

THE RAIN GARDEN

A rain garden is a planted area in a depression in the ground, serving to capture rainwater. In absorbing water, this type of garden filters pollutants and reduces the volume of stormwater runoff that enters storm drains and rivers.

Requiring very little maintenance, the rain garden is composed of perennials and shrubs that are tolerant to wet and dry conditions. A large quantity of water that is captured by the garden is absorbed by these plants and shrubs by their long roots. Another portion infiltrates into the soil and feeds the groundwater tables.

Rain gardens are an inexpensive way to preserve water quality. In stopping pollutants from entering our rivers, they protect the habitat of aquatic species. Since the water infiltrates into the soil, rain gardens are not breeding grounds for mosquitos.

IN ADDITION TO ADDING AESTHETIC VALUE TO YOUR LAND, A RAIN GARDEN SERVES TO:

- Prevent flooding
- Limit bank erosion and sedimentation in rivers
- Supply food and shelter to bees, butterflies, birds, and other species
- Reduce wear and tear on municipal infrastructures during storms, such as streets and drainage systems
- Filter pollutants such as pesticides, petrol products, salt, pet and animal waste, etc.

As citizens of the watershed, you have a role to play in managing stormwater runoff. Contact us for more information.

During heavy rains or when snow melts quickly, runoff from impervious areas such as roofs, driveways, parking lots and compacted lawns flows into the rain garden where it is slowly absorbed into the ground.

Rain gardens should be located at least three metres from the house



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