Free Smart Growth Publications from EPA and Smart Growth Network Partners

These publications can be downloaded from the links provided. To order free hard copies, follow the instructions after each publication. Contact EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities at (202) 566-2878 or email smartgrowth@epa.gov with questions.

This Is Smart Growth (Smart Growth Network and International City/County Management Association, 2006): This publication illustrates how communities can turn their values, visions, and aspirations into reality, using smart growth techniques to improve development. It features 40 places around the country, from cities to suburbs to small towns to rural areas, that have found success by implementing smart growth principles. Available in Spanish (online only). EPA 231-K-06-002. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/tisg.htm**
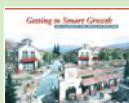
Getting to Smart Growth: 100 Policies for Implementation (Smart Growth Network and International City/County Management Association, 2002): Featuring 100 distinct and real-world-tested approaches, the report identifies 10 policies for each of the 10 smart growth principles and provides more than 60 "Practice Tips" to describe the experience of communities that have used these policies. Available in Spanish (online only). EPA 231-R-05-001. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/getting_to_sg2.htm**

Getting to Smart Growth II: 100 More Policies for Implementation (Smart Growth Network and International City/County Management Association, 2003): This second volume describes more concrete techniques to put the 10 smart growth principles into practice. Available in Spanish (online only). EPA 231-R-05-002. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/getting_to_sg2.htm**

National Award for Smart Growth Achievement: Each year, EPA recognizes communities that use the principles of smart growth to create places that respect community culture and the environment, foster economic development, and enhance quality of life and public health. Booklets containing illustrated case studies of the winners are available at: **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/awards.htm**

2012: EPA 231-K-12-002	2008: EPA 231-K-08-001
2011: EPA 231-K-11-002	2007: EPA 231-K-07-001
2010: EPA 231-K-10-001	2005: EPA 231-K-05-001
2009: EPA 231-K-09-002	2002, 2003, 2004, and 2006: Available online only.

Creating Equitable, Healthy, and Sustainable Communities: Strategies for Advancing Smart Growth, Environmental Justice, and Equitable Development (EPA, 2013): This publication offers low-income, minority, tribal, and overburdened communities strategies to shape development that responds to their needs and reflects their values. Community-based organizations, local and regional decision-makers, developers, and others can use these strategies to build healthy, sustainable, and inclusive communities. EPA 231-K-10-005. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/equitable_development_report.htm**

Infrastructure Financing Options for Transit-Oriented Development (EPA, 2013): Transit-oriented development often requires significant investments in infrastructure and community facilities. This report provides an overview of existing and emerging tools and strategies for funding and financing transit-oriented infrastructure such as bike and pedestrian improvements, parks, streetscape improvements, structured parking, and utilities. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/infra_financing.htm**

Residential Construction Trends in America's Metropolitan Regions: 2012 Edition (EPA, 2012): This report analyzes residential construction trends in previously developed areas to determine where infill development was taking place in 209 U.S. metropolitan regions between 2000 and 2009. The findings affirm the overall conclusions of the 2010 and 2009 reports while painting a more geographically detailed picture of infill development trends.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/construction_trends.htm

Smart Growth and Economic Success (EPA, 2012): This report discusses how developers, businesses, local governments, and others can reap economic advantages from compact, walkable development that provides a diversity of options. Additional reports will build on this work, exploring how real estate developers and investors can overcome barriers to benefit from infill opportunities, how decisions about where to locate can affect businesses' bottom lines, and why smart growth strategies are good fiscal policy for local governments.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/economic_success.htm

Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Rural Planning, Zoning, and Development Codes (EPA, 2012): This tool provides policy options that can help rural communities strengthen their economies while preserving their character. These policies can help rural communities ensure that their development is fiscally sound, environmentally responsible, and socially equitable. Topics include fiscal impact analysis, commercial development, wastewater infrastructure, rural roads, and efficient development patterns. EPA 231-K-12-001.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/essential_fixes.htm

Location Efficiency and Housing Type – Boiling it Down to BTUs (Jonathan Rose Companies for EPA, 2011): This study finds that a home's location and access to transit are as important to reducing energy use as are energy-efficiency measures in homes and cars. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/location_efficiency_BTU.htm**

Guide to Sustainable Transportation Performance Measures (EPA, 2011): This guide helps transportation agencies incorporate environmental, economic, and social sustainability into decision-making through the use of performance measures. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/transpo_performance.htm**

Market Acceptance of Smart Growth (EPA, 2011): This study compares resale prices for single-family houses and townhouses in smart growth developments with units in conventional developments that are equivalent in terms of size, age, amenities, and location. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/market_acceptance.htm**

