LEED BD+C: New Construction | v2009

Local food production

SSpc82 | Possible 1 point

Glossary

Intent

Improve human health and well-being, community involvement, and education on food production by designing and maintaining the site for food production

Requirements

Option 1: Food production

Provide for onsite food production: vegetable gardens and/or edible nut- and fruit-bearing plants appropriate to the site

Dedicate a portion of the site to food production. Size the area using one of the following metrics:

BD+C, ID+C or EBOM projects (except Schools)

- At least 10% of the site's vegetated area
- At least 1,500 square feet of hydroponic area
- At least 50% of usable roof top space (excluding mechanical equipment, etc.)
- At least 3,000 cubic feet of vertical farming or vertically stacked agriculture (length x width x height)
- At least one square foot per Full Time Equivalent (excluding visitors)

LEED for Homes or Mid-Rise projects:

- 200 square feet per single family home
- 100 square feet per unit for multifamily

Schools Projects:

- 500 square feet in facility of less than 500 students
- 1,000 square feet in facility of 500 – 1,000 students
- 1,500 square feet in facility of over 1,000 students

All projects except Homes:

The project must use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) processes. Permanent infrastructure must be provided. As applicable, provide solar access, fencing, watering systems, garden bed enhancements (such as raised beds), secure storage space for tools, and pedestrian access for these spaces. A three-year commitment to the program must be documented.

AND for Schools:

For educational purposes, food growing areas must be at least 50% of square footage requirements. The provision of agricultural space must be complemented by programmatic areas nearby and designed for students to congregate. Programmatic areas could include but are not limited to classrooms and cafeterias.

Homes & Multifamily Mid-rise:

Multifamily projects must use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) processes. Ensure that there are no deed restrictions that prohibit food production on the residential properties. Permanent infrastructure must be provided. As applicable, provide solar access, fencing, watering systems, garden bed enhancements (such as raised beds), secure storage space for tools, and pedestrian access for these spaces.

Option 2: Community Supported Agriculture

Purchase shares in a community-supported agriculture (CSA) program for at least 50% of the occupants or 80% of the residential units within the project. Shares must be delivered to the project site on a regular schedule not less than twice per month and at least six months of the year. A three-year commitment to the program must be documented.

Option 3: Support an existing farm

Project proponent

- Provide financial support to the farm equivalent to ¼ of 1% of the total project construction cost. Or, provide material support in kind, equivalent to the dollar value – materials to be negotiated with the farm.
- Provide minimum 8 hours per Full Time Employee equivalent (FTE) per year to volunteer in farm operations - on the project proponent's time. Hours could be consolidated, allowing some FTE to work more and others to not participate in the food production project. FTE volunteers would be required to follow farm training, minimum 1 hour (included within the 8 hour volunteer time). Time must be allocated by employers out of the standard work week, rather than weekend or evening hours.
- For both financial support and FTE, a commitment for three years support/participation would be required.

Material support in kind could include fencing, soil, compost, construction materials, tools, etc.

Farm training could be in planting, harvesting, maintenance, or other operations: skilled labor is in demand in farms, unskilled labor is not as useful.

See the Resources tab of this pilot credit for recommendations on soil testing, fertilizer and herbicide use.

Submittals

General

REGISTER FOR THE PILOT CREDIT

- Participate in the LEEDuser pilot credit forum
- Complete the feedback survey:

CREDITS 1-14

CREDITS 15-27

CREDITS 28-42

CREDITS 43-56

CREDITS 57-67

CREDITS 68-82

CREDITS 83-103

Credit specific

Option 1:

- Site plan highlighting food production locations, access points, and water sources
- Area calculations (in square feet), showing that the food production areas make up at least 10 percent of the site's vegetated area
- Site, greenhouse, and /or roof plan with dimensions and calculations demonstrating the amount of area reserved for food production.
- Supplemental documentation confirming the permanent infrastructure, including, as applicable: solar access, fencing, watering systems, garden bed enhancements (such as raised beds), secure storage space for tools, and pedestrian access for these spaces.
- A narrative describing the IPM process in the garden(s).
- A signed letter confirming the three-year commitment to the program by the building / tenant space owner. (not required for Homes)

Option 1 Schools:

Schools projects provide the following:

- Site, greenhouse, and /or roof plan with dimensions and calculations demonstrating the amount of area reserved for food production.
- Supplemental documentation confirming the permanent infrastructure, including, as applicable: solar access, fencing, watering systems, garden bed enhancements (such as raised beds), secure storage space for tools, and pedestrian access for these spaces.
- A narrative describing the IPM process in the garden(s).
- A signed letter confirming the three-year commitment to the program by the building owner.
- Outline of the lesson plans used to teach students about community food production.
- A narrative explaining the garden maintenance plan for school breaks.

Option 2: Community Supported Agriculture

- A copy of the contract or letter of commitment for the three-year CSA agreement.
- A narrative or drawing confirming the location of the pick-up area within the site and the location of the CSA farm.
- Calculations demonstrating the number of occupants or residential units in the program.
- A signed letter confirming the three-year commitment to the program by the building / tenant space owner.

Option 3: Support an Existing Farm

- Evidence of financial or material support, such as:
  - a copy of the signed contract with the farm that includes the amount of financial donation or specific materials donated, and the length of commitment
  - a receipt showing transactions and time period to which they apply
- Outline of LEED project construction cost
- Evidence of volunteer hours, such as:
  - a copy of the signed contract with the farm that includes the amount and type of volunteer hours proposed, training, when the volunteering would occur, and who would be volunteering
  - a list and short description of volunteer hours already provided, including training, who volunteered, and when it took place
- A signed letter confirming the three-year commitment to the program by the building / tenant space owner.

Changes

- 11/01/2013:
  Revised to allow options from EBOM to be used by all project types. Added LEED for Homes requirements.
- 04/04/2014:
  removed "urban" from "urban farm" in option 3