



Garden Tips & Techniques: Rain Gardens

Do you have an area of your garden or property that catches runoff water, so it's consistently waterlogged or soggy after a rain? If so, exchanging annual plants (or whatever's currently growing there) for a rain garden could be a great choice!

Rain gardens include lots of plants that love water and help to soak it up during wet periods. They help to keep soil from eroding by slowing the flow of water during a rain event. And they keep excess water out of storm drains during heavy rains. This means less polluted water entering our rivers.



This rain garden was built in Millvale with help from [GTECH](#).

Rain gardens require less maintenance than vegetable gardens, if you plant them with native plants. These plants are well adapted to the climate in this area and require very little maintenance. And they are beautiful! Many attract beneficial insects and animals that will help out your veggie garden too.

So how do you get started? Fortunately, there are lots of local resources available, from more general information to garden design, cost estimation, and plant sourcing. [Three Rivers Rain Garden Alliance](#) is a great place to start. They consolidate information about rain gardens, plus links to other helpful resources.

Happy gardening for rainwater management!