

# Green Roof

A green roof is a flat or gradually sloped roof that is partially or completely covered with vegetation. Most green roofs have layers of material that keep the interior of the building dry, slow the movement of water off the roof, keep the plants alive, and reduce runoff. These layers include a waterproof liner, drainage materials, and growing media. Green roofs have special plants that are adapted to surviving high temperatures and drought conditions, and many include plant species that absorb pollutants.

Some green roofs act as recreational spaces, rooftop decks, community gardens, and meditation paths. This conservation practice requires special planning and can cost more initially, but it protects the watershed by managing stormwater and also reduces long-term costs of heating and cooling!



## Benefits and Uses:

- Reduces runoff
- Reduces heating and cooling costs
- Absorbs pollutants
- Improves air quality
- Provides food and habitat for wildlife
- Reduces greenhouse gases
- Beautifies the view
- Absorbs sound pollution
- Lowers urban air temperatures