Iowa Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Report (EPA, 2011): EPA and FEMA worked with state and local leaders in Iowa to figure out how the latest science on changing weather patterns due to climate change could be integrated into local and state planning efforts to prepare for and mitigate future natural disasters.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/iowa_climate_adaptation_report.pdf

EPA Green Building Publications (EPA, 2011): Green building is an important part of developing more environmentally sustainable communities. This catalog lists EPA's green building publications.
EPA 100-K-009-013. **www.epa.gov/greenbuilding/pdf/pubs/greenbldg_publist_final.pdf**

Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 2010): Smart growth strategies can help guide growth in rural areas while protecting natural and working lands and preserving the rural character of existing communities. EPA 231-K-10-003. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_rural.htm**

Local Climate and Energy Strategy Guide — Smart Growth: A Guide to Developing and Implementing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs (EPA, 2010): This paper describes smart growth strategies that can help local governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve quality of life. **www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/documents/pdf/smart_growth_guide.pdf**

Getting Smart About Climate Change (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 2010): This report outlines nine strategies for successfully applying smart growth principles to climate concerns on the local and regional levels. **www.icma.org**

Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit for Local Governments (EPA, 2010): Local codes affect the design, construction, renovation, and operation and maintenance of a building and its immediate site. This toolkit helps local governments, the development community, and other building professionals identify and remove barriers to sustainable design and green building in their codes and permitting processes. **www.epa.gov/region4/recycle/green-building-toolkit.pdf**

Restructuring the Commercial Strip: A Practical Guide for Planning the Revitalization of Deteriorating Strip Corridors (EPA, 2010): This guide provides help on coordinating public and private investments and essential planning and design strategies to create a multimodal transportation system and thriving neighborhoods. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/corridor_guide.htm**

Smart Growth for Coastal and Waterfront Communities (NOAA, EPA, International City/County Management Association, and Rhode Island Sea Grant, 2009): Featuring 10 guidelines for development along the water, this publication highlights tools, techniques, and examples and is intended for planners, local decision-makers, developers, nonprofit groups, and others with an interest in waterfront development issues. EPA 231-K-09-001. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg-coastal.html**

Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Urban and Suburban Zoning Codes (EPA, 2009): This tool explores 11 Essential Fixes to address the most common barriers local governments face in implementing smart growth. Topics include mixed use, parking requirements, street standards, stormwater, and smart annexation policies. Actions are organized as modest adjustments, major modifications, or wholesale changes. EPA 231-K-09-003. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/essential_fixes.htm**

Water Quality Scorecard: Incorporating Green Infrastructure Practices at the Municipal, Neighborhood, and Site Scales (EPA, 2009): This tool can help communities in rural, suburban, and urban settings incorporate green infrastructure practices into local codes and ordinances to protect local water quality and improve both the built and natural environments. EPA 231-B-09-001. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_scorecard.htm**

Smart Growth Guidelines for Sustainable Design & Development (EPA, 2009): These guidelines provide a starting point for communities to consider where, how, and what to develop using public investments. They help communities choose smart locations, create a sense of place, and incorporate green building and infrastructure. The guidelines support existing certification programs, such as LEED-ND and ENERGY STAR. EPA 231-K-09-004.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_guidelines.htm

Smart Growth: The Business Opportunity for Developers and Production Builders (EPA, 2009): Eight papers written by real estate experts examine the business arguments that could help large-scale developers and production builders of master-planned communities decide to build smart growth projects. Topics covered include market demand, demographics, marketing, and infrastructure costs.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_business.htm

Measuring the Air Quality and Transportation Impacts of Infill Development (EPA, 2007): This report illustrates how regions can calculate the transportation and air quality benefits of infill, based on standard transportation forecasting models. The results suggest that infill development can be one of the most effective transportation and emission reduction investments regions can pursue. EPA 231-R-07-001.
**www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/impacts_infill.htm**

Parking Spaces/Community Places: Finding the Balance Through Smart Growth Solutions (EPA, 2006): Parking policies and requirements can have a strong influence on both the built and natural environments in a community. The approaches described in this report can help communities explore new, flexible parking policies that can encourage growth and balance parking needs with other goals. EPA 231-K-06-001.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/parking.htm

Turning Bases Into Great Places: New Life for Closed Military Facilities (EPA, 2006): The challenges of having a military base close may seem daunting, but many communities have transformed former bases into valuable assets. This guidebook discusses creating a vision for former installations that provides housing and transportation choices, creates a mix of jobs and housing, and makes the most of natural assets.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/military.htm

Protecting Water Resources with Higher-Density Development (EPA, 2006): This study helps communities better understand the impacts of higher and lower density development on water resources. The findings indicate that low-density development may not always be best for protecting water resources. EPA 231-R-06-001.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_density.htm

