System Downtime Notification
From Saturday, **August 30, 2014 from 8:00 am EST to 11:59 pm EST**, usgbc.org will be offline for site maintenance.
Email us or call 1-800-795-1747 for assistance. Thanks for your patience.

LEED ND: Built Project | v4 - LEED v4

Floodplain avoidance

Required

Glossary

Requirements

To protect life and property, promote open space and habitat conservation, and enhance water quality and natural hydrological systems.

Case 1. Sites without flood hazard areas

Locate on a site that is entirely outside any flood hazard area shown on a legally adopted flood hazard map or otherwise legally designated by the local jurisdiction or the state. For projects in places without legally adopted flood hazard maps or legal designations, locate on a site that is entirely outside any floodplain subject to a 1% or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

Case 2. Infill or previously developed sites with flood hazard areas

Locate the project on an infill site or a previously developed site and select one of the following two options.

Option 1. American Society of Civil Engineers standard

For any portion of the site within the flood hazard area, design buildings in accordance with American Society of Civil Engineers Standard 24-05 (ASCE 24).

If the project includes construction of a critical facility that is intended to remain operational in the event of a flood, or whose function is critical for postflood recovery, design the facility to be protected and operable at the floodwater levels specified in ASCE 24, or at the water levels represented by a 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood, whichever is higher. For the purpose of this requirement, critical facilities include, but are not limited to, hospitals, emergency operations centers, building or portions of buildings designated as emergency shelters, water and sewage treatment facilities, and fire and police stations.

OR

Option 2. National Flood Insurance Program

For any portion of the site within the flood hazard area, design buildings in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements. Projects outside the U.S. may use a local equivalent to NFIP as long the program is equal to or more stringent than NFIP and is administered at the national level.

If the project involves a critical facility that is intended to remain operational in the event of a flood, or whose function is critical for postflood recovery, design the facility to be protected and operable at the water levels represented by a 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood. For the purpose of this requirement, critical facilities include, but are not limited to, hospitals, emergency operations centers, building or portions of buildings designated as emergency shelters, water and sewage treatment facilities, and fire and police stations.

Case 3. All other sites with flood hazard areas

Meet the requirements of one of the following two options.

Option 1. American Society of Civil Engineers standard

Previously developed portions of the site
On portions of the site that are previously developed and in the flood hazard area, design buildings in accordance with American Society of Civil Engineers Standard 24-05 (ASCE 24).

Nonpreviously developed portions of the site
On portions of the site that are not previously developed and in the flood hazard area, do not develop on land that is within either a regulatory floodway or a coastal high hazard area (Zone V), as shown on the flood hazard map.

On all other portions of the site that are not previously developed and in the flood hazard area, design buildings in accordance with ASCE 24.

Critical facilities in the flood hazard area
If the project involves a critical facility that is intended to remain operational in the event of a flood, or whose function is critical for postflood recovery, design the facility to be protected and operable at the floodwater levels specified in ASCE 24 or at the water levels represented by a 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood, whichever is higher. For the purpose of this requirement, critical facilities include, but are not limited to, hospitals, emergency operations centers, building or portions of buildings designated as emergency shelters, water and sewage treatment facilities, and fire and police stations.

OR

Option 2. National Flood Insurance Program

Previously developed portions of the site
On portions of the site that are previously developed and in the flood hazard area, design buildings in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements. Project outside of the U.S. may use a local equivalent program to NFIP if the program is equal to or more stringent than NFIP and is administered at the national level.

Nonpreviously developed portions of the site
On portions of the site that are not previously developed and in the flood hazard area, do not develop on land that is within either a regulatory floodway or a coastal high hazard area (Zone V), as shown on the flood hazard map.

On all other portions of the site that are not previously developed and in the flood hazard area, design buildings in accordance with NFIP.

Critical facilities in the flood hazard area
If the project involves a critical facility that is intended to remain operational in the event of a flood, or whose function is critical for postflood recovery, design the facility to be protected and operable at the water levels represented by a 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood. For the purpose of this requirement, critical facilities include, but are not limited to, hospitals, emergency operations centers, building or portions of buildings designated as emergency shelters, water and sewage treatment facilities, and fire and police stations.