

Free Smart Growth Publications from EPA and Smart Growth Network Partners



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Our Built and Natural Environments: A Technical Review of the Interactions Between Land Use, Transportation, and Environmental Quality (2nd Edition) (EPA, 2013): This update of the 2001 publication examines how development patterns affect the environment and human health and provides evidence that certain kinds of land use and transportation strategies can reduce development impacts. EPA 231-K-13-001. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/built.htm



This Is Smart Growth (Smart Growth Network and International City/County Management Association, 2006): This publication illustrates how communities can turn their values, visions, and aspirations into reality, using smart growth techniques to improve development. It features 40 places around the country, from cities to suburbs to small towns to rural areas, that have found success by implementing smart growth principles. Available in Spanish (online only). EPA 231-K-06-002. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/tlsg.htm



Getting to Smart Growth: 100 Policies for Implementation (Smart Growth Network and International City/County Management Association, 2002): Featuring 100 distinct and real-world-tested approaches, the report identifies 10 policies for each of the 10 smart growth principles and provides more than 60 "Practice Tips" to describe the experience of communities that have used these policies. Available in Spanish (online only). EPA 231-R-05-001. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/getting_to_sg2.htm



Getting to Smart Growth II: 100 More Policies for Implementation (Smart Growth Network and International City/County Management Association, 2003): This second volume describes more concrete techniques to put the 10 smart growth principles into practice. Available in Spanish (online only). EPA 231-R-05-002. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/getting_to_sg2.htm



National Award for Smart Growth Achievement: Each year, EPA recognizes communities that use the principles of smart growth to create places that respect community culture and the environment, foster economic development, and enhance quality of life and public health. Booklets containing illustrated case studies of the winners are available at: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/awards.htm

2013: EPA-231-F-14-001

2010: EPA 231-K-10-001

2007: EPA 231-K-07-001

2012: EPA 231-K-12-002

2009: EPA 231-K-09-002

2005: EPA 231-K-05-001

2011: EPA 231-K-11-002

2008: EPA 231-K-08-001

2002, 2003, 2004, and 2006: Available online only.



Enhancing Sustainable Communities With Green Infrastructure (EPA, 2014): Communities across the country want to protect their water quality while also getting the greatest possible benefit from every investment they make. This report aims to help local governments, water utilities, nonprofit organizations, neighborhood groups, and other stakeholders integrate green infrastructure strategies into plans that can transform their communities. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/green-infrastructure.html



Creating Equitable, Healthy, and Sustainable Communities: Strategies for Advancing Smart Growth, Environmental Justice, and Equitable Development (EPA, 2013): This publication offers low-income, minority, tribal, and overburdened communities strategies to shape development that responds to their needs and reflects their values. Community-based organizations, local and regional decision-makers, developers, and others can use these strategies to build healthy, sustainable, and inclusive communities. EPA 231-K-10-005. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/equitable_development_report.htm



Smart Growth and Economic Success: Strategies for Local Governments (EPA, 2014): Smart growth strategies can help local governments build on existing assets and maximize the return on investment while helping to protect the environment and human health. This paper reviews the latest evidence of the connection between smart growth approaches and the fiscal strength of local governments to help them make decisions about where and how to grow. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/economic_success.htm



Smart Growth and Economic Success: The Business Case (EPA, 2013): Many companies recognize that compact, walkable downtowns are good for business and are choosing their operating locations accordingly. This report discusses how locations with housing and transportation options, a mix of uses close together, and a high quality of life can provide economic advantages for businesses while protecting the environment. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/economic_success.htm



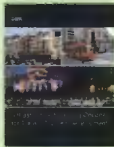
Smart Growth and Economic Success: Investing in Infill Development (EPA, 2013): This paper is intended to help developers who want to understand more about the risks and rewards of infill development. It examines the challenges of infill development and how developers can overcome them, outlines demographic trends driving increasing demand for infill, and summarizes research on how reduced infrastructure costs and higher property values can earn developers a good return on their investment while protecting the environment, strengthening the economy, and improving quality of life. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/economic_success.htm



