

FIELDS OF ST. CROIX

Lake Elmo, Minnesota, U.S



Size: 241 acres, 113 homes, 12 attached homes

Dates: 1999-2004

Team: Developer: Robert Engstrom

Description: The Fields of St. Croix is a planned suburban community focused on preserving the architectural heritage and ecosystem of the region

Intent: Historic preservation, organic agriculture, ecological restoration

S
Sit+Place

GOALS: (Food) Preserve prime agriculture land ; (Habitat+Biodiversity) Preserve native ecosystem in open space, protect and enhance eco- system services ; (Transport) Promote a safe walkable neighborhood

STRATEGIES: (Food) 90 acre organic farm CSA is available, private gardens ; (Habitat+Biodiversity) 144 acres (60%) of the land is put into a conservation easement, landscaping includes prairie, wetland buffers and oak savannas ; (Transport) Narrow streets sized for use, walking paths, hiking trail, 5 miles from services, car dependent development

W
Water

GOALS: 100% of waste water treated through innovative wetland wastewater treatment system

STRATEGIES: Storm water infiltration into groundwater, lake shoreline preservation, and private wells

E
Energy

GOALS:

STRATEGIES: Solar PV ready construction, guidelines for solar PV, otherwise standard construction

E
Equity

Percentage of affordable units: 0%

GOALS:

STRATEGIES: Housing clustered around community green, community center, walking and biking paths around the acreage, community meetings

M
Materials

GOALS: (Materials) Cohesive aesthetics respond to architecture heritage ; (Waste) Innovative wastewater treatment

STRATEGIES: (Materials) Strict rules enforced by community board ; (Waste) Waste collection

SUSTAINABILITY MATRIX

		STANDARD	GOOD	BETTER	LIVING COMMUNITY	REGENERATIVE
S Site+Place	Limits to growth		Developed for density/limits growth, contains open space			
	Urban Ag			Every resident to have access to community garden, greenhouse, local farm education		
	Habitat Exchange			Constructed wetlands, land set aside, native plantings, 25% + of developable space is undeveloped		
	Human Powered Living	Car oriented development, planning may contain sidewalks but development was not designed around the pedestrian				
W Water	Net Positive Water			Greywater purification & reuse, on-site treatment of some blackwater, constructed wetlands, stormwater prevention (green-roofs & impermeable surfaces)		
	Net Positive Energy		2030 standards goal of efficiency, some reduction goals for energy & carbon, some renewable energy, solar PV ready			
E Energy	Civilized Environment		Community has some groups to promote social connections			
	Healthy Neighborhood Design		Some access to walking trails that connect to amenities, parks, recreation areas			
	Biophilic Environment		Development includes park & has some landscaping			
	Resilient Community Connections	Nothing considered/ not reported				
H Health+ Happiness	Living Material Plan	Standard construction & material selection				
	Embodied Carbon Footprint	No embodied carbon measuring or offsetting greater than code				
	Net Positive Waste	Standard construction, material selection, & waste collection				
	Human Scale and Humane Places		Project contains some elements of human-scaled design			
M Materials	Universal Access to Nature and Place		Access to parks, promotes sense of place, some daylighting strategies for buildings			
	Universal Access to Community Services	Vehicle travel dependent to services and community centers				
	Equitable Investment	No contribution to charity				
E Equity	Beauty and Spirit					
	Inspiration and Education	Standard development				
B Beauty						

SOURCES:

http://www.robertengstromcompanies.com/prev_fields.html
http://www.engstromco.com/prev_fields
<https://fieldsofstcroix.wordpress.com/water-treatment-septic-documents/>
<http://www.lakeelmo.org/neighborhoods/fields-st-croix-tana-ridge-bluestem>



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