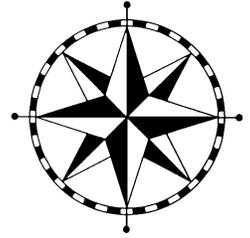


# A Remedial Bibliography for Land Use Planning



NEMO projects are based upon the premise that planning for conservation and development is the primary way to achieve sustainable growth in your community. Because of this reliance on planning, NEMO practitioners must be familiar with the basic tenets of planning and be aware of new developments in the field. This is not necessarily an easy task; since many project coordinators come from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Planning is not rocket science and contributions to the field from people with other expertise is not only welcomed, but needed. However, planning in the U.S. has a long history and tradition that must be understood in order to make meaningful contributions. It is a good idea to have an understanding of the legal and historical constraints that operate both upon the planning profession and, more importantly, upon your target audience of local municipal officials.

Below, we offer some references that are starting places for learning more about land use planning. This list is by no means exhaustive. Some references give brief overviews of the field and are intended for land use officials, others are more in-depth reference materials that target planning professionals. Use these materials as you see fit, according to your needs and comfort level with planning.

Also remember that land use planning is a LOCAL issue, and the ways land use decisions are made vary greatly from state-to-state. We have included a list of websites that link to local American Planning Association chapters. These chapters can serve as valuable resources in learning about the peculiarities of planning in your state. Find a local planning contact that can serve as an advisor and “sounding board” for your ideas and who can give names of other publications that deal with local planning issues.

## General Planning References

Solnit, Albert. 1987. The Job of the Planning Commissioner, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 198 pp, APA Planners Press  
A practical guide that focuses on what is needed to become an effective planning commissioner. The book is both an introduction to the job of the planning commissioner and a reference that includes lists of tools to guide growth, advice on how to work with professional staff, do and don'ts for successful public meetings, and much more.

Smith, Herbert H. 1993. The Citizen's Guide to Planning, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., 276 pp, APA Planners Press  
A guided that targets both laymen and professionals alike, Smith explains the different roles of the planning commissioners and professional planners. He also reviews topics such as the master plan, capital improvement programs, zoning, and the regulation of land subdivision.

Allor, David J. 1984. The Planning Commissioners Guide, 186 pp, APA Planners Press  
This book is more targeted for planning commissioners. The author gives suggestions on how to run effective planning meetings, review site plans, and work toward making group decisions.

The Practice of Local Government Planning. Washington DC: ICMA Training Institute  
Considered the “Green Bible” of the planning profession, gives a complete overview of the field from planning history to comprehensive and strategic planning to zoning to economic development. At this writing, the book has not been revised in nearly 20 years, so not all of the information is current; however, it is a great reference book on the fundamentals of the field.

Kelly, Eric Damian and Barbara Becker. 1999. Community Planning: An Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan. 400 pp, Island Press  
An introductory textbook that provides a thorough examination of the comprehensive planning process as practiced in the United States today. The authors consider all aspects of the comprehensive plan: its elements, adoption, and implementation.

Toner, William. 1994. Planning Made Easy. 168 pp, APA Planners Press.  
This manual covers the basics of community planning, zoning, subdivision regulation and ethics. Targeted for local commissioners, the manual is organized for self-study and can be purchased with accompanying video and training guide.

## Other Planning References of Note

- McHarg, Ian L. 1991 (original 1969). *Design with Nature*. 198pp, John Wiley & Sons  
McHarg is the father of “natural resource-based planning” and of the conceptual basis of G.I.S.  
This seminal book is for those of you seeking to find your inner NEMO.
- Arendt, Randall. 1994. *Rural by Design*. 441 pp. APA Planners Press.  
This book represents the first treatment by Arendt on the concept of conservation design for communities. This book, as well as subsequent work by this author, gives ideas and designs for conservation subdivisions, or cluster development.
- Kunstler, James Howard. 1993. *Geography of Nowhere*. 304 pp. Simon & Schuster  
A highly readable book, Kunstler bemoans the decline of the nation into a landscape of “scary places.” The book compares three cities and uses them to understand what has worked in planning and what has not. Part indictment of ‘old-school’ planning, and part cheerleading for the New Urbanism movement in planning and architecture, the *Geography of Nowhere* serves as an entertaining introduction to many new planning concepts.
- Jacobs, Jane. 1993 (reissue). *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. 598 pp. Modern Library Series.  
Considered a landmark book, Jacobs effectively skewers the urban renewal movement in planning during the 1960’s. Jacobs’ argument for a more humanistic approach to the design of places considerably predates the New Urbanists. This book is for those of you who want to read the classics.

