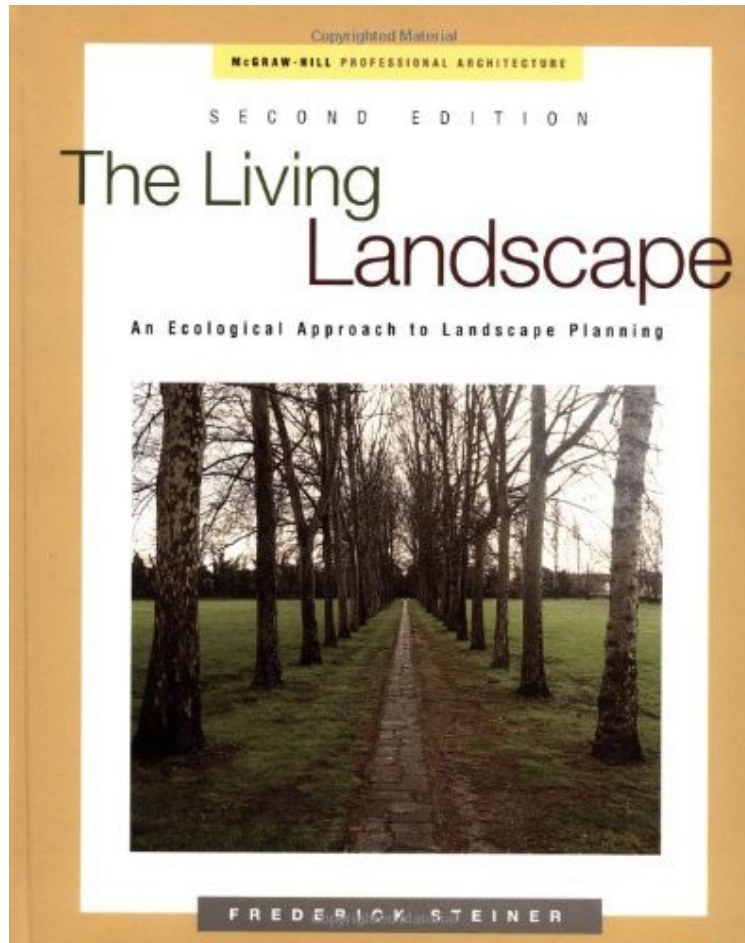


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The Living Landscape: An Ecological Approach to Landscape Planning

Frederick Steiner

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Frederick Steiner : The Living Landscape: An Ecological Approach to Landscape Planning before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Living Landscape: An Ecological Approach to Landscape Planning:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Living Landscape: An Ecological Approach to Landscape Planning By mcc5177 This product came very quickly and is in good condition. The book has great info and is easy to read. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. From a landscape for living to a living landscape By A Customer The second edition of The Living Landscape has come out nine years after the first. The first, in fact, was published in 1991, it received an ASLA Merit Award for Communications in 1993, and then it was translated into Italian in 1994, where it was very well received among scholars and students of planning as well as in the schools of architecture throughout the country. The very first difference between the two editions is the publishing series. The first did not form part of a series while the second is now in the McGraw-Hill "Professional Architecture" series. The

