



Synergies between SITES and LEED ND

The SITES and LEED rating systems are complementary, and can be used independently or in tandem. If you would like your project to benefit from certifying to both SITES and LEED, you can take advantage of the synergies between them.

To assist you with your certification efforts, the credits listed in the table below can be substituted between SITES and LEED in several ways.

- Full substitution credits: Earning these credits in *either* LEED or SITES will automatically mean earning the corresponding credit in the other rating system.
- LEED earns SITES credits: Earning these LEED credits will automatically mean earning the corresponding SITES credits.
- SITES earns LEED credits: Earning these SITES credit will automatically mean earning the corresponding LEED credits.

APPLICABILITY

- The SITES project boundary must align with the LEED ND project boundary. It is noted that project boundaries are not required to be completely identical. For instance, as project teams may elect to include public rights-of-way within a LEED ND boundary yet exclude these from SITES project boundary. In the event that project boundaries differ, project teams must contact GBCI for project-specific approval and/or guidance.
- Ratings systems can be submitted for review simultaneously, but credits must be awarded by GBCI for substitution to be valid.
- Credits awarded within the past two years can be considered for substitution.
- Credit substitutions must be clearly identified in the submittal, including the name and number of the corresponding project.
- All *Important Considerations* listed in the tables must be accounted for and addressed, if applicable.
- Substitutions not listed in the tables below will be considered on a case-by-case basis, upon request and this document will be updated periodically.

Potential Innovation credits between rating systems and additional documentation synergies are also provided below.

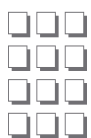




FULL SUBSTITUTION

If you earn the LEED ND v2009 or SITES v2 credit listed below, you will automatically earn the corresponding credit or component. LEED ND v2009 projects that have achieved only Stage 1 are not eligible to earn corresponding SITES v2 credits. You will only document the credit once, either in the SITES project or the LEED project. Upload a copy of the credit submittal documentation from your LEED or SITES submission to verify that the *Important Considerations* are met, where applicable.

SITES v2 CREDIT		LEED ND v2009 CREDIT	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
Site Context P1.1: Limit development on farmland, Case 1: Sites without farmland soils	↔	SLLp4 Agricultural Land Conservation, Option 1: Protected Soils Not Impacted	
Site Context P1.2: Protect Floodplain Functions – Case 1: Sites without floodplains	↔	SLLp5 Floodplain Avoidance - Option 1: Sites Without Floodplains	
Site Context C1.5: Redevelop Degraded Sites, Case 1: Previously developed sites	↔	SLLc1 Preferred Locations Option 1: Location Type (a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEED ND Option 1 location type a, b, or d earns SITES Case 1. SITES Case 1 earns LEED ND Option 1 type a (possibly b and d as well, depending on conditions)
Site Context C1.5: Redevelop Degraded Sites, Case 2 Brownfield sites	↔	SLLc2 Brownfields Redevelopment: Option 1 Brownfield Sites	
Pre-design C2.4: Engage Users and Stakeholders	↔	NPDC12: Community Outreach and Involvement, Option 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is only available between SITES C2.4 and NPDC12 Option 1. Refer to <i>LEED Earns SITES</i> section below for synergies via other NPDC12 Options.
Water P3.2: Reduce Water Use for Landscape Irrigation (Design the Landscape for no Permanent Irrigation only)	↔	GIBc4 Water-Efficient Landscaping (Projects with no new or existing irrigation only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is only available for projects that do not include any new or existing irrigation, even if irrigation is 100% nonpotable.
Human Health + Well Being C6.1: Protect and maintain cultural and historic places	↔	GIBc6: Historic Resource Preservation and Adaptive Reuse (Projects not altering cultural or historical landscapes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SITES projects documenting this synergy via achievement of GIBc6 must provide details on whether a historical building or cultural landscape was protected.
Construction P7.2: Control and Retain Construction Pollutants	↔	GIBp4 Construction activity pollution prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only applicable if the most current US EPA Construction General Permit (or equivalent) is adhered to.





LEED EARNS SITES

If you earn the LEED ND v2009 credit listed below, you will automatically earn the corresponding SITES v2 credit or component. LEED ND v2009 projects that have achieved only Stage 1 are not eligible to earn corresponding SITES v2 credits. You will only need to document the credit once in the LEED project.

