

Site Assessment Checklist

Site Location _____

Site Description _____

Climate

USDA Hardiness Zone

- 7a 5b 4a
- 6b 5a 3b
- 6a 4b 3a

Microclimate Factors

- Re-reflected heat load
- Frost pocket
- Wind
- Other _____

Sunlight levels

- Full sun (6 hrs. or more)
- Partial sun or filtered light
- Shade

Irrigation Levels

- No supplemental irrigation
 - Automatic irrigation system
- Irrigation amount and rate: _____

Soil Factors

Range of pH Levels _____
(note actual readings on sketch)

Texture _____

- Clayey
- Loamy
- Sandy

Compaction Levels

- Severely compacted
- Moderately compacted
- Somewhat compacted
- Uncompacted

Structural Factors

Limitations to above-ground space

- Overhead wire height _____
- Proximity to buildings/structures
- Other _____

Limitations to below-ground space

- Utilities marked and noted on sketch
 - Approximate rooting depth for site:
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Drainage Characteristics

- Presence of mottled soil
 - Low-lying topography
- Indicator plants suggest site drainage as:
- wet well-drained dry
- Percolation test results (in./hr.)
- poorly drained (<1"/hr.)
 - moderately drained (1"-6"/hr.)
 - excessively drained (>6"/hr.)

Other Soil Considerations

- Indications of soil layer disturbance
- Evidence of recent construction
- Presence of construction debris likely
- Noxious weeds present _____

- Evidence of excessive salt usage
- Erosion of soil evident
- Evidence of soil contamination
- Usage that compacts soil

Specific Soil Problems

Visual Assessment of Existing Plants

Species	Size	Growth Rate	Visual Assessment
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Make Sketch of Site

Note north arrow; circulation patterns; pH readings; location of overhead wires, underground utilities, buildings and pavement, as well as problem drainage areas.