

# Native Plants Thrive

Native plants are perfect for use in rain gardens and around the home. They don't need pesticides or fertilizers and are already adapted to our climate. That means they don't need to be watered once established, and they will attract wildlife.

## Want to Learn More?

The Clean Water Gardens program helps residents learn more about how to improve water quality and wildlife habitat. The program covers:

- Naturescaping
- Rain Gardens
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Common Invasive Plants
- Streamside Gardening
- Pervious Surfaces

Informational how-to guides are available at local nurseries and Springfield City Hall.



Visit [springfieldstreams.org](http://springfieldstreams.org) or call us at 541.726.3694 for more information.



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# Rain Gardens

*Helping Keep Water Clean*



# Bring on the Rain

## Why Rain Gardens?

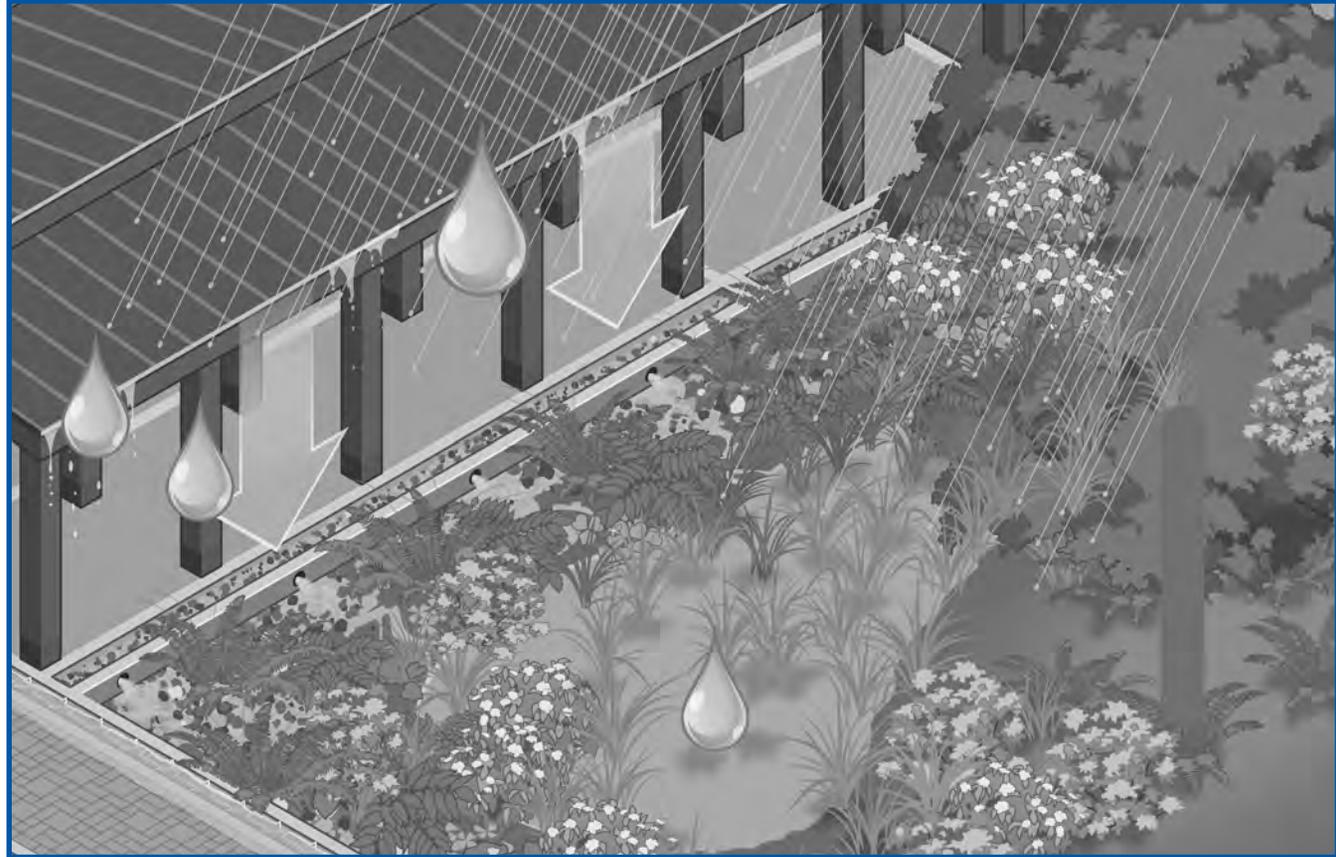
As rain water flows over hard surfaces, it picks up pollutants like motor oil, pet waste, fertilizer, and pesticides. This runoff carries pollutants to local waterways, including the McKenzie and Willamette rivers.

Rain gardens are sunken garden beds that collect and treat runoff from hard surfaces like rooftops and driveways.

They break down pollutants through natural processes and filtering before the water reaches streams. You can check out a demonstration rain garden at 10th and G streets in Springfield (between The Brattain House and Two Rivers-Dos Ríos Elementary.)

## Benefits of a Rain Garden:

- Slows the flow of runoff by allowing rain to naturally filter into the ground.
- Improves water quality by preventing stormwater from carrying pollutants to our waterways.
- Prevents flooding and erosion in our rivers and streams.
- Creates wildlife habitat.
- Looks amazing!



***Rain gardens are an important tool for keeping pollutants out of waterways — and they are beautiful too***

Homes and businesses are perfect locations for rain gardens. They can be as big or as small as you need them to be. Learn more about creating your own rain garden at [springfieldstreams.org](http://springfieldstreams.org)

If you plant a rain garden, email [WaterResources@springfield-or.gov](mailto:WaterResources@springfield-or.gov) or give us a call at 541.726.3694 and we'll give you a special recognition package!