



Ecological Programming in a Nutshell

By. T. Barnabas Kane, Landscape Architect

Ecological programming starts by determining if the proposed program will work with the site, based on immediate interpretation. Care should be taken with elements such as productive existing habitat, wetlands, a natural body of water, wash check, mature drainage, healthy population of woody plants or deep soils. If the number of program items exceeds the site's ability to accommodate, a new site or changed and/or reduced program may be in order.

A creative building strategy may solve the problem. Go underground, vertical, expand the site or find an additional site for the extra program. For example, a garage, studio or workshop could be off-site.

Infilled or redeveloped urban sites may have much higher lot coverage due to existing infrastructure. Still, every attempt should be made to include or integrate planting and habitat opportunities.

- MORE -