



## Contact Information

**Institution Name:** Minneapolis Public Library  
**Institution Address:** 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401  
**Institution Telephone Number:** 612-630-6221  
**Project Name:** MPL Green Roof  
**Project start date:** Spring 2005  
**Project end date:** Fall 2005  
**Name of person completing form:** Ryan Curry

www.ebsco.com



## A. Green Mission

**What was the purpose of the project?** The purpose of the Green Roof at the MPL Central Library was multifaceted. Of course the Library Board wished to align actions with the policy set by the Library Board that outlines the goal of being an environmentally-friendly public entity. Most importantly, the purpose was to address environmental impact itself of managing storm water runoff (important in the downtown area of Minneapolis near to the Mississippi River), mitigating the heat island effect, and also constructing a longer lasting roof that will provide a long term net benefit to the public/taxpayers in terms of roof replacement costs and quality of environment.

## B. Challenges

**What challenges did you encounter with the project and how did you overcome them?** Funding the project was perhaps the biggest challenge. Once that was accomplished, the green roof was built to detailed specifications and a maintenance contract was set up for the time period required for the plant species to become established and sturdy. An automatic irrigation system and maintenance contract have taken care of most day-to-day requirements for operating the green roof.

## C. Benefits

**What benefits has your institution received as a result of this project? How has it positively impacted the mission of your institution?**

MPL has received many benefits:

- increased positive publicity notoriety over the new Library simply due to the green roof
- positive environmental impact for the City overall
- MPL has received a credit for its storm water runoff fee (a fee imposed by the City based on percentage of impervious surface area on all property)
- longer lasting roof (50 year projected replacement versus a normal 20 year estimate).