

## Rain Gardens Help

- Improve water quality.
- Increase the amount of water that filters into the ground, recharging the aquifer.
- Prevent flooding, erosion and drainage problems.
- Protect streams and lakes from pollutants carried by urban stormwater.
- Enhance the beauty of our community.
- Provide valuable habitat for birds, frogs, butterflies and many beneficial insects.



For more information on water quality and stormwater management go to:

[www.stormwaterSMART.org](http://www.stormwaterSMART.org)

or contact

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PIEDMONT TRIAD  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Stormwater SMART Member Governments:  
Davidson County, Randolph County, Rockingham County, Archdale, Asheboro, Burlington, Elon, Gibsonville, Graham, Green Level, Haw River, High Point, Lexington, Mebane, Oak Ridge, Summerfield, Randleman, Reidsville, Thomasville & Trinity.

# Rain Gardens Brighten Yards and Improve Water Quality



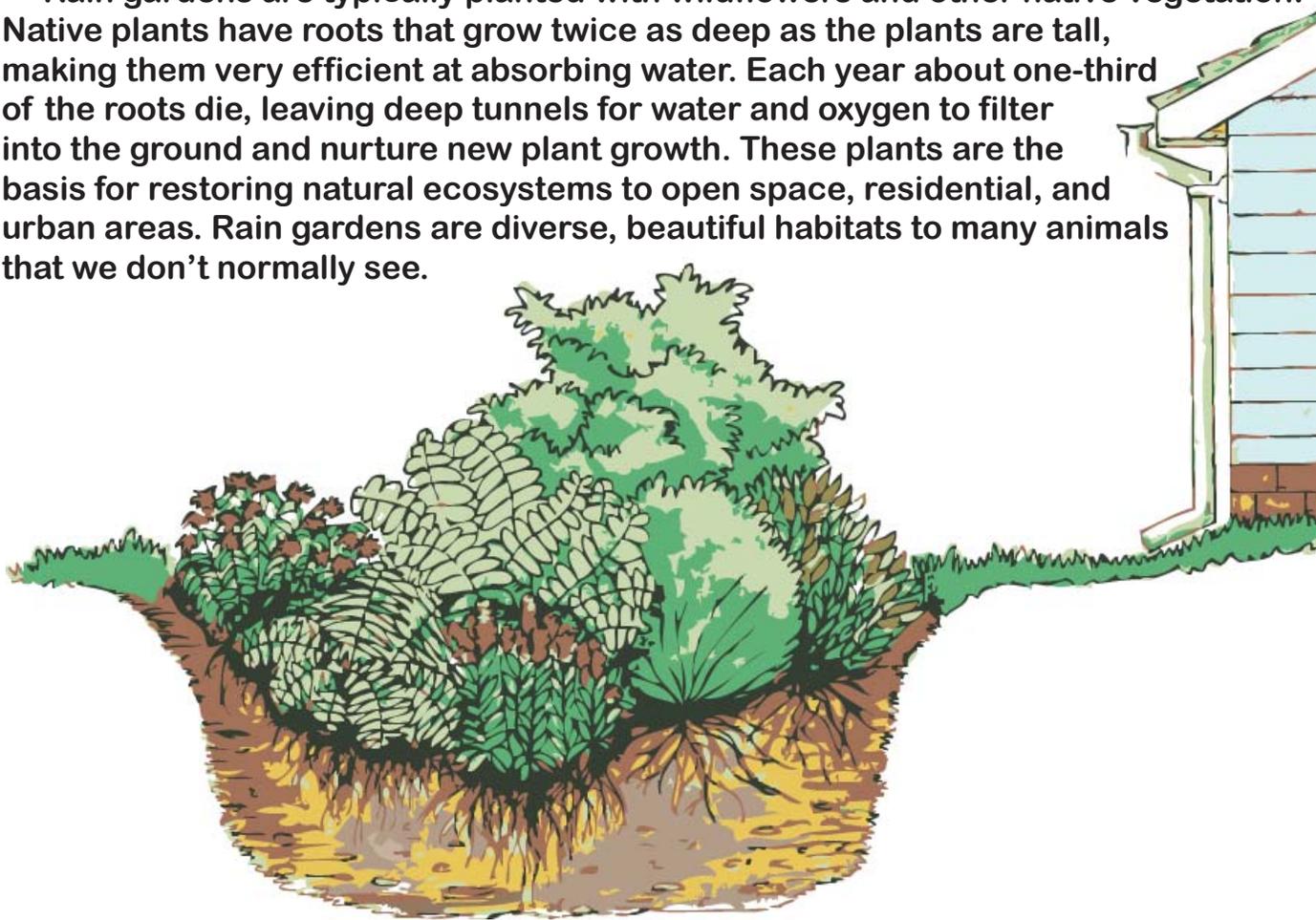
Improve our waters by  
building a rain garden  
today!



# How Do Rain Gardens Work?

Rain gardens are just what they sound like - gardens designed to soak up rain water. A shallow depression collects a few inches of water and allows it to be absorbed into the ground or by plants instead of flowing into nearby streams and lakes. Plants and soil trap, absorb and filter pollutants found in stormwater runoff including fertilizers, pesticides, oil, grease and metals.

Rain gardens are typically planted with wildflowers and other native vegetation. Native plants have roots that grow twice as deep as the plants are tall, making them very efficient at absorbing water. Each year about one-third of the roots die, leaving deep tunnels for water and oxygen to filter into the ground and nurture new plant growth. These plants are the basis for restoring natural ecosystems to open space, residential, and urban areas. Rain gardens are diverse, beautiful habitats to many animals that we don't normally see.



If you live in a Stormwater SMART community, we can help you design a rain garden in your backyard. Our staff are certified to build rain gardens that can accommodate runoff from up to 5,000 square feet.

We'll help source construction materials, plants and even volunteers! If you're an interested homeowner or know of a great spot to put a rain garden, contact us today!

# Commonly Used Plants

