

# LOWER ENERGY USE AND COSTS.

## REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

Saving energy and reducing cooling costs are a key part of Mayor Bloomberg's PlaNYC initiative launched in 2007. Dark-colored roofs absorb heat and increase cooling costs. By coating your roof white, a "cool roof" reflects heat away from the roof and keeps the building more comfortable. Cool roof coatings help roofs to last longer, increase the efficiency of air conditioning equipment and greatly reduce peak energy use to avoid brownouts or blackouts during hot summer months. Read more to learn about the NYC °Cool Roofs program and ways that you can be a part of the cool roof movement.

**"The threat we face from the climate crisis is unsurpassed and smart policies like installing cool roofs are one way that we are going to meet the challenge."**

- Former U.S. Vice President Al Gore

### COLLECTIVE BENEFITS OF COOL ROOFS

#### 1. Reduce The Urban Heat Island Effect

—Cool roofs reduce the urban heat island effect by reflecting the sun's heat and could reduce the City's temperature by up to 1°F.

#### 2. Reduce Peak Load Energy Demand

—A reduction of 1°F can significantly reduce peak energy demand, considerably reducing the risk of brownouts and blackouts.

#### 3. Improved Environmental Quality

—Reduce smog by lowering temperatures and energy demand.

#### 4. Energy Cost Savings

—On summer days, air conditioning can account for approximately 40% of daily electricity use. White coatings can reduce these costs by 10-30% on average.

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### INDIVIDUAL BENEFITS OF COOL ROOFS

#### 1. Cost Savings from Reduced Energy Demand

—White rooftops can reduce the temperature of a roof by 30 °F.Reduced temperatures from white roofs could result in as much as50% savings on air conditioning costs in a 1-story building and 10% savings in a 5-story building.

#### 2. Cost Savings from Reduced Maintenance

—Roofs will last longer due to less heat damage. Air Conditionerunits will operate more efficiently and last longer.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Q: What are Cool Roof Coatings?

A: Cool roof coatings are coatings (like a thick paint) that will be rolled onto existing flat roofs. The coatings are highly reflective, white, and are simply applied to existing roofing. Cool roof coatings reflect 70% to 90% of the sun's energy when newly installed.

#### Q: What risks do I face as a building owner?

A: The application of coating will not hurt the roof. In fact, the coatings can extend the life of the roof and the Heat, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems on roof. Make sure to check your roof warranty before beginning coating.



#### Q: What types of roofs can receive a cool roof coating?

A: Suitable roof types include granule surfaces (white, grey or black), smooth asphalt (black or silvery finish), EPDM Rubber and smooth aluminum.

#### Q: What types of roofs are unsuitable for a cool roof coating?

A: Gravel roofs, spray foam, TPO, PVC, clay tile, wood shingles, slate and asphalt shingles. Additionally, roofs with a significant amount of pooling must be fixed before coating can be installed.

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### **Q: What are the first steps if I want to coat my roof?**

A: You should first check with your roof warranty. Following, learn more about the coating that would be appropriate for your roof type.

### **Q: How does the coating process work?**

A: The process itself is very simple: roofs must be cleaned and then receive two layers of coating with at least 24-hours drying time between coatings. The coating must be dry before it rains in order to be effective. Coating also must be done when temperatures will be above 50 °F in order to be effective.

### **Q: How can I learn more about roof coating?**

A: To find out more information about coating resources, please contact the Community Environmental Center at 718-784-1444 or visit the Cool Roofs Rating Council at <http://www.coolbuildings.info>

## **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

To register to be put on a volunteer list for the spring coating season, please contact: Bets Radley, Volunteer Coordinator, Green City Force, (718) 923 1400 ext. 237

[bets@greencityforce.org](mailto:bets@greencityforce.org)

To learn more about whether your building would be eligible for a Cool Roof, contact: Lynne Serpe, Community Liaison, Community Environmental Center, (718) 784 1444 ext.120

[lsерpe@cecenter.org](mailto:lsерpe@cecenter.org)

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the NYC °Cool Roofs program, contact: Jenny Sharfstein, Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC 212-788-4258

[jsharfstein@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:jsharfstein@cityhall.nyc.gov)

To learn more about the science behind Cool Roofs (and Green Roofs as well), click the link below to view the New York City Department of Design and Construction's review of Cool (and Green) Roofs.

[http://www.nyc.gov/html/ddc/downloads/pdf/cool\\_green\\_roof\\_man.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/ddc/downloads/pdf/cool_green_roof_man.pdf)

*NYC °Cool Roofs is a partnership of NYC Service, the Community Environmental Center and Green City Force. Cool roof coating, services and other supplies for the pilot program were donated by APOC a division of Gardner-Gibson and distributed by BradcoSupply Corp. The pilot program was funded by private donations to the Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC.*

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