

The First High Elevation Green Roof

Overview/Purpose: Blake Real Estate collaborated with Casey Trees Endowment Fund, DC Greenworks, DC Department of Health, and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation in order to install DC's first high elevation "green roof" on their tenant's building at 1425 K St.

Challenge: This project was focused on improving insulation and the roof's drainage system through an innovative green roof installation. The space was researched over a thirteen month period to determine how this project could serve the needs of the building and provided an interactive opportunity for the community to engage in sustainable growth technology.



Green roofs are popping up on buildings throughout the district

Solution: First the existing roof was retrofitted and an electronic leak protection system was set up. Then 35,000 lbs. of soil and 1,000 one inch succulent plants were hand-planted by at-risk youth involved in a "green collar" job training program. A weather monitoring system was also installed to track the roof's environmental impact. Since initial watering and planting the roof has needed no further maintenance.



Blake Real Estate's Building at 1425 K St.

Results: Blake Real Estate's K St. location:

- Serves as an example for the community of successful sustainable growth technology, educating over 4,000 people on green roof technology since 2004
- Is the first and largest high elevation, urban high density green roof project in a commercial zone

Today, the 1425 K Street green roof serves as an interactive research project dedicated to educating the community on sustainable growth technology.