

Why a Rain Garden?

- ☆ As storm water runoff increases additional sediment, nutrients, and other water pollutants become a greater problem. Rain gardens – depressed areas planted with native plants – help address this issue by slowing the flow of water over the surface of the landscape, and increasing infiltration of water into the water table, all the while filtering that water and reducing pollutants. The addition of rain gardens to an urban landscape can greatly reduce pollution and the cost associated with its cleanup. A rain garden can be a part of a storm water reduction plan to help solve storm drain/sewer overflows.
- ☆ Rain gardens can save you money. They do not need to be fertilized or sprayed, only weeded and mulched. They reduce the amount of lawn you have to maintain. They make your yard a healthier place for children and animals.
- ☆ Water costs are increasing. By storing and using rainwater you save energy and reduce water bills.
- ☆ Rain gardens are low maintenance. Once established, they require no fertilizer, watering, or mowing. A once a year cleanup, addition of mulch to keep the surface moist and tidy, and removal of weeds are all that are required.
- ☆ Rain garden plants create wildlife habitats and attract butterflies, birds and other wildlife. They are beautiful landscape features.
- ☆ A rain garden on your property makes you part of a solution to storm water pollution. Rain gardens can absorb hundreds of gallons of rain that would otherwise wash pollution down the street and into the nearest river, stream, or lake. Even small rain gardens can absorb a lot of rain water.
- ☆ If you have a well, the recharging of ground water might make your well last a longer period of time or provide a greater volume of output.
- ☆ If you capture rain water in addition to having a rain garden, you gain a source of irrigation water for summer use. Stored rainwater can be used if there are water use restrictions during periods of drought.