## Local American Planning Association Chapters

### [Alabama Chapter](http://www.alaapa.org/)

<http://www.alaapa.org/>

### [Arizona Chapter](http://www.azplanning.org/)

<http://www.azplanning.org/>

### [California Chapter](http://www.calapa.org/)

<http://www.calapa.org/>

### [Inland Empire Section](http://www.eee.org/bus/apa/)

<http://www.eee.org/bus/apa/>

### [Los Angeles Section](http://www.la-apa.org/)

<http://www.la-apa.org/>

### [Orange Section](http://www.oc-apa.org/)

<http://www.oc-apa.org/>

### [Sacramento Valley Section](http://www.sactoapa.org/)

<http://www.sactoapa.org/>

### [Colorado Chapter](http://www.apacolorado.org/)

<http://www.apacolorado.org/>

### [Connecticut Chapter](http://www.ccapa.org/)

<http://www.ccapa.org/>

### [Delaware Chapter](http://www.ipa.udel.edu/delapa/delapa.htm)

<http://www.ipa.udel.edu/delapa/delapa.htm>

### [Massachusetts Chapter](http://www.massapa.org/)

<http://www.massapa.org/>

### [Michigan Chapter](http://www.emich.edu/public/geo/mapaintro.html)

<http://www.emich.edu/public/geo/mapaintro.html>

### [Minnesota Chapter](http://www.mnapa.com/)

<http://www.mnapa.com/>

### [Missouri Chapter](http://www.mo-apa.org/)

<http://www.mo-apa.org/>

### [National Capital Area Chapter](http://www.ncac-apa.org/)

<http://www.ncac-apa.org/>

### [New Jersey Chapter](http://www.njapa.org/)

<http://www.njapa.org/>

### [New Mexico Chapter](http://www.nmapa.org/)

<http://www.nmapa.org/>

### [New York Metro Chapter](http://www.nymetroapa.org/)

<http://www.nymetroapa.org/>

### [New York Upstate Chapter](http://www.arch.buffalo.edu/planning/apa/)

<http://www.arch.buffalo.edu/planning/apa/>

### [North Carolina Chapter](http://www.nc-apa.org/)

<http://www.nc-apa.org/>

[Florida Chapter](#)

<http://www.floridaplanning.org/>

[Gold Coast Section](#)

<http://www.goldcoast-fapa.com/>

[Georgia Chapter](#)

<http://members.tripod.com/gpapanners/gpapanners.html>

[Hawaii Chapter](#)

<http://apahi.org/~apahi/>

[Indiana Chapter](#)

<http://www.indianaplanning.org/>

[Illinois Chapter](#)

<http://www.ilapa.org/>

[Iowa Chapter](#)

<http://www.iowa-apa.org/>

[Kansas Chapter](#)

<http://aalto.arch.ksu.edu/jwkplan/ksapa/ksapa.htm>

[Kansas City Metro Section](#)

<http://www.sky.net/~apa/kcmetro/>

[Kentucky Chapter](#)

<http://www.kapa.org/>

[Louisiana Chapter](#)

<http://www.louisiana-apa.org/>

[Maine Association of Planners](#)

<http://www.muskie.usm.maine.edu/map/>

[Maryland Chapter](#)

<http://www.marylandapa.org/>

[Northern New England Chapter](#)

<http://www.together.net/~nnecapa>

Ohio Planning Chapter [Cleveland Section](#)

<http://community.cleveland.com/cc/opccleveland>

[Oregon Chapter](#)

<http://www.oregonapa.org/>

[Pennsylvania Chapter](#)

<http://www.planningpa.org/>

[Rhode Island Chapter](#)

<http://www.riapa.org/>

[South Carolina Chapter](#)

<http://www.scapa.org/>

[Texas Chapter](#)

<http://www.scapa.org/>

[Utah Chapter](#)

<http://www.utah-apa.org/>

[Virginia Chapter](#)

<http://www.vaplanning.org/>

[Washington Chapter](#)

<http://www.washington-apa.org/>

[West Virginia Chapter](#)

<http://www.wvplanning.com/>

[Wisconsin Chapter](#)

<http://www.uwm.edu/Org/wapa/>

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***Last updated January 2001. The Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) Project is an effort of the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, funded by a number of state and federal agencies, with major support from the Water Quality Program of the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES). Contact NEMO at: (860) 345-4511 or <http://nemo.uconn.edu>.***