Smart Growth and Economic Success (EPA, 2012): This report discusses how developers, businesses, local governments, and others can reap economic advantages from compact, walkable development that provides a diversity of options. Two additional reports in this series were published in 2013, and a fourth paper, on why smart growth strategies are good fiscal policy for local governments, is expected in 2014. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/economic_success.htm



Equitable Redevelopment of Petroleum Brownfields for Zuni Pueblo and Other Tribal Communities (EPA, 2013): This step-by-step guide to redeveloping petroleum brownfield sites to bring new investment and opportunity to communities focuses on sites in Zuni Pueblo in New Mexico but can be useful to tribes nationwide. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/Zuni-Guide.pdf



Infrastructure Financing Options for Transit-Oriented Development (EPA, 2013): Transit-oriented development often requires significant investments in infrastructure and community facilities. This report provides an overview of existing and emerging tools and strategies for funding and financing transit-oriented infrastructure such as bike and pedestrian improvements, parks, streetscape improvements, structured parking, and utilities. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/infra_financing.htm



Residential Construction Trends in America's Metropolitan Regions: 2012 Edition (EPA, 2012): This report analyzes residential construction trends in previously developed areas to determine where infill development was taking place in 209 U.S. metropolitan regions between 2000 and 2009. The findings affirm the overall conclusions of the 2010 and 2009 reports while painting a more geographically detailed picture of infill development trends. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/construction_trends.htm



Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Rural Planning, Zoning, and Development Codes (EPA, 2012): This tool provides policy options that can help rural communities strengthen their economies while preserving their character. These policies can help rural communities ensure that their development is fiscally sound, environmentally responsible, and socially equitable. Topics include fiscal impact analysis, commercial development, wastewater infrastructure, rural roads, and efficient development patterns. EPA 231-K-12-001. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/essential_fixes.htm



Location Efficiency and Housing Type - Boiling it Down to BTUs (Jonathan Rose Companies for EPA, 2011): This study finds that a home's location and access to transit are as important to reducing energy use as are energy-efficiency measures in homes and cars. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/location_efficiency_BTU.htm



Guide to Sustainable Transportation Performance Measures (EPA, 2011): This guide helps transportation agencies incorporate environmental, economic, and social sustainability into decision-making through the use of performance measures. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/transpo_performance.htm



Market Acceptance of Smart Growth (EPA, 2011): This study compares resale prices for single-family houses and townhouses in smart growth developments with units in conventional developments that are equivalent in terms of size, age, amenities, and location. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/market_acceptance.htm



Iowa Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Report (EPA, 2011): EPA and FEMA worked with state and local leaders in Iowa to figure out how the latest science on changing weather patterns due to climate change could be integrated into local and state planning efforts to prepare for and mitigate future natural disasters. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/iowa_climate_adaptation_report.pdf



Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 2010): Smart growth strategies can help guide growth in rural areas while protecting natural and working lands and preserving the rural character of existing communities. EPA 231-K-10-003. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_rural.htm



Local Government Climate and Energy Strategy Guides – Smart Growth: A Guide to Developing and Implementing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs (EPA, 2010): This paper describes smart growth strategies that can help local governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve quality of life. www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/documents/pdf/smart_growth_guide.pdf



Getting Smart About Climate Change (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 2010): This report outlines nine strategies for successfully applying smart growth principles to climate concerns on the local and regional levels. icma.org/Documents/Document/Document/105215



Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit for Local Governments (EPA, 2010): Local codes affect the design, construction, renovation, and operation and maintenance of a building and its immediate site. This toolkit helps local governments, the development community, and other building professionals identify and remove barriers to sustainable design and green building in their codes and permitting processes. www.epa.gov/region4/recycle/green-building-toolkit.pdf



Restructuring the Commercial Strip: A Practical Guide for Planning the Revitalization of Deteriorating Strip Corridors (EPA, 2010): This guide provides help on coordinating public and private investments and essential planning and design strategies to create a multimodal transportation system and thriving neighborhoods. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/corridor_guide.htm



Smart Growth for Coastal and Waterfront Communities (NOAA, EPA, International City/County Management Association, and Rhode Island Sea Grant, 2009): Featuring 10 guidelines for development along the water, this publication highlights tools, techniques, and examples and is intended for planners, local decision-makers, developers, nonprofit groups, and others with an interest in waterfront development issues. EPA 231-K-09-001. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg-coastal.html



Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Urban and Suburban Zoning Codes (EPA, 2009): This tool explores 11 Essential Fixes to address the most common barriers local governments face in implementing smart growth. Topics include mixed use, parking requirements, street standards, stormwater, and smart annexation policies. Actions are organized as modest adjustments, major modifications, or wholesale changes. EPA 231-K-09-003.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/essential_fixes.htm



Water Quality Scorecard: Incorporating Green Infrastructure Practices at the Municipal, Neighborhood, and Site Scales (EPA, 2009): This tool can help communities in rural, suburban, and urban settings incorporate green infrastructure practices into local codes and ordinances to protect local water quality and improve both the built and natural environments. EPA 231-B-09-001. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_scorecard.htm



Smart Growth Guidelines for Sustainable Design & Development (EPA, 2009): These guidelines provide a starting point for communities to consider where, how, and what to develop using public investments. They help communities choose smart locations, create a sense of place, and incorporate green building and infrastructure. The guidelines support existing certification programs, such as LEED-ND and ENERGY STAR. EPA 231-K-09-004.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_guidelines.htm



Smart Growth: The Business Opportunity for Developers and Production Builders (EPA, 2009): Papers written by real estate experts examine the business arguments that could help large-scale developers and production builders of master-planned communities decide to build smart growth projects. Topics covered include market demand, demographics, marketing, and infrastructure costs. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_business.htm



Measuring the Air Quality and Transportation Impacts of Infill Development (EPA, 2007): This report illustrates how regions can calculate the transportation and air quality benefits of infill, based on standard transportation forecasting models. The results suggest that infill development can be one of the most effective transportation and emission reduction investments regions can pursue. EPA 231-R-07-001.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/impacts_infill.htm



Parking Spaces/Community Places: Finding the Balance Through Smart Growth Solutions (EPA, 2006): Parking policies and requirements can have a strong influence on both the built and natural environments in a community. The approaches described in this report can help communities explore new, flexible parking policies that can encourage growth and balance parking needs with other goals. EPA 231-K-06-001.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/parking.htm



Turning Bases Into Great Places: New Life for Closed Military Facilities (EPA, 2006): The challenges of having a military base close may seem daunting, but many communities have transformed former bases into valuable assets. This guidebook discusses creating a vision for former installations that provides housing and transportation choices, creates a mix of jobs and housing, and makes the most of natural assets. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/military.htm



Protecting Water Resources with Higher-Density Development (EPA, 2006): This study helps communities better understand the impacts of higher and lower density development on water resources. The findings indicate that low-density development may not always be best for protecting water resources. EPA 231-R-06-001.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_density.htm

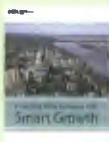


Growing Toward More Efficient Water Use: Linking Development, Infrastructure, and Drinking Water Policies (EPA, 2006): Growth affects the costs of water infrastructure, demand for water, and the efficiency of water delivery. However, water policies also influence growth. This report examines ways to accommodate growth while keeping water consumption and distribution costs down. EPA 230-R-06-001.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_efficiency.htm



Using Smart Growth Techniques as Stormwater Best Management Practices (EPA, 2005): To comply with the Clean Water Act, more than 6,000 communities are developing municipal stormwater permitting programs. This publication reviews nine smart growth techniques that can prevent or manage stormwater runoff to help communities encourage smarter growth and meet regulatory requirements. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/stormwater.htm



Protecting Water Resources with Smart Growth (EPA, 2004): This publication compiles 75 policies to help communities, local governments, and state and regional planners who are already familiar with smart growth and are seeking ideas on how to protect their water resources. These policies improve communities while protecting water quality.

