

Question 1: What is the intent of SS Credit 2, Development Density and Community Connectivity for 1 point?

Answer 1: The intent is to channel site and projects development to urban areas that already have existing infrastructure; to avoid and protect green fields (or in our case, undisturbed desert lands); and to preserve habitat for natural vegetation and for native wildlife; and to protect and preserve natural resources.

Question 2: What is the intent of SS Credit 3, Brownfield Redevelopment for 1 point?

Answer 2: The intent is to rehabilitate damaged site where development is complicated by environmental contamination. The goal is to reduce pressure on undisturbed, natural undeveloped land. Such sites might be abandoned mining sites where tailings and chemicals from refining processes may exist. Or it may be abandoned manufacturing sites where contaminations from the manufacturing process have damaged the soil and clean-up and rehabilitation will render the site useful for a new project.

This credit requires consideration when prior to first identifying and then acquiring a building project site.











SPOTLIGHT Susan Sargent

When viewing the website of Array, the firm with whom Gary Guy Wilson Architects recently consulted, it is clear why the two companies formed such a successful partnership. Both firms create sleek solutions to the design problems that they face with the help of a talented staff.

Her interaction with the Gary Guy Wilson Architects team may have been brief, but the service that Susan Sargent provided was invaluable. As a technical consultant for the Desert Willow Treatment Center, Sargent analyzed behavioral health trends and their impact on design. Her contribution led to the development of solutions for challenges such as seclusion and restraint.

These solutions helped to make the adolescent expansion of the Desert Willow Treatment Center a "safer and more therapeutic environment." The clinical and educational staff in place further enhance this "necessary and valuable addition."

As Vice President of Advisory Services, Sargent is involved with strategic planning and consulting in behavioral health operations. Along with trend analysis, her duties include programming and corporate compliance.

The Wharton School alum has held her current position with Array, which is headquartered in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, for the past four years. Before that, Sargent, who also has an undergraduate degree in special education, owned her own practice.

As a Pennsylvania resident, it is difficult for Sargent to comment on the recent growth throughout the Las Vegas valley. However, for Gary Guy Wilson Architects, it is this growth that led to a great partnership!

GGWArchitects²