

Ecoroof - Marconi Ave

Project Overview

We started the ecoroof project as a way to maximize the possible greenery on our front yard and at the same time create a new entrance to our house on the street side. This was part of a larger project to landscape the entire front yard. The previous owners of the house had covered the entire lot with concrete. The goal was to create a new entry, front garden, small patio and a front porch under an awning. The old entrance was tucked to the side of the house facing North. The new design brought the entrance facing west and the street. The design of the project was to create a balanced pleasing visual look creating a large awning for the front entrance and cover for a small entry deck. Dan Manning was hired to provide and install the roof membrane and the vegetated portion of the roof. Tom Miller Construction built the roof, new entrance and deck.



Design Details

The ecoroof portion outlines the newly constructed 192 sq. ft. roof. The new awning required a wide fascia (2ft) to balance and create balanced massing with the existing house structure. This created a perfect amount of space to fit the structural requirements for the ecoroof behind the wide fascia. The new orientation facing west works well for the vegetation. One side of the roof is supported on the existing house and three posts with concrete footings support the other side. In addition one post is also reinforced with a steel C-channel. Ornamental blue grass and a mix of sedum clippings was planted on the roof in a mix of soil. The planting was spread out equally in order for it to grow out and eventually become an even mix over the roof. A small area of rock surrounds the drain. The green roof is manually irrigated. Other maintenance than the occasional watering should consist of clearing out any weeds or other debris if they were to accumulate. The roof is meant for viewing only but can be easily accessed from the balcony if needed.





Function of the Ecoroof

The ecoroof absorbs most of the rainfall that falls directly on the roof which improves the urban environment by providing habitat for flora and fauna as well as is aesthetically pleasing. It can be seen from above from our upstairs balcony and from the North end of Marconi Ave as well as from the houses up the hill across the street.

Once the initial plants have established we look forward to experimenting with some new varieties of plants to bring color and texture and to attract birds and other wildlife to our lot. Neighbors and passers-by have shown great enthusiasm towards the green roof. The house is also situated along a popular bike route and the bike riders comments have all been positive. We all look forward to the plants to establish themselves and to really become a visible feature from the street. Our neighbor said to us: "You are real pioneers in this neighborhood!"



