



Glorious Green Roofs

This Inner Forth Landscape Initiative project, funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, Central Scotland Green Network and Life+, aims to create up to 200m² of green roof within the Inner Forth area. Buglife is currently looking for locations for the green roofs.

For more information on the project and how to get involved if you think you have a suitable flat or shallow pitched roof, please contact Suzanne Bairner on suzanne.bairner@buglife.org.uk Phone 01786 447504

Further reading:

- Guidelines for the planning, execution and upkeep of Green roof sites: <http://www.greenroofsouth.co.uk/FLL%20Guidelines.pdf>
- Buglife– Creating Green Roofs for Invertebrates; a best practice guide: http://www.buglife.org.uk/sites/default/files/Creating%20Green%20Roofs%20for%20Invertebrates_Best%20practice%20guidance.pdf
- Green roof developers guide: http://www.greenroofguide.co.uk/downloads/dev_guide_v3.pdf



buglife.org.uk 01786 447504 @buzz_dont_tweet

Buglife The Invertebrate Conservation Trust is a registered charity at Bug House, Ham Lane, Orton Waterville, Peterborough, PE2 5UU Registered Charity No: 1092293, Scottish Charity No: SC040004, Company No: 4132695

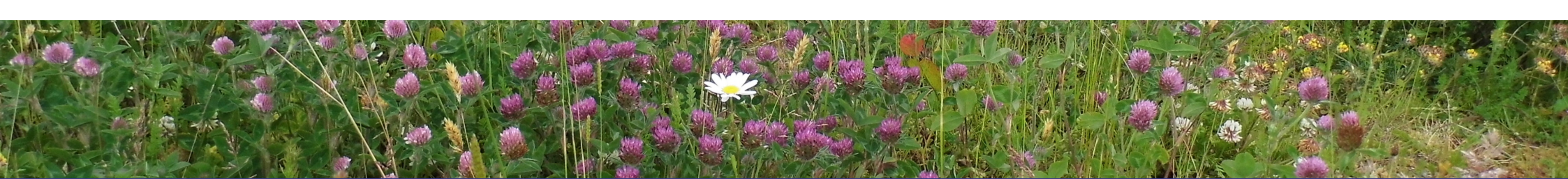
Glorious Green Roofs!

A 'green roof' or 'living roof' is one that is partially or completely covered with vegetation. Although green roofs have been around for centuries, it is only recently they have been made with a system of manufactured layers that support the growing medium and vegetation. As a result they now deliver a range of benefits for both the building and wildlife.

Buglife is looking for sites for the installation of green roofs within the Inner Forth area. Please read on for more information about the benefits of green roofs and how you and your organisation can be part of this project.



Examples of two wildlife-friendly green roofs in the UK



Green roof benefits

Buglife is promoting the installation of green roofs because they are important for wildlife, especially invertebrates. They almost always provide a number of other benefits including:

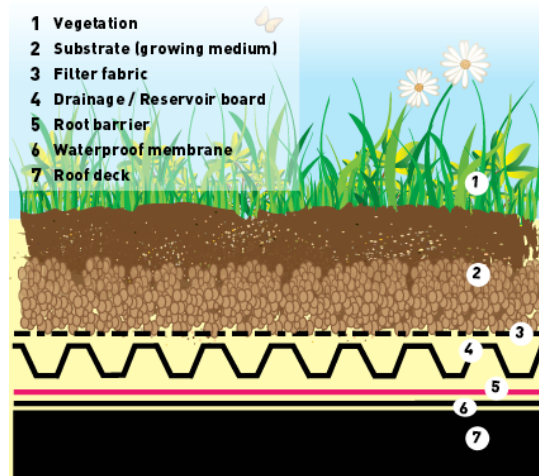
- Improving building insulation and cooling
- Increasing roof lifespan
- Providing sustainable drainage, and reducing the size and complexity of site drainage systems
- Reducing CO₂ emissions
- Increasing the value of the building /development
- Positive benefits to staff health and well-being
- Improving air quality and noise reduction
- Enhancement of the environment

The installation of a green roof provides significant savings by extending the lifespan of the roof and increasing energy savings through improved insulation in winter and cooling in summer.



Things we will consider when designing a green roof:

- Dead load capacity (weight) that the roof exerts onto a building
- Drainage outlets to allow excess water to escape
- Waterproofing and root barriers (see figure below)
- Substrate (growing medium) type and depth



Green roofs are made up of a number of engineered layers. The waterproofing layer and the root barrier are particularly important. The figure on left shows a section through a modern green roof.

Management

Green roofs usually require maintenance visits twice a year (e.g. to inspect drainage outlets). Weeding, mowing, and trimming will also need to be done every so often, depending on the kind of vegetation they carry.

