

Build a Rain Garden

A NATURAL FILTER

Rain gardens reduce water pollution while brightening up your yard. They collect and filter polluted runoff from roofs, driveways, streets, parking lots, and other hard surfaces.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Improve water quality
- Reduce flooding
- Recharge groundwater



WHAT ABOUT MOSQUITOES?

A rain garden absorbs water quickly - within 24 hours, and will NOT provide habitat for mosquitoes.

THE ALTERNATIVE

Without a rain garden, runoff picks up oil, excess fertilizer and other pollutants from hard surfaces and carries them via storm drains directly to your local stream. These pollutants compromise stream health and habitat.

Graphics courtesy of Kitsap County, WA Stewardship Partners, and the WA Department of Ecology



Smartphone App
(details on back)

Are They Difficult to Install?

No. Smaller gardens can be dug by hand with a shovel, or equipment can be rented for larger gardens. Most gardens for average sized homes can be dug by hand if you are in good health, or have some extra help. Once the shallow depression is dug for the rain garden, it won't take any more time or expense than planting other landscaped areas in your yard.

How Do You Install One Properly?

The CT NEMO program, a partnership of UConn Extension and CT Sea Grant, has developed a **website and smartphone app (see images, left) to help contractors, landscapers, and homeowners** properly site, size, design, and install a rain garden. Both provide everything you need from planning to maintenance.



Rain Garden Website

<http://nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens>

Rain Garden App



Planning to Build a Rain Garden?

Download the Rain Garden App first. "Rain Garden" is a FREE app designed to help you properly install a rain garden at your home, office, or job site. It is currently available for download in the iTunes (iPhone) or Google Play (Android) App stores.

What Does the App Do?

Through video tutorials, diagrams, text, and tools, the App guides you through:

- determining the size and placement of your garden,
- selecting plants,
- digging and planting your garden, and
- maintaining it.

It also includes tools for determining your soil type, measuring the size of the area that will drain to your garden, and managing multiple rain garden projects.

Promote the App In Your Town or Business

Help promote the App at your town hall, nursery, plant sale, etc. We have created an information card about the App for you to display in your office or business. To request a stack, send us an email at nemo@uconn.edu, visit our website at nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens, or just fill out the form below and fax it to us at 860-345-3357.

Name: _____

Town/Business: _____

Mailing Address: _____

How will you use the cards? _____

How many cards would you like? (circle one) 25 50 75 100