Growing Toward More Efficient Water Use: Linking Development, Infrastructure, and Drinking Water Policies (EPA, 2006): Growth affects the costs of water infrastructure, demand for water, and the efficiency of water delivery. However, water policies also influence growth. This report examines ways to accommodate growth while keeping water consumption and distribution costs down. EPA 230-R-06-001.
**www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_efficiency.htm**

Using Smart Growth Techniques as Stormwater Best Management Practices (EPA, 2005): To comply with the Clean Water Act, more than 6,000 communities are developing municipal stormwater permitting programs. This publication reviews nine smart growth techniques that can prevent or manage stormwater runoff to help communities encourage smarter growth and meet regulatory requirements.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/stormwater.htm
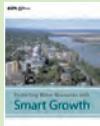
Protecting Water Resources with Smart Growth (EPA, 2004): This publication compiles 75 policies to help communities, local governments, and state and regional planners who are already familiar with smart growth and are seeking ideas on how to protect their water resources. These policies improve communities while protecting water quality. EPA 231-R-04-002. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_resource.htm**
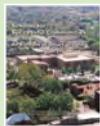
Schools for Successful Communities: An Element of Smart Growth (Council of Educational Facility Planners International and EPA, 2004): Where and how schools are built will profoundly affect the environment and the communities they serve. This publication helps communities invest in schools that will give their children the best possible education, use taxpayer dollars wisely, and improve the entire community.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/schools.htm

Creating Great Neighborhoods: Density in Your Community (Local Government Commission, EPA, National Association of Realtors, 2003): This publication highlights successful community-led efforts to create vibrant neighborhoods through density and introduces five time-tested design principles to ensure that density improves the community. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/density.htm**
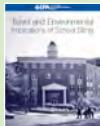
Travel and Environmental Implications of School Siting (EPA, 2003): This study shows that school siting and design can influence traffic congestion, air pollution, school transportation budgets, and children's health. This research provides a basis for making sound school investment decisions that will lead to the high-quality schools and neighborhoods we all desire. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/school_travel.htm**

Affordable Housing and Smart Growth: Making the Connection (National Neighborhood Coalition and Smart Growth Network, 2001): This report provides case studies of smart growth approaches that can make more affordable housing available. Public, private, and nonprofit entities can consider these approaches to create more affordable housing in their communities. **www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/topics/ah.htm**

Pedestrian- and Transit-Friendly Design: A Primer for Smart Growth (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 1999): This primer suggests design elements that make walking and transit use easier and more comfortable, offering illustrations of key features.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/ptfd_primer.pdf

Best Development Practices: A Primer for Smart Growth (International City/County Management Association and Smart Growth Network, 1998): This primer describes land use practices that create attractive communities, offer more transportation choices, and protect the environment.
www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/pdf/bestdevprimer.pdf

Online Resources

Smart Growth Online: www.smartgrowth.org
Smart Growth Online is a web-based clearinghouse of smart growth news, events, information, and resources. Developed and funded with EPA assistance, this site is designed to advance public understanding of smart growth principles and how growth can make communities economically, socially, and environmentally stronger.

Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) Reports: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia_communities.htm
Since 2005, the SGIA program has helped selected communities find solutions to development-related challenges such as corridor revitalization, stormwater management, zoning standards, and affordable housing. The reports from the completed assistance projects can give other communities models and tools to help improve development.

Greening America's Capitals Reports: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/greencapitals.htm
Through this program, EPA works with state capital cities to develop an implementable vision of distinctive, environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green building and green infrastructure strategies.

Reports from Assistance to Iowa Communities: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/iowa_techasst.htm
In 2009, EPA and FEMA assisted six Iowa communities with rebuilding after floods and tornadoes. These reports present smart growth strategies to help communities prepare for and recover from natural disasters.

Mixed-Use Trip Generation Model: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/mxd_tripgeneration.html
This spreadsheet tool makes it easy to estimate trips generated by a new mixed-use development to more fairly assess these projects in development review processes.

Smart Growth Illustrated: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/case.htm
It is often easier to communicate ideas about density, design, walkability, and housing and transportation choice with pictures than with words alone. Smart Growth Illustrated provides visual examples of smart growth techniques as they have been used in 20 different places around the country.

Smart Growth Scorecards: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/scorecards/index.htm
Various organizations and municipalities have developed scorecards that help communities assess their development policies and proposed projects. To share these resources with citizens, municipal officials, and communities, EPA has collected and organized this set of sample scorecards.

Model Course Prospectuses: Teaching smart growth at colleges and universities: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/courses
Colleges and universities can help local governments address development challenges with technical, intellectual, and institutional resources. Faculty members often can organize courses that give students hands-on experience helping communities meet their environmental, economic, and other goals. To facilitate such work, EPA has compiled sample course prospectuses.