

Rain Garden Tips

- Check your soil type first. Silty, clayey, or compacted soils may reduce the ability of rain water to percolate. You may need to adjust some of your planning in order to accommodate the soils.
- Rain gardens should not be placed over or near the drain field of a septic system.
- Rain gardens should NOT be placed in the wet area of your yard. They should be placed up-slope of these areas to reduce the amount of water that flows into them.
- Place them in sunny or partly sunny locations.
- Rain gardens should match your current landscaping.
- Do not install rain gardens under large trees.



- Plant native plants and mix heights, shapes, and textures to give the garden

depth and dimension. Choose plants that bloom at different times to create a long flowering season.

Warren County Soil and Water
Conservation District

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Warren County
Soil and Water
Conservation District

Rain Gardens



A rain garden is a way to add beautiful natural landscaping that cleans water before it enters our waterways.

Rain Gardens.....

- Clean water that drains from our rooftops, driveways and roads.
- Help fix problems associated with flooding and drainage
- Enhance the beauty of property
- Attract wildlife such as birds and butterflies
- Recharge the ground water supply
- Attract dragonflies which are predators of mosquitoes.
- Will NOT attract mosquitoes. It should not hold water long enough for mosquito larvae to complete their life cycle.
- Are NOT ponds.
- Are NOT expensive, if you do it your self it will cost around \$3 to \$5 a square foot.



Studies by the United States Environmental Protection Agency have shown



that a substantial amount of the pollution in our streams, rivers and lakes is carried

there by runoff from our own yards, driveway, and rooftops. An easy way to help keep these pollutants out of our local waterways is to install a rain garden.

Construction activity on development sites usually compacts the soil, limiting the ground's capacity to absorb water. These factors reduce the ability of our landscape to absorb and filter storm water. Rain gardens can help restore some of these natural characteristics.

What Kind of Pollution is Coming From My Yard?

Fertilizer

Pesticides

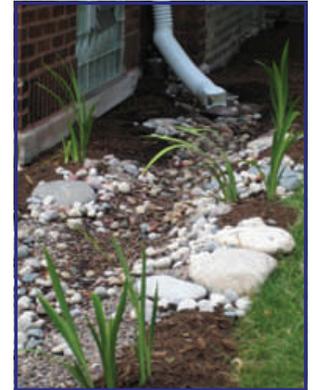
Pet Wastes

Grass Clippings

Yard Debris

Starting at the Beginning

Call your local Soil and Water Conservation District. 513-695-1337. The District can assist you throughout the design process. We can help you determine your soil types, where to place your rain garden, how to design it and what to plant. Don't forget to "Call before you dig" - the hotline is 800-362-2764 and 800-925-0988 for oil and gas lines. Also check with your local building department for installation requirements.



Maintenance for a rain garden is about the same as your other garden.

Basic weeding, re-mulching and the replacement of dead plants is all that is needed once in place.