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_resource.htm



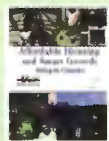
Schools for Successful Communities: An Element of Smart Growth (Council of Educational Facility Planners International and EPA, 2004): Where and how schools are built will profoundly affect the environment and the communities they serve. This publication helps communities invest in schools that will give their children the best possible education, use taxpayer dollars wisely, and improve the entire community. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/schools.htm



Creating Great Neighborhoods: Density in Your Community (Local Government Commission, EPA, National Association of Realtors, 2003): This publication highlights successful community-led efforts to create vibrant neighborhoods through density and introduces five time-tested design principles to ensure that density improves the community. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/density.htm



Travel and Environmental Implications of School Siting (EPA, 2003): This study shows that school siting and design can influence traffic congestion, air pollution, school transportation budgets, and children's health. This research provides a basis for making sound school investment decisions that will lead to the high-quality schools and neighborhoods we all desire. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/school_travel.htm



Affordable Housing and Smart Growth: Making the Connection (National Neighborhood Coalition and Smart Growth Network, 2001): This report provides case studies of smart growth approaches that can make more affordable housing available. Public, private, and nonprofit entities can consider these approaches to create more affordable housing in their communities. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/topics/ah.htm



Pedestrian- and Transit-Friendly Design: A Primer for Smart Growth (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 1999): This primer suggests design elements that make walking and transit use easier and more comfortable, offering illustrations of key features. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/pffd_primer.pdf



Best Development Practices: A Primer for Smart Growth (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 1998): This primer describes land use practices that create attractive communities, offer more transportation choices, and protect the environment. www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/bestdevprimer.pdf

Online Resources

Smart Growth Online: www.smartgrowth.org

Smart Growth Online is a web-based clearinghouse of smart growth news, events, information, and resources. Developed and funded with EPA assistance, this site is designed to advance public understanding of smart growth principles and how growth can make communities economically, socially, and environmentally stronger.

Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) Reports: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia_communities.htm

Since 2005, the SGIA program has helped selected communities find solutions to development-related challenges such as corridor revitalization, stormwater management, zoning standards, and affordable housing. The reports from the completed assistance projects can give other communities models and tools to help improve development.

Greening America's Capitals Reports: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/greencapitals.htm

Through this program, EPA works with state capital cities to develop an implementable vision of distinctive, environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green infrastructure strategies. Reports from the projects provide helpful ideas for other places. In addition, *Lessons from Greening America's Capitals Projects* describes lessons that can help all communities incorporate green design strategies into planning and development.

Reports from Assistance to Iowa Communities: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/iowa_texasst.htm

In 2009, EPA and FEMA assisted six Iowa communities with rebuilding after floods and tornadoes. These reports present smart growth strategies to help communities prepare for and recover from natural disasters.

Smart Location Database: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smartlocationdatabase.htm

This nationwide geographic data resource for measuring location efficiency makes data about built environment characteristics more easily accessible. Users can compare the location efficiency of different neighborhoods or metropolitan regions, use the tool's data for scenario planning, or use it to conduct research or develop tools.

Impervious Surface Growth Model: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/imperv-surf-growth-model.htm

This spreadsheet tool can help communities estimate and compare the likely impervious surface impacts of proposed housing and commercial development scenarios. The tool models impervious surface growth based on density of housing and jobs as well as the proposed development's location within a metropolitan region.

Trip Generation Tool for Mixed-Use Developments: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/mxd_tripgeneration.html

This spreadsheet tool makes it easy to estimate trips generated by a new mixed-use development to more fairly assess these projects in development review processes.

Smart Growth Illustrated: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/case.htm

It is often easier to communicate ideas about density, design, walkability, and housing and transportation choice with pictures than with words alone. Smart Growth Illustrated provides visual examples of smart growth techniques as they have been used in 20 places around the country.

Smart Growth Scorecards: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/scorecards/index.htm

EPA has collected a set of sample scorecards, developed by various organizations and municipalities, to help communities assess their development policies and proposed projects.

Model Course Prospectuses: Teaching smart growth at colleges and universities: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/courses

Colleges and universities can help local governments address development challenges with technical, intellectual, and institutional resources. To help faculty members organize courses that give students hands-on experience helping communities, EPA has compiled sample course prospectuses.

Webinars, Videos, and Podcasts: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/webinars/index.html

This page lists the free webinars that EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities hosts on a variety of smart growth topics, as well as podcasts and videos from EPA staff and projects.



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www.epa.gov/smartgrowth



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