



June 29, 2005

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF "GREEN ROOF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT"
FOR THE IPSWICH RIVER WATERSHED**

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) is seeking a publicly owned site within the Ipswich River watershed for a Green Roof demonstration project. Both new roof and re-roofing projects will be considered candidates. This project is one of nine pilot projects intended to demonstrate the feasibility of low-impact development and water conservation techniques in restoring flows to the Ipswich River watershed. The project is funded through an EPA Targeted Watershed grant.

A green roof is a low-maintenance vegetated roof system that retains rainwater in a lightweight engineered soil medium, where the water is taken up by plants and transpired into the air. Green roofs can reduce the volume of rooftop runoff, improve water quality, and reduce heating and cooling needs. In some locations, they can also serve as a great outdoor space or be used for educational purposes.

The goals of this pilot project are to:

- Demonstrate the use of a green roof as a means to reduce site runoff and nonpoint source pollution
- Quantify the retention of rainfall by the green roof
- Quantify pollutant removal associated with the green roof
- Reduce nonpoint source pollution to nearby wetlands and/or tributary streams
- Improve energy efficiency of building (not quantified for the purposes of this project)

Funding and Timeline

The Targeted Watersheds grant includes up to \$120,000 for this project, which would partially fund the cost of design and installation. Municipalities would be expected to share in the cost of the project.

Design and construction of the green roof should be completed no later than December 2006.

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Lt. Governor

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For More Information

Interested municipalities and government agencies are urged to contact the following within the next few weeks to discuss candidate sites for the Green Roof demonstration project.

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