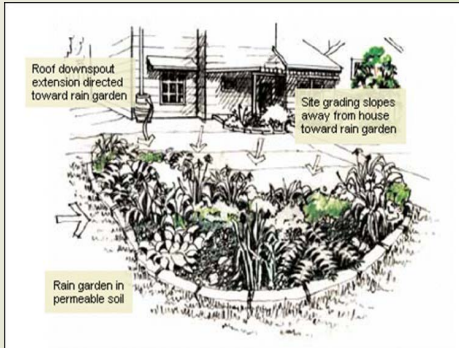


Rain gardens are an individual approach to storm water runoff, the following are a couple questions that you should ask yourself.

Do you have a shallow depression in the ground?

Does your lawn slope towards the street or to a neighbor?



Creating a rain garden can be as simple or as extreme as you want. Planting native plants in the area makes sense. Often they require less maintenance, fertilizing or watering. Remember plants that can tolerate both wet and dry conditions need to be in your rain garden. Choose a naturalistic style rather than a formal style. Integrate a rain garden into your current landscape today!

Additional Information:

Environmental Protection Agency

http://www.epa.gov/nps/toolbox/other/KSM_O_buildRainGarden.pdf

Missouri Wildflower Nurseries

<http://www.mowildflowers.net/growinginfo/raingarden.html>

City of Springfield, Missouri

http://www.springfieldmo.gov/egov/publicworks/storm_water/raingardens.html

MARC Website

http://www.marc.org/environment/Water/pdfs/BMPs/anita_rain_garden.pdf

Mo-Kan Regional Council Website

<http://www.mo-kan.org>

Mo-Kan Regional Council

1302 Faraon St
Saint Joseph, Missouri 64501

Phone: 816.233.3144

Fax: 816.233.8498

<http://www.mo-kan.org>

This project is partially funded by US EPA Region 7, through the Department of Natural Resources (minigrantG08-NPS-12), under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.



RAIN GARDENS

HEALTHY LIVING FOR NATURE AND PEOPLE



WHAT IS A RAIN GARDEN?

A rain garden is a garden which takes advantage of rainfall and storm water runoff in its design and plant selection. Usually, it is a small garden which is designed to withstand the extremes of moisture and concentration of nutrients that are found in storm water runoff.



Rain gardens are sited ideally close to the source of the runoff and serve to slow the storm water as it travels downhill, giving the storm water more time to infiltrate and less opportunity to gain momentum and increase erosive power.

WHY BUILD A RAIN GARDEN AT MY HOME?

You can make a difference! Every time it rains, water runs off impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways, roads and parking lots, collecting pollutants along the way. This runoff has been cited by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a major source of pollution to our nation's waterways. By building a rain garden at your home,



you can reduce the amount of pollutants that leave your yard and enter nearby lakes, streams and ponds. As more rain gardens are installed, the amount of pollutants that reach the Missouri River, surrounding lakes and ponds, and the groundwater will be lessened.

NATIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR OWN RAINGARDEN

Red-Twigged Dogwood

Blueberries

Black Chokeberry

Aromatic Aster

Cardinal Flower



Purple Coneflower

Yellow Coneflower

Great Blue Lobelia

Daylilies

Black-Eyed Susan

Prairie Blazing Star

Fox Sedge

Prairie Dropseed