SITES v2 CREDIT		LEED ND v2009 CREDIT	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
Site Context P1.2: Protect floodplain functions, Case 2: Previously developed and brownfield sites within floodplain	←	SLLp5 Floodplain Avoidance - Option 2: Infill or Previously Developed Sites with Floodplains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed development or redevelopment activities within the floodplain must mitigate and improve existing floodplain conditions. Such activities must maintain or increase existing floodplain storage, improve water quality, and be designed so as not to be damaged by floods. Activities must not increase flood elevations. A full substitution is possible between P1.2 Case 2 and SLLp5 Option 2 if the project does not contain Critical Facilities or if critical facilities are addressed per ND requirements.
Site Context P1.3: Conserve aquatic ecosystems, Case 1: Sites without aquatic ecosystems	←	SLLp3 Wetland and Water Body Conservation - Option 1: Sites with No Wetlands, Water Bodies, Land within 50ft of Wetlands or Land within 100 ft of Water Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is possible between P1.3 Case 1 and SLLp3 Option 1 if there are no wetlands within 50 feet of the project boundary and no water bodies within 100 feet of the project boundary
Site Context P1.4: Conserve habitats for threatened and endangered species, Case 1: Brownfields and previously developed sites OR Case 2: Greenfield sites	←	SLLp2 Imperiled Species and Ecological Communities Conservation, Option 1: Sites without Affected Species or Ecological Community	
Site Context C1.7: Connect to multi-modal transit networks, Option 2: Transit Network	←	SLLc3 Locations with Reduced Automobile Dependence, Option 1: Transit-Served Location	
Pre-design C2.4: Engage users and stakeholders	←	NPDC12: Community Outreach and Involvement, Option 1: Community Outreach, Option 2: Charrette, or Option 3: Local Endorsement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that a full synergy is only available for C2.4 and NPDC12 Option 1 (SITES C2.4 does not earn NPDC12 Options 2 and 3)
P3.1: Manage Precipitation On Site	←	GIBc8 Stormwater Management, All thresholds	

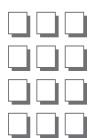




SITES EARNS LEED

If you earn the SITES v2 credit listed below, you will automatically earn the corresponding LEED ND v2009 credit or component. You will only need to document the credit once in the SITES project.

SITES v2 CREDIT		LEED ND v2009 CREDIT	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
Site Context P1.1: Limit development on farmland, Case 2: Sites with farmland soils – VSPZs	➔	SLLp4 Agricultural Land Conservation - Option 1: Protected soils not impacted	
Site Context P1.1: Limit development on farmland, Case 3: Sites with farmland soils - Mitigation	➔	SLLp4 Agricultural Land Conservation - Option 5: Sites With Impacted Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is possible between P1.1 Case 3 and SLLp4 Option 5 if project site is an <i>infill</i> and mitigation requirements are achieved at a minimum 2:1 ratio, regardless of project density
Site Context P1.3: Conserve aquatic ecosystems, Case 2: Sites with naturally occurring aquatic ecosystems	➔	SLLp3 Wetland and Water Body Conservation- Option 2: Sites with Wetlands, Water Bodies, Land within 50ft of Wetlands or within 100ft of Water Bodies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is possible between P1.3 Case 2 and SLLp3 Option 2 if the more stringent buffer requirements within the SITES program are applied, as applicable
Water C3.4: Reduce outdoor water use, Option 1: Reduce outdoor water use	➔	GIBc4 Water Efficient Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earning SITES Option 1 achieves EP for GIBc4
Water C3.4: Reduce outdoor water use, Option 2, Significantly reduce outdoor water use	➔	GIBc4 Water Efficient Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earning SITES Option 2 achieves EP for GIBc4
Water C3.4: Reduce outdoor water use, Option 3, Eliminate outdoor water use	➔	GIBc4 Water Efficient Landscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earning SITES Option 3 achieves EP for GIBc4
Soil + Vegetation C4.9: Reduce urban heat island effects	➔	GIBc9: Heat Island Reduction, Option 3: Mixed Nonroof and Roof Measures	





INNOVATION

The following SITES v2 credits are eligible for Innovation in Design credit (IDc1) in LEED ND v2009 projects, including LEED projects that are not also pursuing SITES.

- Water C3.5: Design Functional Stormwater Features as Amenities
- Soil + Vegetation C4.8: Optimize Biomass
- Soil + Vegetation C4.11: Reduce the Risk of Catastrophic Wildfire
- Credit 6.2: Provide Optimum Site Accessibility, Safety, and Wayfinding
- Human Health + Well Being C6.4: Support Mental Restoration
- Human Health + Well Being C6.5: Support Physical Activity
- Human Health + Well Being C6.6: Support Social Connection
- Human Health + Well Being C6.11: Support Local Economy
- Construction C7.4: Restore Soils Disturbed by Previous Development
- Operations + Maintenance P8.1: Plan for Sustainable Site Maintenance
- Education C9.3: Plan to Monitor and Report Site Performance





SITES v2 and LEED v4 ND

FULL SUBSTITUTION

If you earn the LEED ND v4 or SITES v2 credit listed below, you will automatically earn the corresponding credit or component. LEED ND v4 projects that have achieved only ND: Plan, Letter of Support are not eligible to earn corresponding SITES v2 credits. You will only need to document the credit once, either in the SITES project or the LEED project.

