



Please be a responsible gardener

Rain Gardens Brighten Yards and Improve Water Quality

Rain Gardens Help Us :

- Improve water quality.
- Increase the amount of water that filters into the ground, recharging the aquifer.
- Prevent flooding, erosion and drainage problems.
- Protect streams and lakes from pollutants carried by urban stormwater.
- Enhance the beauty of our community.
- Provide valuable habitat for birds, frogs, butterflies and many beneficial insects.



For more information on water quality and stormwater management, go to:

www.StormwaterSMART.org

or contact

Stormwater SMART
 2216 W. Meadowview Road
 Wilmington Building, Suite 201
 Greensboro, NC 27407
 Phone (336) 294-4950; Fax (336) 632-0457
 email: stormwatersmart@ptcog.org



Consider building a rain garden in your community today!



How Do Rain Gardens Work?

A shallow depression collects a few inches of water and allows it to be absorbed into the ground, or by plants instead of flowing directly into nearby streams and lakes.

Plants and soil trap, absorb and filter pollutants found in stormwater runoff including fertilizers, pesticides, oil, metals and dog waste.



Why Rain Gardens?

Rain gardens are typically planted with wildflowers and other native vegetation. **Native Plants** have roots that grow twice as deep as the plants are tall, making them **very efficient** at absorbing water. Each year about one-third of the roots die, leaving deep tunnels for water and oxygen to **filter** into the ground and nurture new plant growth. These plants are the basis for restoring natural ecosystems to open space, residential, and urban areas. Rain gardens are diverse, **beautiful habitats** to many animals that we don't normally see.

Commonly Used Plants



Switch Grass
Panicum Veratum



Inkberry
Ilex Glabra



Red Osler Dogwood
Cornus Stolonifera



Spice Bush
Lindera Benzain



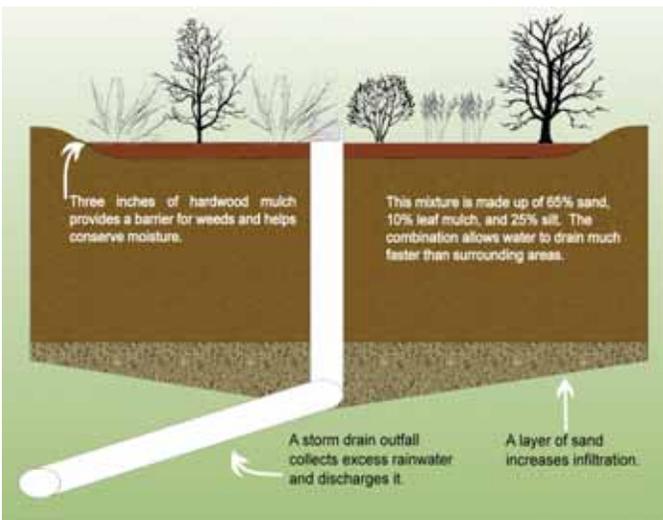
Red Maple
Acer Rubrum



River Birch
Betula Nigra



Green Ash
Franxinus Pennsylvania



Rain Gardens Filter Water