

What?

Rain gardens are bowl-shaped gardens designed to collect and filter water from your roof, driveway, or patio. Rain gardens can be shaped and sized to fit your yard, are filled with a rich layer of mulch and compost to help water soak in, and are landscaped with a variety of plants that fit your yard, sun, and soil.



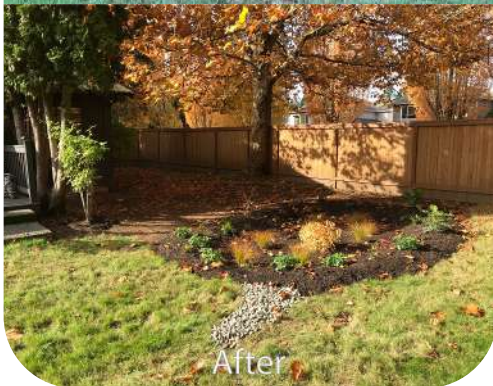
Why?

Every time it rains, water carries pollutants from our roofs, driveways, patios, and lawns, into the nearest storm drain, and into Forbes Creek and Lake Washington. During big storms, the amount of rainwater runoff can cause neighborhood flooding and erosion hazards.

Rain gardens help slow the flow of rainwater that floods our neighborhoods and creeks, and help filter water to prevent pollution.

Eligibility

- Roof area. Rain gardens must drain a minimum roof area of 400 square feet or 800 square feet for multi-family or non-residential property.



Benefits

-  **Beautify your Yard.** A rain garden can beautify your landscape and may increase property value.
-  **Create a Sanctuary.** Rain gardens filled with the site appropriate plants attract a variety of birds and pollinators like butterflies.
-  **Reduce Maintenance.** Once established, rain gardens require less maintenance and resources than traditional lawns or gardens.

Be Yard Smart, Get Rain Rewards Rebates!

For Single-Family Homes:

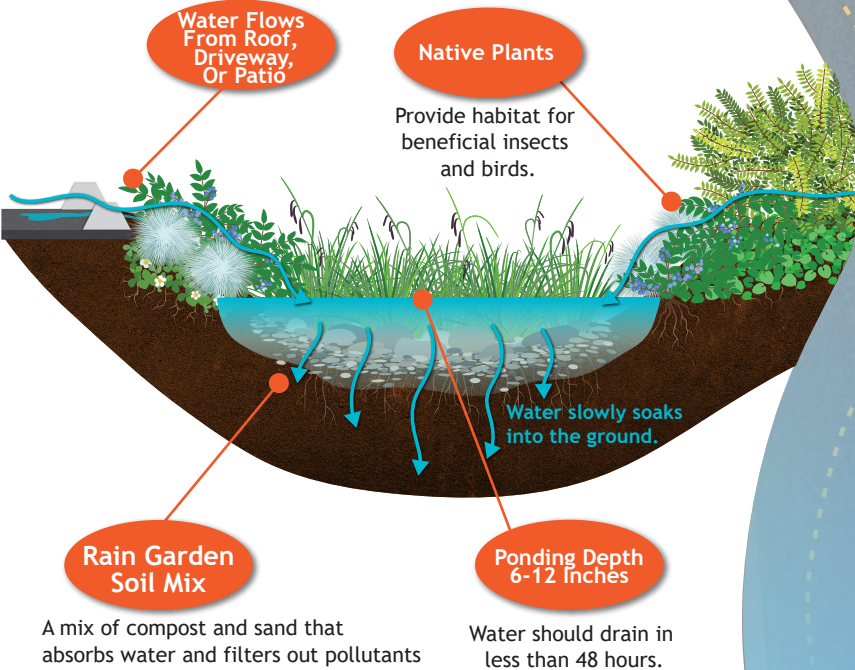
75% of Project Costs up to \$3,000 for work done by contractors.

100% of Project Costs up to \$3,000 for DIY projects.






For Multi-Family Homes & Commercial Properties:

75% of Project Costs up to \$6,000

How do Rain Gardens work?



Considerations

-  Your property needs a fairly level yard with a slope less than 5%
-  Rain gardens need to be located away from large trees and at least 10 feet from your foundation.
-  Rain gardens need well-draining soils to allow water to soak in. An infiltration test will determine if a rain garden is right for your property.
-  Rain garden costs vary depending on site, labor, equipment, turf or pavement removal, size and number of plants, and complexity of garden.
-  Young plants need water to grow strong roots. Watering is important during the first two to three summers after you install your rain garden.

Rain Rewards Rebates Can Reduce Your Costs!

Steps

1. Project Design

Test your soils to ensure they are well-draining. Choose a location, planting plan, and drainage system into and out of the rain garden. This can be done DIY or with the help of a contractor.

2. Review & Approval

Complete a project approval form. City of Kirkland staff will approve or suggest changes to your plan within 2 weeks.

3. Construction & Installation

Hiring a contractor? Consider getting 3 bids. Whether DIY or through a contractor, save all itemized receipts and proofs of payment.

4. Final Review

Once your Rain Garden is finished, contact us for a final inspection.

5. Get Your Rebate

Fill out our Project Rebate Form, W-9, and Maintenance Agreement. Get Your Rebate Check!

6. Maintain Your New Rain Garden

Water your plants each summer, pull weeds by hand, and replace any dead or dying plants each fall.

Learn More

- Online** kirklandwa.gov/yardsmart
- Email** yardsmart@kirklandwa.gov
- Phone** (425) 587 - 3857



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