

Green Roofs

50 - 60%

The estimated runoff volume reduction from green roofs

**\$5 - \$15
per square foot**

The average cost for a green roof, including any structural reinforcement

Green roofs are also a good use for an attached garage with a flat roof area.

Help Protect Your Watershed

Green roofs reduce water runoff by covering conventional flat or sloped roofs with a waterproof membrane, soil and vegetation. The types of vegetation used on green roofs include grasses, mosses, and even shrubs and trees. Water that does not evaporate or remain in the soil exits the roof through drains or downspouts.

Note: It is extremely important that you check with an expert to determine the structural ability of your roof to support the additional weight of a green roof.

Green roofs have many other benefits, including:

- Extending the life of a conventional roof by up to 20 years.
- Providing increased insulation and energy savings.
- Reducing air pollution.
- Providing habitat for wildlife.
- Increasing aesthetic value.
- Providing water quality treatment.
- Improvements for home and building heating and cooling

Things to Consider Before Building a Green Roof:

- Design for function; what it is supposed to do?
- Location
- Regulatory approvals permits, building codes
- Structure
- Roofing
- Plants
- Construction/Installation
- Maintenance -including irrigation if necessary
- Insurance and liability



Case Study

In Portland, Oregon, testing of green roofs showed rainwater retention on one roof ranging from 10% in the wet season to 100% in the non-peak season. If half the buildings in downtown Portland had green roofs, 66 million gallons of water would be retained per year.

If you would like more information, please check our web site at:
www.mmsd.com or call
414-272-5100



*In cooperation with the
2020 Facilities Plan*

