



Greenroofs.com Announces the “2009 Top 10 List of Hot Trends in Greenroof Design”

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Alpharetta, GA. 2009 marks the third year of Greenroofs.com's "Top 10 List of Hot Trends in Greenroof Design." Compiled by Publisher Linda S. Velazquez, ASLA Associate and *LEED AP*, and Design Editor Haven Kiers, MLA, the Top 10 List was presented on Friday, June 5, 2009 at the 7th Annual *Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities Conference, Awards and Trade Show* in Atlanta, GA.

In 2007, we explored "chic sustainability" and looked at examples of trailblazing and trendsetting greenroof design. Last year, we turned to greenroof industry professionals for inspiration and guidance and asked them to share their top 10 trends of 2008 with us. Together we chose "The Influence of LEED on Design Professionals = Pushing the Green Envelope," "Sky High Cool Green Schools," and "Eco-Communities & Eco-Cities" for the top three spots. This year, the projects we have chosen all share a similar concept - the desire to improve their surrounding environment. The focus of the Top 10 Trends of 2009 is on greenroof design as a means to combat problems in our world of the built environment versus nature, and restore sustainability to the eco-system.

Although environmental drivers have always played a role in greenroof development, until recently they have taken a backseat to the flashier concepts of style and high design. The greenroofs previously garnering the most attention were the ones that skillfully blended vegetation with sleek proportions and transformed buildings into works of art. This year's selection of greenroof projects still has that "wow" effect, with the exception that now aesthetics have become increasingly subservient to environmental and social functionality. These projects tackle global warming, stormwater run-off, decreased biodiversity, societal responsibility and other ecological issues with a combination of grit and style previously lacking in building design.

The Greenroofs.com Top 10 List of Hot Trends in Greenroof Design for 2009:

- 10) Client Specific 'Boutique' Greenroofs
- 9) Design Competitions: *Promoting Future Inspiration*
- 8) Earth-Sheltering for Sustainable Site Design
- 7) Master Plans – *Greenroofs in Every Corner*

- 6) Sustainable Stimulus: *Green Buildings Creating Green Collar Jobs*
- 5) LID Strategies: *Celebrating Water with Greenroofs, Rain Gardens, Stormwater Catchment & Beyond*
- 4) Championing the Green Machine: *Policy Driven Ecological Development*
- 3) Healthy, Efficient & Affordable Green Housing
- 2) Sky-High Green Living on the Rise: *Condos, Townhomes and Lofts*
- 1) **"Towers of Power" - Mega Vertical Structures Linking Earth and Sky**

Publisher Linda says, "The common element running through all the categories this year is the increasing shift in viewing the building not as a single physical element to be manipulated, but holistically – integrating the site, building envelope, and roof with cultural awareness – creating vegetated surfaces in 3-D and truly linking nature to human design."

See all the exciting projects highlighted in our third yearly installment of the *Top 10 List of Hot Greenroof Design Trends* in our PowerPoint Presentation online this week. Stay tuned with the Greenroofs.com blog: [Sky Gardens](#) ~ where cool green meets lofty blue.

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