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## SS Credit 5.2: Site Development: Maximize Open Space

### 1 Point

#### Intent

Provide a high ratio of open space to development footprint to promote biodiversity.

#### Requirements

##### OPTION 1

Reduce the development footprint (defined as the total area of the building footprint, hardscape, access roads and parking) and/or provide vegetated open space within the project boundary to exceed the local zoning's open space requirement for the site by 25%.

OR

##### OPTION 2

For areas with no local zoning requirements (e.g., some university campuses, military bases), provide vegetated open space area adjacent to the building that is equal to the building footprint.

OR

##### OPTION 3

Where a zoning ordinance exists, but there is no requirement for open space (zero), provide vegetated open space equal to 20% of the project's site area.

#### ALL OPTIONS:

- For projects located in urban areas that earn SS Credit 2, vegetated roof areas can contribute to credit compliance.
- For projects located in urban areas that earn SS Credit 2, pedestrian oriented hardscape areas can contribute to credit compliance. For such projects, a minimum of 25% of the open space counted must be vegetated.
- Wetlands or naturally designed ponds may count as open space if the side slope gradients average 1:4 (vertical: horizontal) or less and are vegetated.

#### Potential Technologies & Strategies

Perform a site survey to identify site elements and adopt a master plan for development of the project site. Select a suitable building location and design the building with a minimal footprint to minimize site disruption. Strategies include stacking the building program, tuck-under parking and sharing facilities with neighbors to maximize open space on the site.