ELGA Criteria by Category

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| **2015 ELGA Supplemental Criteria by Category (Points are Max allowed range begins at zero – whole numbers 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5) Not all inclusive and is intended as a guide only** |
| **Water Conservation -- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy | Grass selection, native plant selection – low maintenance species etc. |
| Water management plan not just drought management plan – written plan alone or in addition to an environmental management plan | Turf reduction – realignment – native areas |
| Employee training | Soil sensors, weather stations |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | Redesign modern irrigation technology |
| Goals / results | Water use profile |
| Regulatory compliance | Alternative water implementation |
| Environmental audit | Specific goals for reduction, drought management plan, etc. |
| Irrigation system maintenance | Innovative use of alternative water resources –rerouting of recycled water, backwash, industrial sources, etc. |
| Agronomic – cultural practicesHandwateringHeight of cutFertilization | Unique Conservation practices |
| Wetting agents | Significant success in water management for healthy turfgrass and water use |
| Use evapotranspiration |  |
| Scouting |  |
| Irrigation audit |  |
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| **Water Quality Management -- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy | Monitoring, sampling, reporting |
| Water quality protection plan – part of water management plan or an environmental management program / plan | Nutrient management plan, nutrient practices – soil testing, etc. |
| Employee training | Course design, drainage / structural bmps, wetlands, bioswales, etc. |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | IPM or related cultural practices |
| Goals / results | Composting, green waste management, etc. |
| Regulatory compliance | WQP specific certifications - personal |
| Environmental audit | WQP specific certifications - facility |
| Hazardous materials – proper storage, handling, disposal | Zero waste implementation |
| Groundwater well protection | Innovative equipment washing, shop maintenance, grounds maintenance, surface and groundwater protection |
| Buffer strips |  |
| Spill plan |  |
| Equipment washing |  |
| Mix and loading  |  |
| Erosion control |  |
| Site assessment - runoff |  |
| Follow labels, application bmps (avoid impervious surfaces, etc.) |  |
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| **Integrated Pest Management -- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy | Course mapping – soils, features, turf species |
| IPM – written plan alone or in addition to an environmental management plan | Pest mapping, application mapping, etc. |
| Employee training | Biological controls, manual / labor pest controls, etc. |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | Participating in research, trials, etc. |
| Goals / results | Certification - personal |
| Regulatory compliance | Certification - facility |
| Scouting | Implementing non-traditional cultural practices, pest control practices, etc. |
| Implementing agronomic practices for healthy turfgrass |  |
| Goal setting – not pest control product reduction, but related efforts on course |  |
| Record keeping for pests, observations etc. |  |
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| **Energy Conservation -- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy |  |
| Energy management written plan alone or in addition to an environmental management plan | Evaluating, updating, ensuring efficient pump operations |
| Employee training | Implementing energy star / energy efficient equipment |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | Alternative energy solutions implemented |
| Goals / results | Transportation mapping, scheduling, etc. |
| Regulatory compliance | Certification - personal |
| Energy audit | Certification - facility |
| Behavioral practices – turning lights off, reducing idling, etc. | Unique green power solutions or innovative changes over normal golf course maintenance operations |
| Equipment – infrastructure maintenance |  |
| Individual Meters in place |  |
| Basic sensors, timers, etc. |  |
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| **Pollution Prevention -- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy | Environmentally friendly parts washers, hi-tech equipment washers, etc. |
| Environmental management plan w/P2 components | Utilizing non-hazardous methods |
| Employee training | Supply chain --- bulk purchases, packaging etc. |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | Part of zero waste – innovative techniques in place above normal operations |
| Goals / results |  |
| Regulatory compliance |  |
| Chemical/fertilizer storage, mixing areas |  |
| Green products in use |  |
| Dry vs. wet cleaning |  |
| Maintenance procedures |  |
| audit |  |
| Inventory management |  |
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| **Waste Management -- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy | Recycling more challenging materials |
| Environmental management plan w/WM components | Minimizing waste stream leaving facility |
| Employee training | Zero waste |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | Innovative materials mapping and processing on the facility that is not part of the usual / normal operations |
| Goals / results | Composting |
| Regulatory compliance |  |
| Basic recycling |  |
| Waste reduction goals |  |
| Bulk purchasing |  |
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| **Wildlife and Habitat Management-- example representative activities** |
| **Environmental Foundation / Basic BMPs – 5 points** | **Advanced BMPs/Demonstrated use of technology – 5 points** |
| Policy | Habitat management plans for native species or T and E species in area |
| Environmental management plan w/WHM components | Bio-diversity in place for pollinators, forbs and similar native areas in place |
| Employee training | Wildlife corridors in place  |
| Incorporate Metrics; use records, costs, etc. | Area mapping and design considerations |
| Goals / results | Aquatic invertebrates monitoring |
| Regulatory compliance | Beneficial predator habitat in place – dead tree/poles for hawks, etc. |
| Native area management practices in place – not non-native (naturalized areas – turfgrass allowed to grow) | Developed areas for specific species and/or successful/unique wildlife observing opportunities |
| Developed habitat beyond those such as bird/bat houses, basic bird feeders. | Innovative golfer education and successful acceptance of habitat areas |
| Species inventory | Altered course maintenance practices yielding healthy playing surfaces and supporting wildlife – reptiles/amphibians |
| Area protection practices in place | Research participation etc. |
| Avoiding species traps and harmful activities |  |
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| **Communications and Outreach-- example representative activities** |
| **Internal communications – 5 points** | **External communications– 5 points** |
| Routine maintenance staff communications | Public communications with area residents, community leaders, etc. |
| Key golf managers, pros, owners, greens committees etc. | On course education opportunities for youth/adults |
| Message / feedback system in place | Local civic organization presentations |
| Communications plan, policy, etc. or inclusion within an environmental management plan | Education opportunities such as community college, garden clubs, etc. |
| Blogging, tweets, etc. | Reaching out to regulators, law makers, etc. promoting the course, industry etc. |
| Enews articles | Reaching out to watershed groups, conservation groups and engaging them to benefit the course, industry, etc. |
|  | Seeking recognition opportunities from external non-golfing organizations |
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| **Leadership-- example representative activities** |
| **Internal environmental efforts – 2 points** | **Chapter / local association leadership – 3 points** | **GCSAA, profession, industry leadership – 3** points | **Other achievements/certifications – 2 points** |
| Training employees | Serving on chapter boards | Serving on national committees | Environmental program certification, arborists, etc. |
| Engaging / educating other staff/management | Chairing environmental committees | Representing the industry or profession at the national level | Green awards |
| Stewardship news/bulletin board information | Turf association responsibilities | Community leadership – pertinent to promote the facility, industry, superintendents profession | Achieving certification for the facility |
| Incentives for creativity |  |  |  |
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| **Discretionary Performance points-- example representative activities** |
| **Overall Performance – 3 points** | **Fosters environmental Stewardship / value to the industry - 3 points** | **Overall creativity/innovation – 2 points** | **Other – 2** points |