



GREEN ROOF  
REVIVAL

## AD-HOC & ROUTINE CARE PACKAGES



Once your green roof (new, or recently revived) has been handed over, we strongly recommend a maintenance regime be put in place. While we design and install every roof to thrive year after year, a big part of ensuring that happens is to undertake a visual inspection and perform some simple tasks a couple of times a year (see over).

The national GRO guidelines advise that every green roof is inspected once or twice a year. For sedum roofs this will be in the Spring so that any feeding that's required takes place ahead of the growing season. For meadow roofs, this will happen with the 'hay cut' in high/late summer (July-early August) that manages grass development, with the possibility of a further cut &/or leaf-litter removal to prepare for over-wintering. HayBase really only needs one visit in late summer to cut and remove biomass as it tends to be more grassy over time. Note that the feed given to sedum roofs may encourage invasive growth and imply reactive visits to remove unwanted growth.

'A stitch in time saves nine' - investing in skilled green roof maintenance can help catch problems with loose or broken tiles, cracked pipes or render for example, before they become more serious, potentially saving thousands on more substantial interventions.

Our revival service is designed for roofs which have not been cared for or were not installed adequately in the first place. We have a range of options to suit your budget, including a diagnostic reporting service in the event of dispute.



### GRO GUIDELINES TO OVERVIEW

#### ✓ Recommended care regime

When designing a green roof, it is important that the green roof system is specified accounting for any budgetary constraints. The costs of roof maintenance should therefore form part of the life cycle cost analysis for the building, allowing the most appropriate green roof specification to be realised.

#### ✓ Frequency

Y1 & Y2 - two visits per year to assist in plant establishment. During this time the roof should also be monitored by the owner and any questions or concerns passed asap to installer - eg during extended wet or hot/dry periods. Additional overseeding may be required to support establishment.

Y3+ typically one visit per year (Sedum in Spring, Meadow in late summer) with optional visit to prepare for over-wintering where conditions require (eg leaf litter)

#### ✓ Feeding

Not required on biodiverse roofs, particularly where indigenous species are being encouraged to replicate native habitats. Whilst a low vegetative density is common, zero vegetation is generally undesirable.

#### ✓ Plant Management:

Every roof develops in different ways for different reasons and that's part of their joy. They can also develop at different rates. We're there with you throughout their development to advise and coax them along if needed. Climate-change influenced weather is changing existing best practice, and

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#### CLIENTS



# Be part of the **Nature Recovery Network**

A Nature Recovery Network will protect, join up and enhance the fragments of nature that remain – for people and wildlife



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## CONTRACT AND REACTIVE MAINTENANCE CORE ELEMENTS FOR ONGOING ROOF HEALTH



### CLEAR DRAINAGE CHANNELS

The drainage outlets and channels perform an important function, enabling excess water to clear the roof and avoid water logging the roots of the wildflowers. One of the important elements of the regular inspections is to ensure that excess biomass does not build up and diminish outflow rates



### INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

There are a number of plants that should be removed when found on a green roof, either because they have aggressive taproots (e.g. Sow Thistle) or tend to outcompete native wildflowers (e.g. grasses). If you have opted for a sedum roof, windblown invasive species can quickly make your roof look unkempt and unloved.



### INSPECT BUILDING FABRIC

The various elements of your building can be checked for small problems to avoid costly bills - flaking paint, cracked mortar, and broken mastic seals and are much easier and cheaper to fix before the issue spreads.



### CLEAN PV & SKYLIGHTS

Solar panels and roof glazing are often sold as self-cleaning but this is rarely the case in our experience. Asking a green roofer to give your surfaces a clean is a lot more sensible than asking a window cleaner to be careful with your plants!



### LEAF LITTER REMOVAL

The best time for a meadow roof to have a care visit is in the high summer to give the wildflowers the best chance of diversity. If your green roof is surrounded by trees, its worth thinking about a quick rake or blow once they have all dropped to avoid leaves causing gaps in the plants next year.



### SUPPORT PLANT DEVELOPMENT

Our signature habitat roofs in particular require expert care in the first few years to ensure the plant communities we design continue to thrive. While we do not guarantee particular plant coverage levels - every roof is influenced by climate, aspect and locale - we do undertake to ensure that the roof is developing at the rate it should and to coax it along as needed including adding plug plants and overseeding if required.

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to bring back wildlife to every  
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