



Rain Garden & Very Wet Soil Plants



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BUILDING A RAIN GARDEN

A rain garden is a shallow planted depression designed to hold water until it soaks into the soil. A key feature of eco-friendly landscape design, rain gardens* also known as bio-infiltration basins* are gaining credibility and converts as an important solution to stormwater runoff and pollution. According to the EPA, much of the rain that falls on a typical city block heads overland to the nearest pipe, washing along any crud it finds. Historically that water would have infiltrated* soaked in* leaving impurities behind in the soil and plants as it passed through to replenish the water table. Rain gardens are intended to counteract both the unnatural runoff patterns in urban and suburban areas (too many roads, too much paving, too many hard surfaces) as well as the increased crud levels found in them.

- **From the website, Garden Design:**

<https://www.gardendesign.com/eco-friendly/rain-gardens.html>

Here are 2 other excellent sites that will contain all the information you will need to plan and create your new Rain Garden! Refer to the Handout on :

- **UW on Rain Gardens with Technical and Detailed Instructions**

https://widnr.widen.net/s/7zpg7qgpl8/raingardenmanual_hd

- **The Rain Campaign: Rain Gardening Simplified Links to good info and pics of completed rain gardens**

<https://raincampaign.org/raingarden/>



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PERENNIAL FLOWERS

- Arise Hyssop
- Asters
- Columbines
- Cup Plant
- Daylily
- Evening Primrose
- Ferns
- Goldenrod
- Heliopsis
- Jacob's Ladder
- Joe Pye Plants
- Ladies' Mantle
- Liatris
- Ligularia
- Lobelia
- Milkweeds
- Monardas
- St. John's Wort
- Siberian Iris
- Spiderwort
- Viola
- Bluestem Grasses
- Prairie Dropseed Grass
- Switch Grasses

SHRUBS

- Black Chokeberry
- Clethra (Summersweet)
- Red Twig Dogwood
- Elderberry
- Hazelnut
- Bush Honeysuckle
- Ninebark
- Pussy Willow
- Arrowwood Viburnum (Blue Muffin)
- Highbush Cranberry Viburnum

TREES RECOMMENDED AS TOLERATING WET SOILS

- River Birch
- Catalpa
- White Cedar (Native American Arborvitae)
- Elm
- Thornless Honeylocust
- Hornbeam
- Red Maple
- Bur Oak
- Pine Oak

TREES RECOMMENDED AS TOLERATING WET SOILS

- Swamp White Oak
- Sycamore
- Tamarack
- Curly Willow
- Weeping Willow