## What is a rain garden?

A rain garden is a "sunken garden bed" in your yard where you can direct runoff from your roof, driveway and other impervious surfaces on your property. The rain can then soak into the ground naturally rather than running off into storm drains.

## Why build one?

When a landscape is covered in natural vegetation, most rainfall soaks into the ground. As we build impervious surfaces like roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and streets, much of the rain-

fall can't soak into the ground anymore. This can create problems, not just for people, but also for streams.



There are a number of ways to move the water from the downspout to your rain garden. This homeowner uses a dry streambed that is lined with plastic for the first few feet near the foundation. The downspout pipe is hidden by rocks and plants giving a more natural appearance. The rocks also slow the stream of water to prevent erosion.

Rain gardens are a beautiful way to manage stormwater runoff because they allow rain to soak into the ground naturally. This prevents pollution from entering our local streams and wetlands, recharges groundwater and keeps water in our streams during summer months.

overflow

undisturbed so

maximum

ponding

depth 6

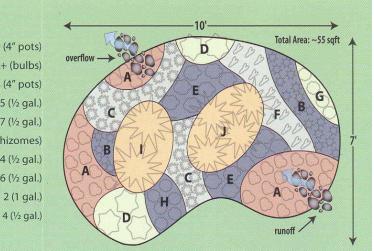
Rain gardens are becoming very popular because they:

- 1. Are planted with beautiful, hardy, low-maintenance and drought tolerant plants.
- 2. Are an easy way for all of us to do our part to protect our streams and rivers.
- 3. Provide food and shelter for birds, butterflies and beneficial insects.

## **Sunny Garden**

J. Dense Sedge, Carex densa

A.	Coastal Strawberry, Frageria chiloensis	29 (4" pots)
В.	Common Camas, Camassia quamash	22+ (bulbs)
C.	Tufted Hair-grass, Deschampsia cespitoso	28 (4" pots)
D.	Douglas Aster, Aster subspicatus	5 (½ gal.)
E.	Western Columbine, Aquilegia formosa	7 (½ gal.)
F.	Oregon Iris, Iris tenax	28 (4" pots/rhizomes)
G.	Yarrow, Achillea millefolium	4 (½ gal.)
Н.	Northwest Cinquefoil, Potentilla gracilis	6 (½ gal.)
1.	Slough Sedge, Carex obnunta	2 (1 gal.)



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