

WHAT IS A RAIN GARDEN?

A **rain garden** is a shallow planted depression which takes advantage of rainfall and stormwater runoff in its design and plant selections.

Rainwater that runs off of impervious surfaces, such as roofs, roads, driveways and sidewalks, carries pollutants like pesticides, fertilizers, oil/grease and sediments into the nearest storm drain and then directly to the nearest stream or river. This excess stormwater contributes to pollution, flooding and erosion.

A **rain garden** captures the rainwater before it can runoff to the nearest storm drain. The **rain garden** utilizes a simple natural process, called Bio-Retention, to provide treatment of stormwater. The stormwater collects in the **rain garden**, sediments are captured and pollutants are treated by the soil biological processes and through plant uptake. Thus, the **rain garden** filters and reuses the water reducing pollution, flooding and providing wildlife habitat, along with providing a unique landscape amenity.



The newly installed rain garden at Greenland Nursery was put into service during the mid-October rainstorms.



Wood monoliths recycled from The Oval's mini-golf course decorate the garden as functional bird perches.



Stormwater runoff from the nursery structures and driveway is now diverted into the rain garden basin.