

Learn about the Fox Lake District Library's Green Roof!

What is a "green roof"?

A green (or "vegetated") roof is an innovative development of modern architecture that is being more frequently used as people become concerned about the environment. It consists of trays or other containers filled with a growing medium and special plants and covers an existing roof surface.

What's so great about a green roof?

A green roof helps the environment in many ways. First, the plant trays that make up the green roof absorb rain water that would otherwise run off into sewers. Filled with a special growing medium and made of recycled materials, the trays themselves help insulate the building they are used on. The plants they contain emit oxygen into the environment. And, finally, a green roof is beautiful and interesting to look at—it's a "win-win" situation all around!

Where is the Fox Lake Library's green roof?

The library's green roof is located over the café, Friends room, and rear entrance lobby. It can be viewed from the second floor windows next to the public rest rooms.

How many plants make up the green roof, and what sort of plants are they?

The green roof began with approximately 1880 spreading plants in over 200 trays! They are special varieties of sedum that are able to withstand extremes in temperature, dryness and sunlight. The varieties include:

- Sedum "Bailey's Gold"
- Sedum Kamtschaticum
- Sedum Reflexum
- Sedum Sexangular
- Sedum Spurium "Fuldaglut"

Can we go out on the roof to see the green roof plants up close?

No—unfortunately, due to safety concerns, you are not allowed to go out to view the green roof. But feel free to watch it from inside the library as it grows and changes through the seasons!

Fox Lake District Library

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www.fllib.org