

# Public Review Draft

Proposed Addendum aq to Standard 189.1-2017

# Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings

First Public Review (February 2020)  
(Draft Shows Proposed Changes to Current Standard)

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## Foreword

Greenfield sites are a particular concern for Green building, as wildlife habitat loss is a worldwide concern. The addendum revises the definition of native plants, and revises the requirements for maintaining native plants on the site. The addendum provides options for compliance to provide flexibility to the design and construction team, including an option to use non-native plantings that provide similar value to the local food web as native plants.

The proposed requirements replace requirements which were confusing and open to multiple interpretations.

*[Note to Reviewers: This addendum makes proposed changes to the current standard. These changes are indicated in the text by underlining (for additions) and ~~strikethrough~~ (for deletions) except where the reviewer instructions specifically describe some other means of showing the changes. Only these changes to the current standard are open for review and comment at this time. Additional material is provided for context only and is not open for comment except as it relates to the proposed changes.]*

## Addendum aq to 189.1-2017

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*Revise section 3 Definitions as follows:*

~~*Native plants, native:*~~ *plants that adapted to a given area during a defined time period and are not invasive. In America, the term often refers to plants growing in a region prior to the time of settlement by people of European descent. Plants recognized as native species by applicable city, county, state, or regional governmental bodies. Alternatively, plant species that occur or occurred without human introduction in, or within 200 miles of the site's US EPA Level III ecoregion.*

*Revise section 5.3.3 as follows:*

### 5.3.3. Plants

**5.3.3.1 Invasive Plants.** *Invasive plants shall be removed from the ~~building project site~~ and destroyed or disposed of in a ~~land fill~~ landfill. *Invasive plants shall not be planted on the ~~building project site~~.**

### 5.3.3.2 Greenfield Sites

a. ~~More than 20% existing native or adapted plants:~~ Where more than 20% of the area of the predevelopment site has existing *native plants* or *adapted plants*, a minimum of 20% of the area of *native plants* or *adapted plants* shall be retained.

b. ~~Less than 20% existing native or adapted plants:~~

1. Where 20% or less of the area of the predevelopment site has existing *native plants* or *adapted plants*, a minimum of 20% of the site shall be developed or retained as vegetated area. Such vegetated areas include bioretention facilities, rain gardens, filter strips, grass swales, vegetated level spreaders, constructed *wetlands*, planters, and open *space* with plantings.

2. A minimum of 60% of the vegetated area shall consist of *biodiverse planting* of *native plants* and/or *adapted plants* other than *turfgrass*.

**Exception:** The following areas shall not be included in the calculations: dedicated sports fields, driving ranges, burial grounds, vegetated pavers, and the minimum fire lanes required by the jurisdiction.

Greenfields shall comply with one of the following:

1. Retain existing *native plants* on an area of not less than 10% of the site area;
2. Dedicate not less than 20% of the site area to *biodiverse plantings* of *native plants*;
3. Dedicate not less than 30% of the site area to *biodiverse plantings* other than *turfgrass* provided that the plants are specified by a *registered design professional* to contribute to the local food web.

Vegetated roofing systems, vegetated terrace systems and planters shall be permitted to meet not more than 50% of the requirement for areas of *biodiverse plantings*.