



Rainwater runoff is a big deal to salmon

Rainwater runoff carries pollutants to the stream – like yard fertilizers, metals from roof shingles, and pet waste. It can also flow very quickly and powerfully to the stream-- causing erosion and damaging salmon habitat.

Let Mid Sound Fisheries help you make your yard part of the solution.



Mid Sound Fisheries
Enhancement Group

BUILD A BEAUTIFUL RAIN GARDEN

Rain gardens are intentionally designed sunken gardens that treat run-off received from roofs, nearby pavement, or adjacent gardens. Besides being beautiful they provide beneficial habitat for birds and pollinators.

Native plants and soils often found in and near wetlands are used in the rain gardens to help reduce toxins, remove sediments, and hold and slowly release moisture after a storm event. When space is not available you can even build a rain garden in a box.

To determine if a rain garden is a smart choice for your property we will:

- conduct a soils test to better understand how much rainwater you can treat
- identify what rainwater runoff can be collected and can be redirected to a raingarden
- locate a nearby low spot in your yard at least 10 feet from your house or other sensitive areas
- determine the appropriate size for the rain garden based on predicted run-off and the land available

Once it is determined that a rain garden is the right choice for your yard we will work with a contractor to:

- remove soil to create a depression, side walls of rain garden shall be no greater than 12% slope
- redirect rainwater run-off to the rain garden
- create an overflow channel so rainwater from larger rain events has an intentional place to go



Photo Courtesy of EPA

Locate your rain gardens in a low spot it can receive rainwater run-off. Line inflows / outflows with rocks to prevent soil erosion.

- fill the garden with organic rich soils to help with moisture retention
- install plants in the bottom of the rain garden that can tolerate “wet feet” during the winter when ponding may occur, and install plants that prefer drier soils at the top of the slope
- finish off your garden with 4” of wood chips (mulch) to retain moisture and suppress weeds

To properly maintain your rain garden:

- weed regularly
- water to establish plants and during extreme dry periods
- reapply mulch twice a year



...rainwater solutions for your own backyard

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