

Green Roof Service LLC presents:

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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!



### One Size Fits All

We all know how untrue this statement may be, especially when trying to create a uniform green roof.



### Designing for Resiliency in an Age of Uncertainty

Resiliency was the motto of the 11th Cities Alive conference held in San Francisco last week. With more than 100 speakers, the conference demonstrated once again that modern green roof technology and living architecture are essential to address resiliency by adapting to urban environmental changes and climate change.



### Solar Garden Roof Study

An extensive study about the fully integrated Photovoltaic and Green Roof solution is finally available in English!



### Unterm Regenturm: Under the Raintower

This building came alive in 1992, with tons of lush greenery from a courtyard on top of the parking garage to a handful of green roofs!

## One Size Fits All



Or does it? We're not talking about baseball caps or a pair of mittens here. Green roofs are a living system that on their own should thrive heartily in the environment in which they reside. Not all green roofs are similar, nor should they be. Diverse climates call for various approaches in construction a green roof to handle precipitation efficiently. The vegetation for any green roof should reflect local climate and growing conditions.

Uniform systems will most likely work out fine, but depending on the region, may need constant maintenance to uphold the health of the green roof. At this point, the question is if the green roof is actually doing its job. A green roof is supposed to thrive naturally, as a part of the ecosystem. It defeats the purpose when an irrigation system is put in place or the green roof is over maintained to avoid natural diversity.

Each green roof should be unique in a way that works most efficiently for that particular location. Here at Green Roof Technology we strive to create a living space that will thrive under specific conditions. There should be very little need for additional time, effort and money once a green roof has been put in place.

## Designing for Resiliency in an Age of Uncertainty



Resiliency was the motto of the 11th Cities Alive conference held in San Francisco last week. With more than 100 speakers, the conference demonstrated once again that modern green roof technology and living architecture are essential to address resiliency by adapting to urban environmental changes and climate change. Large scale extensive green roofs without permanent irrigation or solar garden roofs are the most sustainable solution for reducing the continuously mounting costs of disasters that are weather or climate related.

The conference disclosed many new details about cutting edge designs and it is now time to see how these can be implemented, how effective and how economical they are. Especially in cities where we created habitats for ourselves with asphalt and concrete. The conference showed refreshing trends for more natural environments. It isn't known whether rooftop farms (urban farming) are a solution, but these efforts create awareness, recreation and educate about living organisms and the importance in reducing food waste.

In different presentations, the combination of solar (PV) and extensive green roofs were marked as the most efficient roof top addition with the highest payback for the owner and the environment. Our solar garden roof fits perfectly into this future trend.

Great conference and great people, thank you GRHC.

## Solar Garden Roof Study



An extensive study about the fully integrated Photovoltaic and Green Roof solution is finally available in English. Green Roof Service LLC / Green Roof Technology performed excellent work that demonstrates all the features of a Solar Garden Roof and Sun-Root™ module.

Successfully implemented on European projects over more than 5 years, the Solar Garden Roof can now catch-up in North America. "I am often wondering, why the American market is hesitating in regards of living green innovation," says Jörg Breuning, "the savings or payback potential of green living technologies is in the US so much higher than in any other country of the world."

It is estimated that Washington, DC alone has a potential of over 2 Million square feet of green roofs combined with PV in the next 24 months. This could reduce the stormwater run-off by over 25 Million Gallons per year and produce over 26 Megawatt hours of electricity in only 12 months. Most of these smart rooftop solutions would actually payback in less than 5 years.

A bare roof with exposed water proofing has no payback.

Interested developer, architects and planners are welcome to visit two demonstration projects – one in New York, Randal's Island and another one in the DC area at Prospect Solar.

The system will be also presented at Cities Alive in San Francisco next week.

Download : [Solar Garden Roof Study](#)

## Unterm Regenturm: Under the Raintower



Wohnen unterm Regenturm

Plochingen, 1991-1994  
Foto: Peter Mosdzen

In 1992 Jörg Breuning, Green Roof Service LLC and Thomas Heuman, Heuman Gartenanlagen provided consulting services to Hundertwasser's architects, Springmann and Associates. It was quite an effort the contemporary artist and the City of Plochingen to develop an entire block of the city's historical district. This city has been around since the year 1146.

From the outside the historical buildings still remain the same and all facing to an intensive greenroof courtyard in the back. This courtyard and the backside of the buildings received an artists' distinguished signature in 1993. Efficient and gorgeous, the entire courtyard resides on a two story parking garage and grocery store, meanwhile the lush green environment above creates a different feeling. Hundreds of various plants decorate the landscape with paving materials snaking their way through to make perfect paths. The sloped roofs facing the courtyard are also fully or partially greened. Approximately fifty green roofs occupy the colorful, wavy historical buildings.

This particular construction of modern green roof technology underlines the artist's inspirations as well as supports diverse vegetation. The structure is a magnet to tourists and a true landmark of the region for over twenty years and well worth a visit!