- Create a space with more biodiversity than it has today.
- Identify existing site features that we want to celebrate, protect, and enhance and design for better access to experience their value.
- Integrate research and education in both built and non-built conditions.
- Maintain/enhance community and ecosystem connectivity by preserving viewscapes, integrating ecological function throughout the built environment, and creating a natural and functional transition to the nonbuilt environment.

- Protect, enhance and restore native soil biotic and abiotic properties to support indigenous plant community growth, native soil fauna, enhance natural hydrologic process and support overall ecosystem function.
- Minimize erosion to protect habitat and reduce stress on natural water systems by preserving steep slopes in a natural, vegetated state.
- Replicate the natural hydrologic function of the land.

Carolina North Landscape, Natural Habitat, and Water Quality

- Use native plant species for a healthy ecosystem that will conserve native wildlife, decrease the amount of water needed for landscape maintenance, reduce long-term maintenance, reduce soil erosion by production of long root systems, and protect water quality by controlling erosion and moderating floods and drought.
- Reduce the heat island effect by preserving forest patches, reforesting areas, and planting street, courtyard, and plaza trees. Efforts should target minimizing impacts on microclimate, human and wildlife habitat and energy required for cooling.

Carolina North Landscape, Natural Habitat, and Water Quality

- Build on existing disturbed areas before considering natural landscapes and allow natural site features to influence building siting and utility location.
- Minimize site disturbance during construction by conserving natural areas, providing tree protection, minimizing soil compaction.
- Use IPM techniques to protect at risk ecosystems and non target species.