



Rain Garden

What is a Rain Garden? A rain garden is a shallow, landscaped depression designed to capture and absorb rainwater runoff from surfaces like roofs, driveways, and patios. Planted with deep-rooted native vegetation, rain gardens temporarily hold water, allowing it to infiltrate the soil at a slower rate.


HOW CAN RAIN GARDENS BENEFIT YOU AND THE ENVIRONMENT?




AESTHETIC PLEASURE
Rain gardens enhance the beauty of yards and neighborhoods.




IMPROVE GROUNDWATER
Rain gardens increase the amount of rain water that filters into the ground, which recharges local and regional aquifers.



HABITAT FRIENDLY
Rain gardens provide valuable habitat for birds, butterflies, and many beneficial insects.



REMOVE POLLUTION
Rain gardens help protect streams and lakes from pollutants carried by urban stormwater, like lawn fertilizers and pesticides, oil and other fluids that leak from cars, and numerous harmful substances that wash off roofs and paved areas.



FLOOD PREVENTION
Rain gardens can protect communities from flooding and drainage problems.

Environmental and Water Management Benefits

- **Pollution Reduction:** By filtering runoff, rain gardens prevent pollutants from reaching waterways.
- **Flood Mitigation:** They decrease the volume and speed of stormwater runoff, reducing the risk of localized flooding and erosion.
- **Groundwater Recharge:** Rain gardens replenish local groundwater supplies.

Aesthetic Appeal

The use of diverse plants provides vibrant colors and textures throughout the growing season, attracting birds, butterflies, and beneficial insects. Their adaptable designs can complement various landscape styles, adding unique character to your outdoor space.

Maintenance Tips

- **First Year Care:** Regular watering is essential during the establishment phase to promote deep root growth.
- **Weed Management:** Periodically remove invasive weeds to ensure plants thrive.
- **Mulching:** Apply a layer of mulch to retain moisture, suppress weeds, and regulate soil temperature.
- **Seasonal Upkeep:** In spring, cut back dead plant material to make way for new growth.

By incorporating a rain garden into your landscape, you not only address water management challenges but also create an environmentally friendly and visually pleasing feature that benefits both your property and the broader ecosystem.