

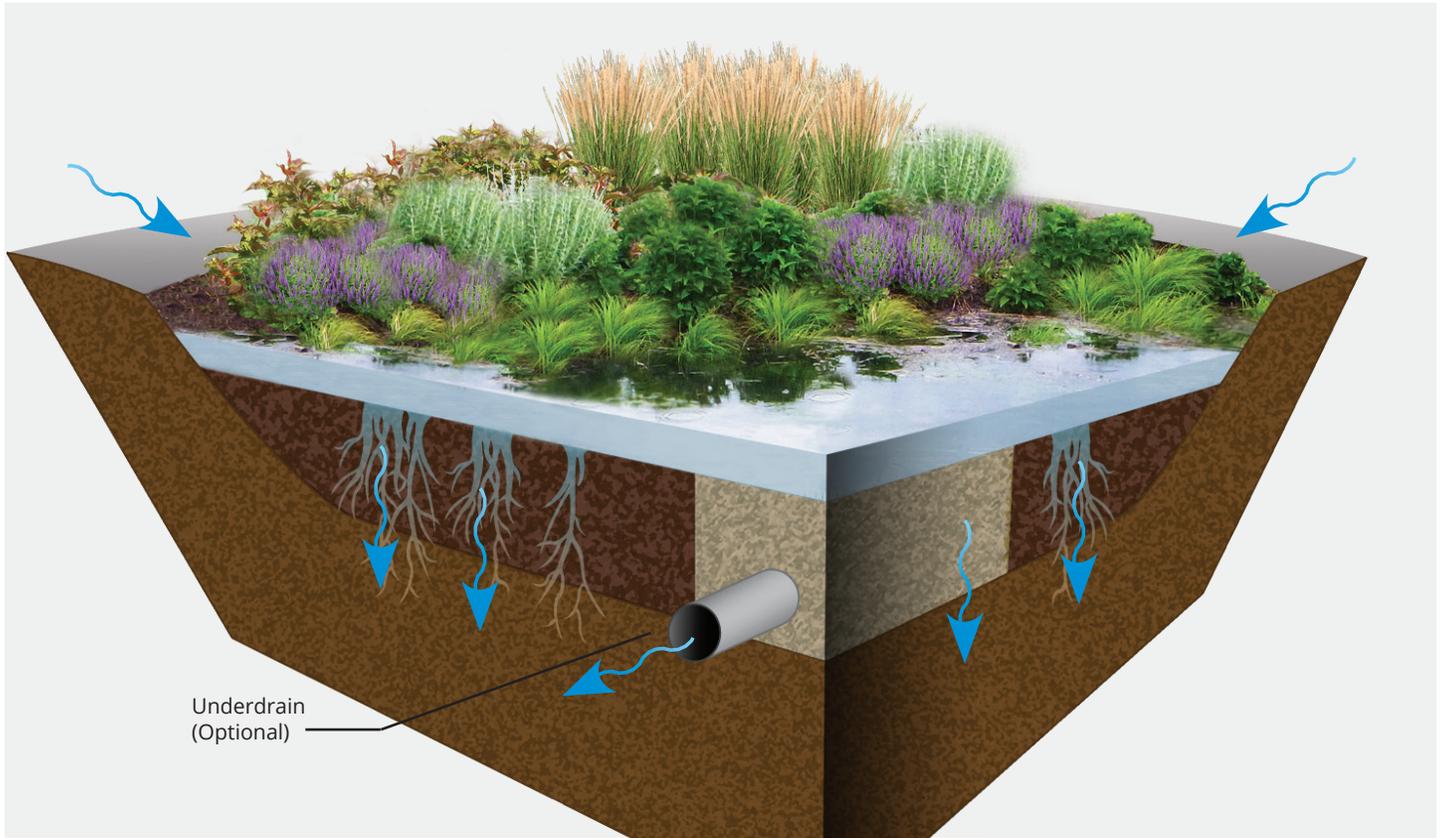


Protect it. Pass it on.

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Raingardens

Raingardens are bowl-shaped gardens with deep-rooted native plants and soils that absorb stormwater. They act like filters, capturing pollutants and trapping them in the soil. The plants provide important habitat for pollinators like bees and butterflies, and can survive long periods without watering.



ECO-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING

HOW THEY WORK

Raingardens capture, hold and absorb stormwater. Some of the water is used up by the plants, while the rest filters down into the groundwater.

WHY THEY'RE IMPORTANT

Stormwater runoff contains pollutants like sediment, bacteria and nutrients. Raingardens capture this runoff so that it doesn't flow into stormdrains and out to rivers and lakes.

WHY 'NATIVE PLANTS?'

Native plants originate locally and are well adapted to our climate and soil conditions. Their deep roots absorb more water and prevent erosion better than non-native plants.

RAINGARDEN FACTS

- In spite of their name, raingardens are not usually filled with water. They're designed to absorb all the water into the ground within 48 hours after it rains.
- Mosquitos can't breed in raingardens because the water drains too quickly.



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ABOVE

The main rain garden at the MWMO's Stormwater Park and Learning Center in Northeast Minneapolis. Rain gardens are a type of green infrastructure that helps reduce the flow of pollution into our rivers, lakes and wetlands.

LEFT

A monarch butterfly feeds on an aster flower. Native plants are ideal for rain gardens because of their deep roots, which make them drought-resistant. They're also a perfect food source for native pollinator species.