SITES v2 CREDIT NAME		LEED ND v4 CREDIT NAME	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
Site Context P1.1: Limit development on farmland, Case 1: Sites without farmland soils	↔	SLLp Agricultural Land Conservation, Option 4: Sites Without Affect Soils	
Site Context P1.2: Protect Floodplain Functions – Case 1: Sites without Floodplains	↔	SLLp Floodplain Avoidance - Case 1: Sites Without Flood Hazard Areas	
Site Context C1.5: Redevelop Degraded Sites, Case 1 Previously developed sites	↔	SLLc Preferred Locations Option 1: Location Type, The project is located on a previously developed site that is not an adjacent site or infill site (bullet 1 for 1 point)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEED ND Option 1: Location Type, bulleted options 1, 2 or 4 earns SITES Case 1. SITES Case 1 only confirms LEED ND Option 1: Location Type, bulleted option 1 (possibly bullets 2 and 4 as well, depending on conditions).
Site Context C1.5: Redevelop Degraded Sites, Case 2 Brownfield Sites	↔	SLLc Brownfield Remediation: Option 1 Brownfield Site	
Pre-design C2.4: Engage Users and Stakeholders	↔	NPDc Community Outreach and Involvement, Option 1: Community Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is only available between SITES C2.4 and NPDc12 Option 1. Refer to LEED Earns SITES section below for synergies via other related NPD credit Options
Water P3.2: Reduce Water Use for Landscape Irrigation (Design the Landscape for no Permanent Irrigation only)	↔	GIBc Outdoor Water Use Reduction, Option 1: No Irrigation Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is only available for projects that do not include any new or existing irrigation, even if irrigation is 100% nonpotable.
Soil + Vegetation C4.9: Reduce urban heat island effects	↔	GIBc Heat Island Reduction, Option 3: Mixed Nonroof and Roof Measures	
Human Health + Well Being C6.1: Protect and maintain cultural and historic places	↔	GIBc Historic Resource Preservation and Adaptive Reuse (Projects not altering cultural or historical landscapes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SITES projects documenting this synergy via achievement of GIBc6 must provide details on whether a historical building or cultural landscape was protected.





Construction P7.2: Control and retain construction pollutants		GIBp Construction activity pollution prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only applicable if the most current US EPA Construction General Permit (or equivalent) is adhered to.
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LEED EARNS SITES

If you earn the LEED ND v4 credit listed below, you will automatically earn the corresponding SITES v2 credit or component. LEED ND v4 projects that have achieved only ND: Plan, Letter of Support are not eligible to earn corresponding SITES v2 credits. You will only need to document the credit once in the LEED project.

SITES v2 CREDIT NAME		LEED ND v4 CREDIT NAME	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
Site Context P1.2: Protect floodplain functions, Case 2: Previously developed and brownfield sites within floodplain		SLLp Floodplain Avoidance - Case 2: Infill or Previously Developed Sites with Flood Hazard Areas, Option 2: National Flood Insurance Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed development or redevelopment activities within the floodplain must mitigate and improve existing floodplain conditions. Such activities must maintain or increase existing floodplain storage, improve water quality, and be designed so as not to be damaged by floods. Activities must not increase flood elevations. A full substitution is possible between P1.2 Case 2 and SLL Floodplain avoidance Case 2 if the project does not contain Critical Facilities or if critical facilities are addressed per ND requirements.
Site Context P1.3: Conserve aquatic ecosystems, Case 1: Sites without aquatic ecosystems		SLLp Wetland and Water Body Conservation - Case 1: Sites without Sensitive Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is possible between P1.3 Case 1 and SLLp Wetland and Water Body Conservation Case 1 if there are no wetlands within 50 feet of the project boundary and no water bodies within 100 feet of the project boundary
Site Context P1.4: Conserve habitats for threatened and endangered species, Case 1: Brownfields and previously developed sites OR Case 2: Greenfield sites		SLLp Imperiled Species and Ecological Communities Conservation, Case 1: Sites without Affected Species or Ecological Communities	
Site Context C1.7: Connect to multi-modal transit networks, Option 2: Transit Network		SLLc Access to Quality Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure number of trips documented via LEED ND meets the needs of the project occupants
Pre-design C2.4: Engage Users and Stakeholders		NPdc Community Outreach and Involvement, Option 1: Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that a full synergy is only available for C2.4 and NPdc Community Outreach and Involvement Option 1



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		Outreach, Option 2: Charrette, or Option 3: Endorsement Program	(SITES C2.4 does not earn NPD Options 2 and 3)
P3.1: Manage Precipitation On Site		GIBc Rainwater Management, All thresholds	

SITES EARNS LEED

If you earn the SITES v2 credit listed below, you will automatically earn the corresponding LEED ND v4 credit or component. You will only need to document the credit once in the SITES project.

