



| v3 - LEED 2009

## Heat island effect - nonroof

SSc7.1 | Possible 1 point

Glossary 

### Intent

To reduce heat islands<sup>1</sup> to minimize impacts on microclimates and human and wildlife habitats.

### Requirements

Choose 1 of the following options:

#### Option 1

Use any combination of the following strategies for 50% of the site hardscape (including roads, sidewalks, courtyards and parking lots):

- Provide shade from the existing tree canopy or within 5 years of landscape installation; landscaping (trees) must be in place at the time of certification application.
- Provide shade from structures covered by solar panels that produce energy used to offset some nonrenewable resource use.
- Provide shade from architectural devices or structures that have a solar reflectance index (SRI)<sup>2</sup> of at least 29. Implement a maintenance program that ensures these surfaces are cleaned at least every 2 years to maintain good reflectance.
- Use hardscape materials with an SRI of at least 29 and implement a maintenance program that ensures these surfaces are cleaned at least every 2 years to maintain good reflectance.
- Use an open-grid pavement system (at least 50% pervious).

#### OR

#### Option 2

Place a minimum of 50% of parking spaces under cover<sup>3</sup>. Any roof used to shade or cover parking must have an SRI of at least 29, be a vegetated roof or be covered by solar panels that produce energy used to offset some nonrenewable resource use. Implement a maintenance program that ensures all SRI surfaces are cleaned at least every 2 years to maintain good reflectance. The top parking level of a multilevel parking structure is included in the total parking spaces calculation but is not considered a roof and is not required to be an SRI surface.

<sup>1</sup> Heat islands are defined as thermal gradient differences between developed and underdeveloped areas.

<sup>2</sup> The solar reflectance index (SRI) is a measure of the constructed surface's ability to reflect solar heat, as shown by a small temperature rise. It is defined so that a standard black surface (reflectance 0.05, emittance 0.90) is 0 and a standard white surface (reflectance 0.80, emittance 0.90) is 100. To calculate the SRI for a given material, obtain the reflectance value and emittance value for the material. SRI is calculated according to ASTM E 1980. Reflectance is measured according to ASTM E 903, ASTM E 1918, or ASTM C 1549. Emittance is measured according to ASTM E408 or ASTM C 1371.

<sup>3</sup> For the purposes of this credit, under cover parking is defined as parking underground, under desk, under roof, or under a building.

#### Credit substitution available

You may use the LEED v4 version of this credit on v2009 projects. For more information [check out this article](#).