sustainicons: a type-based system for visualizing & sharing ideas about sustainability and design

( )
system

((( )))
systems

(((S)))
sustainable systems

(eco)
eco-footprint

(C)
carbon footprint

=(E)=
energy

=(#)=
the electricity grid

=(C)=
energy from fossil fuel

=(+)=
renewable energy

=(o)=
solar energy

=(<)=
wind energy

=(::)=
geothermal energy

=(w)=
hydroelectric energy

=(U)=
nuclear energy

=(H)=
hydrogen fuel cell

{ }
eco-system, or habitat

{{{ }}}
ecology

{+++} > {++} > { + }
natural selection

::{ }:::{ }::
evolution

{ + }
biodiversity

{ − }
extinction

{ $ }
natural capital

{ svc }
eco-system service

{Hg}
chemical in eco-system /ex: Mercury

{Hg!}
toxin in eco-system /ex: Mercury

{Hg+}
bio-accumulation /ex: Mercury

{svc}
eco-system service

[ ]
man-made system

[[[ ]]]
industrial ecology

>[LC]<
life cycle

>[ ]>
process tree

>[LC+]>
positive life cycle impact

>[LC−]>
negative life cycle impact

///>//>/
recycling

//>//
reuse, repurpose

[Hg]
chemical in man-made system /ex: Mercury

[Hg!]
toxin in man-made system /ex: Mercury

[Hg] > {Hg}
chemical entering eco-system from man-made system /ex: Mercury

[f+f]
design = form+function

[f+f+s]
comprehensive design = form +function+sustainability

[{^}]
bio-inspired system

[z]
zero-waste system

[local]*
design using local materials or manufacturing

[cotton]*
design using local materials or manufacturing /ex: cotton

[cotton]50mi
design using materials or manufacturing sourced within 50 miles

-[ ]-
dematerialized product system

[1]
design using one material

sustain-icons // heidrun mumper-drumm /2014