

LEED™ and Eco-Stone® & Aqua-Bric® ...scoring points!

The U.S. Green Building Council is the nation's foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry working together to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) represents their effort to provide a national standard for what constitutes a "green building". Through its use as a design guideline, and third party certification tool, LEED aims to improve occupant well-being, environmental performance and economic returns of buildings using innovative practices, standards and technologies. Many municipalities are now requiring city-owned or funded projects to achieve LEED objectives and while private sector participation is voluntary, a number of architectural firms and landscape architects are incorporating sustainable design into their projects. LEED uses a point rating system that recognizes and rewards sustainable landscape architecture, site and building design. As permeable interlocking concrete pavers, Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric can earn points or "credits" in the LEED rating system.

Credit 5.1 – 1 to 2 points for Local Materials

By using a minimum of 20% of building materials that are manufactured regionally within a radius of 500 miles earns 1 point. If 50% of the regionally manufactured materials are extracted, harvested or recovered within this same radius, this also earns 1 point. Because Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric are manufactured at our facility located in Westford, MA, you can earn a total of 2 points for this credit.

Credit 6.1 – 1 point for Runoff Reduction

One point is earned if runoff rate and quantity is reduced by at least 25% for building sites where the existing impervious area is greater than 50%. Because Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric permeable interlocking concrete pavements can reduce runoff to zero for the most frequent storm, you earn 1 point.

Credit 6.2 – 1 point for Cleaning-up Runoff

This credit allows one point for treatment systems designed to remove 80% of the average annual post development total suspended solids (TSS), and 40% of the average annual post development total phosphorus (TP). Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric permeable pavements have been shown to reduce these pollutants in even greater percentages with reductions in TSS as high as 95% and TP as much as 70% so you earn 1 point.

Credit 7.1 – 1 point for being "Cool"

Heat islands may be nice for winter vacation spots but not when they refer to thermal gradient differences between developed and undeveloped areas. As rainwater runs across asphalt pavement, it absorbs heat and the temperature of the water increases. Even a few degrees can have a negative impact on aquatic and wildlife habitat. One point is earned by landscape and exterior design that reduces heat islands. Median strips of Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric that act to quickly drain water off of impervious asphalt pavements can help avoid increases in water temperature.

Light colored materials that do not absorb heat earn one point under Credit 7 if the reflectance of at least 0.3 for 30% of the site's non-roof impervious surfaces, i.e., pavements is accomplished. According to a study conducted in 2000 by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, new asphalt exhibited an albedo of 0.04 and five year-old pavements 0.12, substantially lower than the 0.3 recommended in the LEED rating system. Fresh concrete has an albedo of about 0.35. Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric are available in several colors with light tones.

Eco-Stone & Aqua-Bric...LEED the way for Points!

LEED recognizes products, such as Eco-Stone and Aqua-Bric, as point earners by being made regionally using local materials as well as products that reduce runoff, capture pollution and reduce water temperature. These permeable concrete pavers can contribute LEED credits to sites and buildings evaluated under the LEED rating and certification.

ICPI Tech Spec 16...Achieving LEED® Credits with Segmental Concrete Pavement

This in depth specification focuses on LEED credits as they relate to the use of interlocking concrete pavers and is available through the **Designer's Corner** of our website at www.IdealConcreteBlock.com.



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