Professional Architecture series is devoted to giving helpful tools to practitioners who are on the field and The Living Landscape provides a very wide set of how-to and why-to-do-it instructions, where-to-keep information, and best practices examples to learn from, organized around an eleven-step Ecological Planning Model. I consider The Living Landscape a refined, high-level professional handbook devoted to enhance the toolbox of any present or future planning practitioners. The Living Landscape II edition, as was the first, is built around a scheme of eleven steps called "Ecological Planning Method" briefly presented in the first chapter and used as a step-by-step pattern to guide readers into the organization of a planning process. The "Ecological Planning Method" is a framework for presenting information to decision-makers, and to display "a common language, a common method among all those concerned about social equity and ecological parity" (p. 9). The approach to planning presented by Steiner is innovative for two reasons. The first is the incorporation of ecology in planning - briefly "the use of biophysical and sociocultural information to suggest opportunities and constraints for decision making about the use of the landscape" (pp. 9-10). The second reason is the author's stress on the citizen's involvement in almost every step of his method. These two issues, even if they are the prime themes of the book, are prudently embedded into the body of the full text. Ecology and citizen involvement are the leitmotif of the entire book which is composed of a precise combination of techniques and tools presentation, useful references to literature, light - but effective - revocations of the theoretical frameworks on the issues, and application examples deriving from real plans or projects. The eleven-step Ecological Planning Model goes from the identification of problems and opportunities (step 1) and the establishment of goals (2) to inventories and analysis at regional (3) and local level (4). It proceeds with the realization of detailed studies (5) and the definition of planning concepts (6). The landscape plan (7) follows and it is directly assessed and criticized by citizens (8), who are involved and educated along the whole process-phasing. Design exploration (9) comes next and the study of the implementation of the plan and projects (10) precedes the administration (11) that is the last step of the model. The Ecological Planning Model is linear in its descriptions (the book chapters - excluding the introduction and the conclusion - are devoted to deepen every single step, with some minor exceptions), but the steps are strongly interactive. In the graphic scheme of the model (p. 11), solid and dashed arrows between the steps emphasize the necessity and the opportunity of feedback and retroactions in order to monitor the previous results. Citizen involvement is the center of the model. Almost every step is addressed to inhabitants and a systematic educational and citizen involvement effort occurs throughout the process. The model, between the last step - administration - and the first - problem and/or opportunity identification -, presents a dashed arrow in order to accent that problems and opportunities facing the region and the goals addressed that may be altered by time, occurrences and circumstances. Compared to the first edition, the structure of the Ecological Planning Model and of the book contents remains unchanged in the second, but the book has some 120 more pages. Graphic design of tables and figures has been enhanced - a four-color page section was added to present the GIS maps of the Desert View Tri-Villages Area (Arizona) and of the Camp Pendleton study area (California), two of the many new examples used along the entire book. New photographs, mostly authored by Steiner, follow the entire text. Sources and references have been updated including recent books and articles on the matters. New examples, as said before, have been included in this edition to present more recent application of techniques and tools explained and illustrated along the text. The final glossary, one of the many useful tools of the book, has been enlarged with 46 new entries bringing the total to 350.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Living Landscape By a reader The Living Landscape has made a lasting contribution to ecological planning through its detailed documentation of this planning process and thoughtful comparison of the process's application in case studies. Dr. Steiner demonstrates in his book that ecological planning is just not a static plan-making process, but rather a dynamic process that requires consistent and meaningful input from stakeholders. In addition, he sees plan-making as a process that has implications for different scales of the environment, from the nation to the neighborhood. He stresses that the ecological planning process does not end when the plan is finished, but rather the process continues through the linkage of planning concepts to physical design. Given the strengths of this book, it is an essential volume for the library of any professional or student in the disciplines of the built environment and environmental management.

Award-winning guide to ecologically-sound landscapes! The first edition of Frederick Steiner's *The Living Landscape: An Ecological Approach to Landscape Planning*, won a coveted ASLA merit award. This revised Second Edition's strong design-oriented approach meets the needs of today's professionals, focusing on how to create a plan and explains each major step with examples from various localities. The new edition links each step to current planning practice and to new theory in landscape ecology and sustainable development. You'll find: More than 20 case studies covering urban, suburban, rural, domestic and international environments Scores of checklists and step-by-step procedures Details for conducting environmental impact assessments Full coverage of zoning, land use, and other regulatory issues Much more

From the Back Cover A resource for tomorrow as well as today, *The Living Landscape* is your ecological planning action manual--one that working professionals will rely on time and again, and one that fits perfectly with the practical

focus of today's urban and landscape curricula. An American Society of Landscaping Architecture Merit Award Winner, this exemplary, much-praised resource offers: a systematic, highly useful approach to landscape planning that maximizes ecological objectives, community service, and citizen participation; more than 20 challenging case studies that demonstrate how problems were met and overcome from rural America to large cities; scores of checklists and step-by-step methods; hands-on help with practical zoning, land use, and regulatory issues; coverage of major advances in GIS technology and global sustainability standards; more than 150 illustrations. "A major work in the field."--*Planning*, a publication of the American Planning Association. *Landscape* goes deeper than appearances, and for many years famed planner Frederick Steiner's *The Living Landscape* has steered landscape architects and environmental planners toward meaningful, lasting values and aesthetics in design. Now this revised and updated edition of *The Living Landscape* offers Dr. Steiner's design-oriented ecological approach in a thoroughly practical framework for today's professionals, in today's world. In addition, *The Living Landscape* continues its award-winning role as a premier teaching tool for planners and architects in training.

About the Author Frederick Steiner (Tempe, AZ) is the Director of the School of Planning and Landscape Architecture at Arizona State University. He holds B.S., M.C.P., M.R.P., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in planning from the University of Cincinnati and the University of Pennsylvania. As a professional planner he has managed a number of urban master plans, including Denver and Phoenix. He recently won a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's Sustainable Development Program, and he was elected to the 1997-1998 Rome Prize Fellowship. Prof. Steiner is the author of hundreds of papers in addition to the first edition of this book.