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 practices  Handwatering  Height of cut  Fertilization | | | | 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 |