

Rain Smart Neighbourhoods: Beautify your landscape while protecting water quality and reducing flood risk

HEALTHY YARDS LEAD TO RAIN SMART NEIGHBOURHOODS

Making small changes around your yard is a beautiful way to improve your landscape while adapting to climate change, boosting biodiversity, reducing flood risk, and improving water quality and habitat value of local waterways. Rain gardens, trees, infiltration galleries, permeable paving, and rain barrels are tools that you can use to slow down rain and soak it up on your property.

Rain gardens

Rain gardens are a shallow basin garden that holds rain water until it soaks into the ground.

Trees

Trees provide shade, water absorption, and year-round beauty for your landscape.

Infiltration galleries

Infiltration galleries are an underground water storage solution that allow water to soak into the ground.

Permeable paving

Permeable interlocking pavement helps to prevent runoff by allowing for ways for water to pass through the pavement and infiltrate into the ground.

Rain barrels

Rain barrels are an efficient and low-cost way to collect water for reuse in your yard.

Rain Garden Diagram BUILDING DOWNSPOUT SHRUBS & GRASSES (species tolerant of drought and inundation) High water tree! SHRUBS & GRASSES (species tolerant of drought and inundation) SHRUBS & GRASSES (species tolerant



RESOURCES BY REEP GREEN SOLUTIONS

- Download the Rain Garden Plant List and watch this video about How to Build a Rain Garden
- Read the <u>Planting and Care Guide</u> and infographic about <u>The Benefits of Trees</u>
- Watch this video tutorial about How to Assess your Soil Drainage
- Explore Your Options for Permeable Driveways, Patio and Pathways
- Learn How to Make a Soakaway Pit and How to Install a Rain Barrel

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Read TRCA's Complete Guide to Building and Maintaining a Rain Garden
- Download LEAF's <u>Top 10 Things You Can Do For Your Trees</u> resource
- Use Watersheds Canada's free Native Plant Database, Wildflower Garden Guide, and Native Plant Care Guide

Handout created by:

