# Cornell Cooperative Extension Cornell Garden-Based Learning



## **Site Assessment Activity**



60 minutes

Learning Objective(s): Participants will...

• Apply basic site assessment criteria to a familiar landscape.

### **Supplies:**

#### **Handouts**:

Monocots and Dicots graphic

#### Materials:

- Paper, pencil and clipboard.
- Optional: Camera



#### **Instructions:**

Using your property or another familiar landscape such as a nearby park, walk through the site assessment checklist to learn more about the site. Make notes, draw a basic sketch or take photos to represent each bullet.



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#### **Site Assessment Checklist** Name of Property: ☐ Aspect, Include North Arrow ☐ USDA Hardiness Zone: North Last Spring Frost: Last Fall Frost: South East West □ Sunlight □ Slopes Steep Full sun (6 hours or more) Partial sun Moderate Shade Gradual or flat ☐ Microclimate factors: ☐ Soil texture Reflected heat Clayey Frost pocket Loamy Sandy Silty □ Wind: ☐ Soil compaction Windy site Compacted Windy in isolated sections Partially compacted Calm site No compaction ☐ Soil drainage characteristics $\square$ Obstructions Below ground (e.g. utilities or irrigation Wet Well-drained Above ground (e.g. overhead wires) Dry □ Wildlife interference Serious and obvious concerns Marginal concerns Not a problem

☐ Soil pH:

☐ Existing Plants:

Notes:

☐ Unusual conditions: