



Rain Gardens

Rain gardens capture and filter runoff while beautifying your yard

What is a rain garden?

Rain gardens are shallow, vegetated depressions that capture stormwater and allow it to soak into the ground before it has a chance to become polluted runoff. The native plants and grasses in the garden filter out pollutants and beautify your landscape.

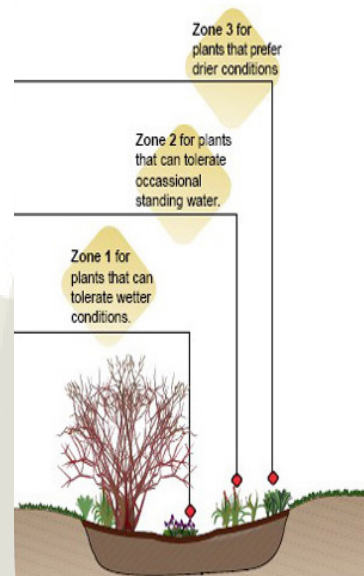
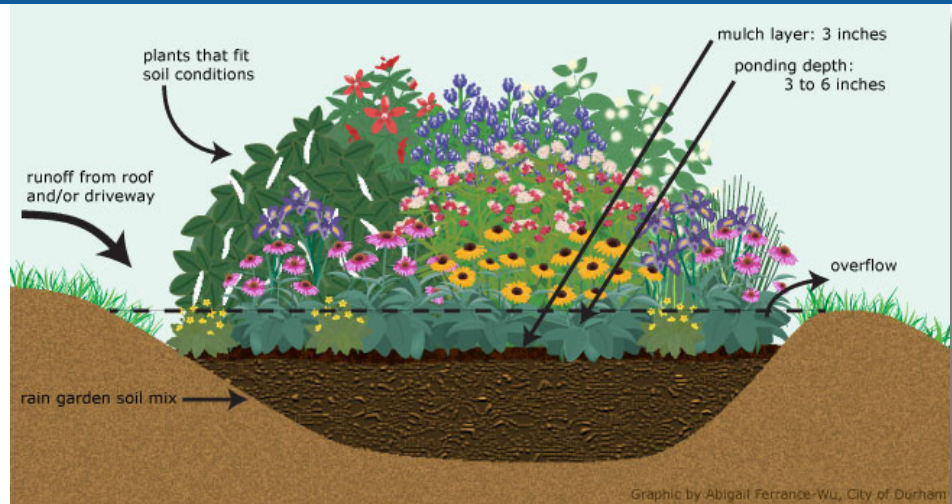
Where should I put my rain garden?

Select an area that will naturally capture and absorb water as it flows across your land. To see if your spot is suitable dig a small hole and fill it with water. If it drains within 48 hours then you've found your spot! A gutter downspout is often used to direct runoff to a rain garden. Make sure the garden is at least 10' from a building foundation and 25' from wells or septic fields.

What goes into my rain garden?

Make sure soils are suitable for your plants to grow, and amend them if necessary. A layer of hardwood mulch is added over the soil. This keeps the soil moist and helps prevent weeds. Now for the planting! Native plants are best because they are already adapted to our area and reduce the need for fertilizer or pesticides. Natives only need watering to get established and during long droughts.

Locate your plants in zones according to their moisture tolerance. Plant water loving plants in the bottom of the depression and drought tolerant toward the top. Plant natives with tolerance for both wet and dry conditions in between.



How do I maintain my rain garden?

- Water your rain garden regularly for the first year as the plants get established.
- Keep your rain garden free of weeds and invasive plants.
- Minimize sediment reaching your garden; it slows infiltration and kills plants.
- Add shredded hardwood mulch as necessary.
- Replace any dead or diseased plants



Heal Our Waterways
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Have you installed a rain garden?
Be counted! Fill out our Creek Counter Form at:
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