

# Amazon Creek Initiative

Best Management Practices for a Healthy Creek, and a Healthy Community



*Eco Roofs* are vegetated roof tops that filter stormwater through plants and soil. They slow down and reduce the amount of stormwater that leaves your site, helping to improve downstream waters. Eco Roofs also attract beneficial insects and birds who are drawn to flowering succulent plants. Eco Roofs not only help to manage stormwater, they also provide energy savings by reducing heating and cooling in buildings.

Not all buildings are suitable for Eco Roofs due to weight restrictions. However, smaller structures (like bike shelters or overhangs) are great sites to demonstrate an eco roof on your business.

For a free site visit to determine if Eco Roofs are suitable for you, contact Jason Schmidt at the Long Tom Watershed Council.

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Photo by Oregon Garden



Photo by EcoRoofs Everywhere

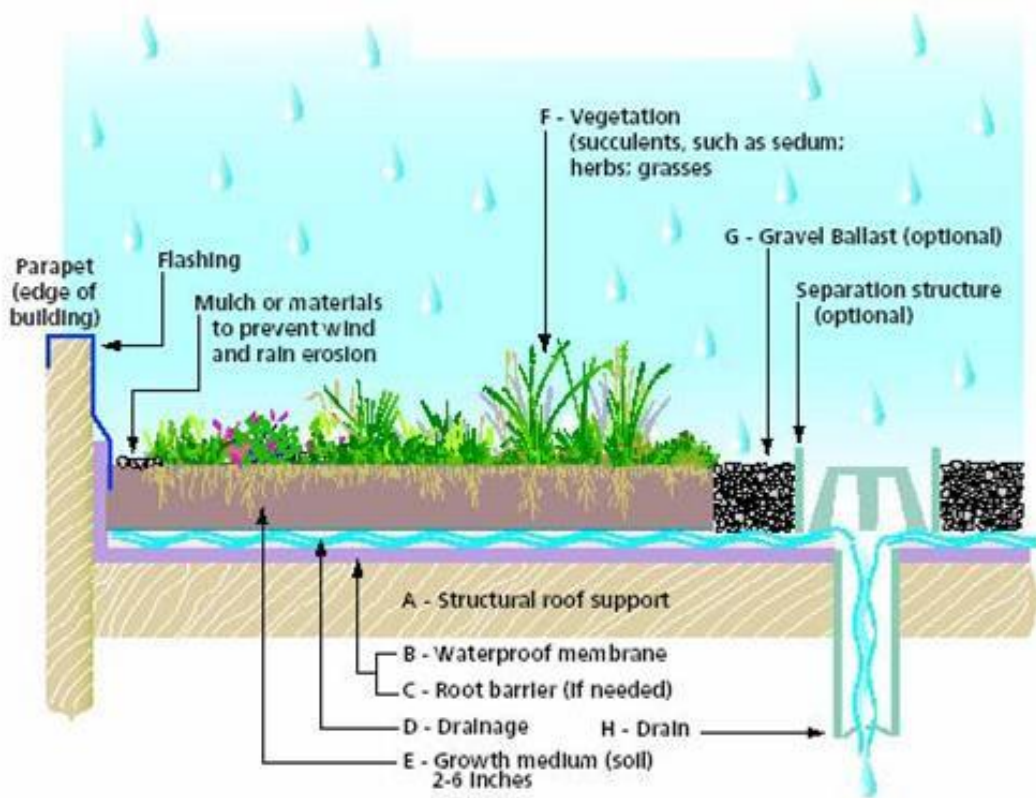


Image from City of Eugene

### Considerations:

- Existing roofs must be able to withstand the additional weight of plants, soil, and water (at least 25-30 pounds per square foot).
- Contact the City of Eugene for an engineering review of your building.
- There are premade eco roof trays that may be suitable rather than planting the roof from scratch.
- Eco Roofs have a longer lifespan than traditional roofs.

### Resources:

- Long Tom Watershed Council:  
[www.longtom.org](http://www.longtom.org)
- EPA Eco Roof information:  
<http://www.epa.gov/hiri/mitigation/greenroofs.htm>
- City of Eugene Stormwater Management Manual — Eco Roofs:  
<http://www.eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/4547>

