

Worksheet C: Current Landscape Conditions

Landscape Area

Write a short description of each landscape area. If you have access to an irrigation plan, it is helpful to divide these areas based on irrigation zones (also sometimes called “hydro zones”).

Area 1: _____

Area 2: _____

Area 3: _____

Area 4: _____

Landscape Area Conditions *(check all that apply for each area)*

Drainage and Grading	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Do you have a stormwater or drainage plan for this area? (Y/N)				
Is there visible damage from water pooling on any part of the pavement? (Y/N)				
Where does the water flow to?				
Visible storm drains in paved areas				
Visible gutters that empty into paved area				
Visible gutters that empty into planted area				
Hidden gutters (built into the building) that empty into storm drain				
Other				
Hardscape	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Concrete or asphalt				
Gravel, decomposed granite, cobblestone, other				
Irrigation	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Do you have an irrigation plan for this area? (Y/N)				
Is the area irrigated with recycled water (purple pipe)? (Y/N)				
Type of irrigation				
Spray irrigation ⁴				
Drip irrigation ⁵				

⁴ A device for applying irrigation water by spraying it into the air through sprinklers. See Glossary in Appendix B for more details.

⁵ Method of controlled irrigation in which water is slowly delivered to the root system of multiple plants. See Glossary in Appendix B for more details.

Irrigation	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Condition of irrigation system				
Are there irrigation lines or fixtures that are visibly broken?				
Is this area regularly wet and soggy?				
Are some spots drier than the rest of the landscape?				
Are some spots wetter than the rest of the landscape?				
Is there visible damage from water spray on building walls or pavement?				
Planting	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Soil conditions				
Does the soil seem hard packed? ⁶				
Is there moss growing on the soil? ⁷				
Is there 3 inches of bark or mulch on the soil? ⁸				
Plant type(s)				
Turfgrass				
Flowers				
Shrubs and bushes				
Trees				
Desert plants (cactus, succulent)				
Other				
Plant conditions				
Overgrown				
Healthy				
Unhealthy				
Dead				
Maintenance	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Are pesticides and/or herbicides used? (Y/N)				
Critters and Creatures	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Gopher holes				
Bird nests				
Leaves eaten by bugs				
Wildlife (birds, squirrels, butterflies, etc.)				
Miscellaneous	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4

6 Plants do not grow well in highly compacted soil since it is difficult for the roots to penetrate.

7 Moss is an indication of overwatering.

8 MWELo regulations require 3 inches of mulch on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas except in turf areas.



This worksheet is taken from *Sustainable Landscapes in California: A Guidebook for Commercial and Industrial Site Managers*, available at: www.pacinst.org/publications/sustainable-landscape-guidebook