

Green Roof Service LLC presents:

September 9, 2013

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3646 Roland Avenue
 Baltimore, MD 21211
 Phone: 443-345-1578



Green Roof Plant of the Month:



Brush up on your green roof plant knowledge with a new plant every month! Only on our Green Roof Plant Blog!



Highlighting Baltimore's Green Roofs

Learn a bit more about the green roofs in our hometown of Baltimore!



Green Roofs Protect Solar Panels and Micro-Inverters

Learn how an integrated solar garden could save your building from a blazing fire.



Revisiting an Award Winning Green Roof

Green Roof Technology had the pleasure to work with Royal Caribbean to design and implement natural grass lawns on five of their cruise ships. Check out how these lawns have been doing the past few years.



Hudson Street Green Wall

Green Roof Technology will soon be installing a series of custom planters that will support a variety of vines which will adorn the walls of the Hudson Street Garage Building, the headquarters of the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning.

Highlighting Baltimore's Green Roofs

With a growing number of green roofs appearing, the city of Baltimore is slowly climbing up the green ladder. I wanted to take some time to highlight a few green roofs located right in our neighborhood. In a dense urban setting, green roofs can play a huge role in sustainability efforts because of their ability to mitigate storm water during large rain events. Urban watersheds are especially vulnerable to environmental issues consequence of a high density of people mixed with large amounts of impervious surface area.

1. Baltimore's National Aquarium

Created to aid the aquarium's conservation efforts, the extensive green roof atop the National Aquarium in Baltimore stretched for 4,000 square feet. Built in 2005 by the Furbish Company, the flourishing roof has been a pleasant addition to the inner harbor.



The largest of them all, at 32,000 square feet would be located on the Hilton Hotel, installed by the Furbish Company in 2008. Adjacent to the Baltimore Convention Center and Camden Yards, the hotel has 757 rooms available. The green roofs reside on both the east and west wings of the building and create additional outdoor green space for citizens to enjoy.

2. Hilton Hotel



3. Baltimore Convention Center



The Baltimore Convention Center followed in 2010, with the Barrett Company working to install a 15,000 square foot green roof. Doubling as a recreational area, this roof has been transformed into a green oasis in the heart of an urban space.

4. Mary Catherine Bunting Center at Mercy Medical Center



Also in 2010, Mercy Medical Center stepped up and installed three green rooftops to assist with patient health. With 17,500 square feet, these intensive green roofs are also viewed from many of the patient's windows. This project was completed with the help of Mahan Rykiel Associates.

An increase in green space in Baltimore is a fantastic step toward a more sustainable city. Keep up the good work Baltimore!

Green Roofs Protect Solar Panels and Micro-Inverters



Over the holiday weekend a massive 11-alarm blaze erupted at the Dietz & Watson distribution center in South Jersey. The very destructive fire burned for nearly a day due to a peculiar reason - the 300,000 square foot building had more than 7,000 solar panels on its roof. Instead of being able to tackle the fire from close range, firefighters were forced to fight the fire from a distance in order to avoid any risk of electrocution from the solar panels. Most solar panel arrays do not have a simple on/off switch, or a master breaker. So long as the sun is shining, the panels are producing electricity. Individually, a solar panel does not create enough volts to harm a person, but when solar

panels are strung together to a single converter, the power of each panel is accrued, creating a deadly situation for anyone near the array during an emergency situation.

While no specific forensic evidence has been issued yet, experts in the field of roofing and solar panels already agree that the fire may have started due to the intense heat that is created between low-lying solar panels and reflective white roofing membrane. Extreme rooftop temperatures can be effectively controlled by installing green roofs below solar panels. Countless studies have shown that the surface temperature of extensive green roofs rarely exceeds 86°F. When solar panels and green roofs are integrated, i.e. a Solar Garden Roof System, rooftop and solar panel temperatures are significantly reduced. Lower rooftop temperatures means greater energy production and may potentially save your building from destruction.

Randall's Island, NYC. The Solar Garden Roof System is uniquely designed to grow plants under PV Panels - protecting the panels and microinverters from extreme rooftop heat. Our system produces more energy and prolongs the life of your solar equipment.



Revisiting an Award Winning Green Roof



Green Roof Technology has had the pleasure of working with Royal Caribbean to design and implement natural grass lawns on five of their flagship Celebrity Cruises vessels. Each Solstice Class ship is equipped with over 20,000 square feet of lush fairway quality grass. We are thrilled to be able to say that our green roofs have sailed around the world countless times.

This past week Jorg was asked to check in on one ship that is currently sailing about the Mediterranean Sea. A minor disruption had occurred in the irrigation system and needed to be attended to. Armed with myriad sensors and software updates, Jorg jetted off to Rome to meet up with the ship in port. Jorg returns next week and we will update you with a complete report of his excursion.

Hudson Street Green Wall



The Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning has recently renovated its headquarters in the Canton neighborhood, Baltimore, MD. A much improved exterior is soon to pair with an entirely new interior. Next month, Green Roof Technology will be installing a series of custom planters that will support a variety of vines that will adorn the walls of the Hudson Street Garage Building. A steel wire trellis system will provide the support the vines need to grow about the walls. Three new street trees will also be planted out front of the building, adding to the greening objective of the Coalition.

We are all looking forward to beginning construction in September and we will be sure to post a few pictures for you all to enjoy.