



Green Roofs Maintenance Procedure

This Set of procedures is a guide explaining the maintenance necessary to keep a green roof how it was initially designed.

An Eco green roof is designed to meet the specific clients requirements for any project and will provide a long-term solution with a vary of habitats at roof level. With some basic maintenance the roof will continue to deliver the environmental benefits it was intended for.

Most living roofs contain a plant community with a variety of native species to meet the planning and building code requirements. Some however can be desingned to meet an aesthetic design criteria.

General Maintenance

The plant selection on each project includes a species mix that will provide a balanced plant community on the roof, this will require basic maintenance if this is to be sustained in the long term.

Living roof maintenance is best carried out twice to four times annually, during springtime and in late autumn. Monitoring the effect of leaf litter to the vegetation is important, it can be seen to add to the bio diversity but it may need to be removed if it is effecting the plant life.

The following procedures should be carried out to ensure the roof is well maintained and to protect any guarantees.

Note:

Specifically designed living roof areas should be disturbed as little as possible whilst any maintenance is carried out. This is to try and not upset any of the micro-habitats that may have colonised on the roof.

Preliminary Maintenance:

- Ensure Safe access can be gained on the roof and that all of the relevant health and safety procedures are followed.
- Eco Green Roofs Recommends removal of leaf litter that has fallen from any surrounding trees both spring and autumn. This is to stop the leaves smothering the vegetation.
- To remove excess bio mass trim down any dead vegetation then this should be removed and disposed of at ground level.
- Ensure all outlets are unblocked and the roof is able to drain freely
- Check all trims are fixed safely
- Ensure any new items of plant or machinery have a necessary fire break between them and the vegetation
- Any damage made to the vegetation or green roof system Eco green roofs should be contacted immediately
- Ensure all outlets are unblocked and the roof is able to drain freely, this is because waterlogging can be as damaging to a wildflower sward as drought. Therefore it is a requirement to check the drainage outlets regularly to ensure the roof drainage outlets are working as they should be. This will help keep the roof moist but not waterlogged.

Maintenance on the vegetation and Green Roof system.

- Remove any unwanted vegetation that may have encroached the drainage outlets, walkways or Fire breaks.
- If any movement or settlement to the fire/ vegetation break has occurred simply top up these areas with more pebbles.
- Remove any tree saplings



- green roofs are generally left to naturally take their own course. If there are certain plant types that are un-desirable these can also be removed.
- Fertiliser can be added as a last resort if the plants are looking distressed.
- We would suggest the removal of evasive plant types, these include tree saplings, nettles, wild grasses, thistles and buddleia
- If the vegetation grows in excess of 250-300mm we recommend this to be trimmed back to 75-100mm. The high growth suggests a high nutrient level in the substrate, which although is blended to be nutrient poor to stop such growth, this must be monitored to keep the bio diversity high. (cuttings should be bagged up and removed from the roof to prevent the release of nutrients back into the substrates.
- Although irrigation is not needed regularly in extreme dry periods a water supply should be present at roof level.

* This should only be used as a guide, Eco green roofs will not take responsibility for a roof that is not under a maintenance contract with Eco Green Roofs.





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