SITES v2 CREDIT NAME		LEED ND v4 CREDIT NAME	IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS
Site Context P1.1: Limit development on farmland, Case 2: Sites with farmland soils – VSPZs		SLLp Agricultural Land Conservation - Option 4: Sites Without Affected Soils	
Site Context P1.1: Limit development on farmland, Case 3: Sites with farmland soils - Mitigation		SLLp Agricultural Land Conservation - Option 5: Sites With Affected Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is possible between P1.1 Case 3 and ND Option 5 if project site is an <i>infill</i> mitigation requirements are achieved at a minimum 2:1 ratio, regardless of project density
Site Context P1.3: Conserve aquatic ecosystems, Case 2: Sites with naturally occurring aquatic ecosystems		SLLp Wetland and Water Body Conservation- Case 2: Sites with Sensitive Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full substitution is possible between P1.3 Case 2 and SLLp Wetland and Water Body Conservation- Case 2 if the more stringent buffer requirements within the SITES program are applied, as applicable.
Water C3.4: Reduce outdoor water use, Option 1: Reduce outdoor water use		GIBc Outdoor Water Use Reduction Option 2: Reduced Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earning SITES Option 1 achieves EP for GIBc Outdoor Use Reduction, Option 2.
Water C3.4: Reduce outdoor water use, Option 2, Significantly reduce outdoor water use		GIBc Outdoor Water Use Reduction, Option 2: Reduced Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earning SITES Option 2 achieves EP for GIBc Outdoor Use Reduction, Option 2
Water C3.4: Reduce outdoor water use, Option 3, Eliminate outdoor water use		GIBc Outdoor Water Use Reduction, Option 2: Reduced Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earning SITES Option 3 achieves EP for GIBc Outdoor Use Reduction, Option 2





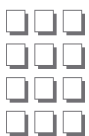
INNOVATION

The following SITES v2 credits are eligible for Innovation credit (INc) in LEED ND v4, including LEED projects that are not also pursuing SITES.

- Water C3.5: Design Functional Stormwater Features as Amenities
- Soil + Vegetation C4.8: Optimize Biomass
- Soil + Vegetation C4.11: Reduce the Risk of Catastrophic Wildfire
- Credit 6.2: Provide optimum site accessibility, safety, and wayfinding
- Human Health + Well Being C6.4: Support Mental Restoration
- Human Health + Well Being C6.5: Support Physical Activity
- Human Health + Well Being C6.6: Support Social Connection
- Human Health + Well Being C6.11: Support Local Economy
- Construction C7.4: Restore Soils Disturbed by Previous Development
- Operations + Maintenance P8.1: Plan for Sustainable Site Maintenance
- Education C9.3: Plan to Monitor and Report Site Performance

The following ND v4 credits are eligible for Innovation credit (Innovation C10.1, Option 2) in SITES v2, including SITES projects that are not also pursuing LEED ND v4.

- SLLc Steep Slope Protection (v4 version only)
- NPDc Tree-Lined and Shaded Streetscapes, Option 2: Shaded Sidewalks





DOCUMENTATION STRATEGIES

While not every LEED and SITES credit has an equivalency, many project documents can be used for both rating systems in order to streamline applications, assist in consistency, and reduce the burden on project teams. Examples include:

- Site plan(s) showing:
 - project boundary
 - vegetation and hardscape areas
 - greenfield and previously disturbed areas
 - rainwater management facilities
 - building footprints
 - undisturbed and disturbed soils
 - lighting locations
 - irrigation
 - any other unique or relevant site conditions
 - non-smoking signage and non-smoking areas
- Roof plan if your project contains a roof
 - Vegetated and non-vegetated roof area
- Plant list with species names, quantities, and locations (either in the list or on the site plan)
- Site assessment (content depends on credits pursued):
 - proximity to transportation, sources of pollution, neighborhood services, etc.
 - viewsheds and corridors
 - site contamination
 - existing vegetation (e.g., native plants, native plant communities, invasives) and soil (indicating level of disturbance)
 - topography and hydrologic conditions
 - other environmentally- (e.g., habitat) or culturally-significant features (e.g., special status vegetation, cultural landscape)
 - existing hardscape and structures that may be reused or recycled

