



## North America's first green roof mandatory regulation

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Toronto mandates that all new building roofs are "green roofs" starting January 2010. This is a big step for eco-friendly construction and will hopefully set a stage for a world-wide adoption of cool roof technologies.



Green roofs are cool roofs. Source: National Post

In addition, the city is offering subsidies to building owners who install green or cool roofs *before* the regulation goes in effect. While this doesn't seem like the best use of \$2.6 million in government funds to encourage adoption of eco-friendly roofing materials that will be mandatory in just a few months, I am going to avoid that topic in this post altogether (read the article [here](#)). After all, this blog is all about how to save money with a cool roof. What Toronto is doing is a good thing.

The program offers owners of commercial, industrial or institutional buildings can receive up to \$50/ square meter up to \$100,000 for a green roof (vegetation). The cool roof initiative (white roof / reflective roof coating) provides up to \$5/ square meter up to \$50,000.

The gist: governments have recognized the global importance of using rooftops to save money and the planet. I'll update this blog with any more information I find about tax

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rebates or initiatives. In the meantime, if you know of any, please leave comments below for other readers.