



ATTACHMENT 6. PROPOSAL MONITORING

The direct water-energy reductions in the CNPS projects will be monitored with pre- and post-event metrics. Water conservation will be monitored by establishing baseline water use at the sites we select for the projects. Before CNPS commits to a project, meetings with Sponsor Company will set current use statistics, through water use information from bills, and documentation of irrigation controller scheduling.

In order to monitor changes in runoff, the team will provide evidence of pre-event irrigation overspray and runoff. Photographs, moisture monitoring, and industry metrics will be used to document and determine runoff characteristics.

Chemical use will be monitored in several ways. A baseline for fertilizer and pesticide use will be established, using landscape maintenance company input in the form of records, protocols, and estimates. After installation, fertilizer use should drop to zero and the team will monitor the garden for long-term pesticide use. CNPS will compare these to industry metrics and develop a Case Study that will be available for publication.

Another aspect of the program is that the employees of the Sponsor Company who get involved will be inspired to renovate their own gardens. This flywheel effect will allow CNPS to monitor change in additional ways.

CNPS will track garden conversions by encouraging homeowners to upload photos and stories about their gardens. The team will track our owner's gardens over the long-term to show results of their decision-making skills in subsequent water bills, health of their plants, bird count observations and other measurable metrics. CNPS will engage students in critical-thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills by challenging each student to create a follow-on project in their own gardens and seeing how they live with the results of their decisions.

Stewardship requires monitoring change after the event. CNPS will use multiple methods: follow up questionnaires, nominations to show their new landscapes on Garden Tours, and invitations to other events. CNPS will track homeowners who apply for and complete their turf rebate projects. The team will publish water use case studies. The team will invite homeowners to speak about their experiences at future symposia. CNPS will stay in touch with gardeners to demonstrate long-term success in photo essays and through social media, as well as offer membership in the organization.

CNPS will promote environmental stewardship by creating a cadre of program "graduates" throughout the state. In this way CNPS will advance the standard for true lifelong learning and strengthen the practice of environmental education.