



What is LEED ?

LEED is a certification system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The acronym stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, as the program assists building owners and operators to create and/or adopt environmentally responsible and resource-efficient activities.

LEED is a rating system for buildings, equivalent to a gas mileage rating for cars. Under LEED, buildings accumulate points for things such as saving energy, having accessible mass transit, and mitigating storm water runoff. Once the points are tallied, the building earns a LEED rating. The higher the tally, the more sustainable a building is.

Updated LEED Interpretation for Deicers

LEED Interpretation 10146, which clarifies the requirements for deicing products that are compliant under Sustainable Sites credit 2: Building Exterior & Hardscape Management Plan, was substantially updated on January 1, 2015 and reads as follows:

Projects may use one of the following compliance paths to achieve the deicer portion of the snow and ice removal requirements for the credit addressing: Building Exterior & Hardscape Management Plans.

Compliance Path 1:

ONLY USE DEICERS THAT CONTAIN 100% CMA (Calcium Magnesium Acetate), This CAN NOT BE A BLEND - It has a melting temperature of 10F; because it doesn't contain chlorides that would bring the melting temperature down.

Compliance Path 2:

A: Demonstrate that environmentally preferred deicers were used at least 20% of the time during the performance period, measured by weight, volume, or cost.

* Deicers that contain less than 5% sodium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, potassium chloride, potassium acetate, ammonia-based products & ferrocyanide products.

B: Implement a deicer quality assurance monitoring plan during the performance period to track ongoing deicer use & record its effects for every snow event:

* Monitoring could include: if deicer was applied prior to snow events, if areas were shoveled prior to deicer application, the amount of snow over the season, the temperature when deicer was applied, the time for snow to melt, etc

* Include a plan to phase out all deicers that are not environmentally preferred within 3 years.

Any deicer that contains more than 5% sodium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, potassium chloride, potassium acetate, ammonia-based products & ferrocyanide product is NOT considered environmentally preferred. You will NOT qualify for this credit if it is used more than 80% of the time.

Ice Melt Products That Fit LEED Requirements: (0% CHLORIDES)

Granular: Pure CMA (100% calcium magnesium acetate)

Granular: Pure NaAc (100% sodium acetate)

Liquid: Clean Sweep (liquid CMA)

Liquid: Green Earth Winterizer (liquid potassium acetate)