

# Rain Gardens for Homeowners



# What is a rain garden?

## Why should I install one in my yard?

- Shallow depression filled with porous amended soil that allows rain water to soak into the ground
- Landscaped with a layer of mulch and plants to capture storm water running off streets, driveways, and rooftops

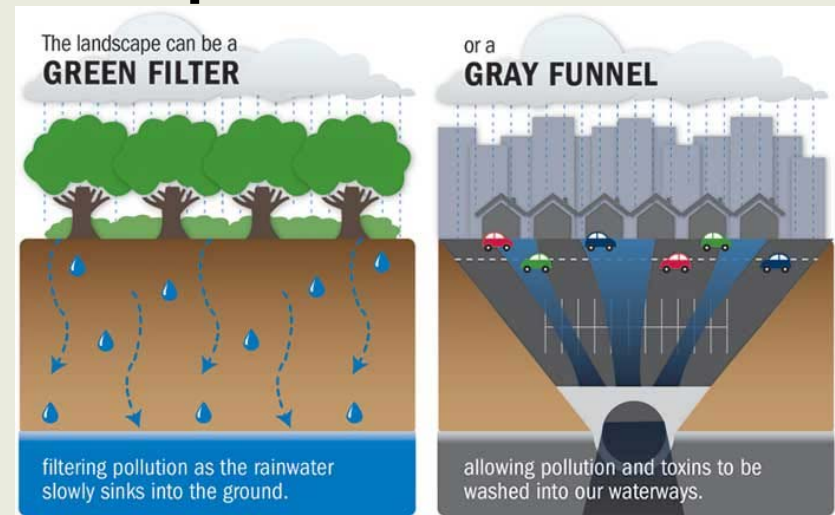


# Benefits of a rain garden

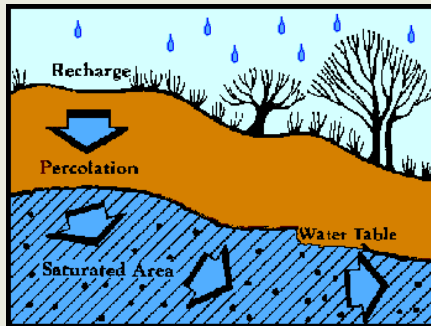
- Reduces flow of stormwater from impervious areas



- Filters pollutants



- Recharge ground water

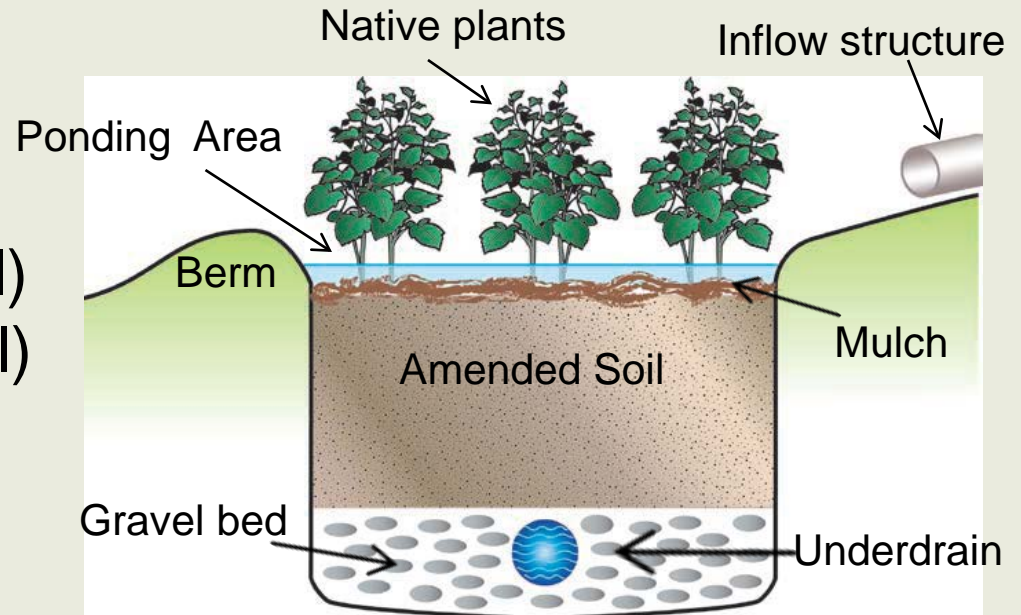


- Enhance beauty of landscape



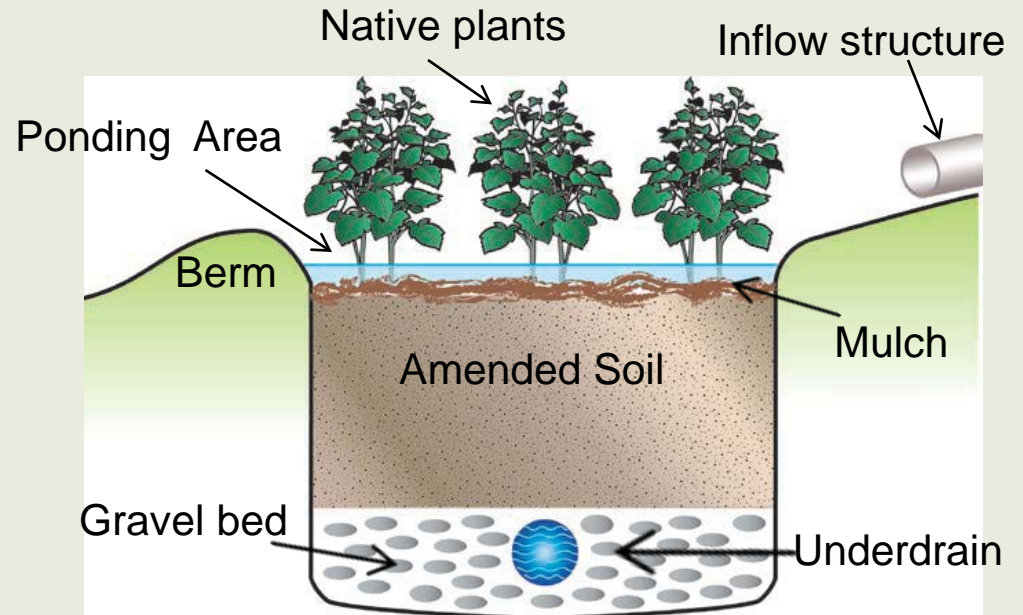
# Rain garden function

- **Planning and Measurement = Good Function and Form**
- Main parts of your rain garden
  - Inflow/outflow
  - Ponding area
  - Native plants
  - Mulch/compost
  - Amended soil
  - Berm
  - Gravel bed (optional)
  - Underdrain (optional)



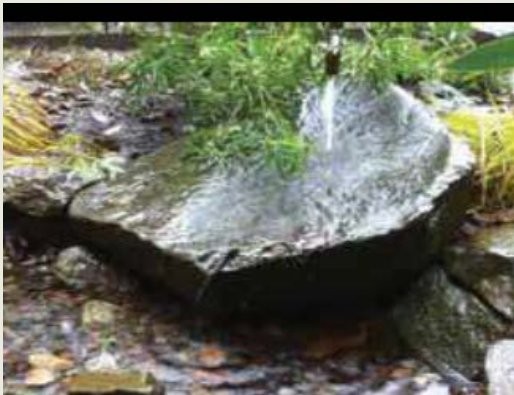
# Rain garden function

Inflow/outflow- You need to bring runoff into your rain garden (inflow) and allow safe passage of extra runoff out of your rain garden (outflow).



# Rain garden function

Inflow/outflow- examples from different rain gardens

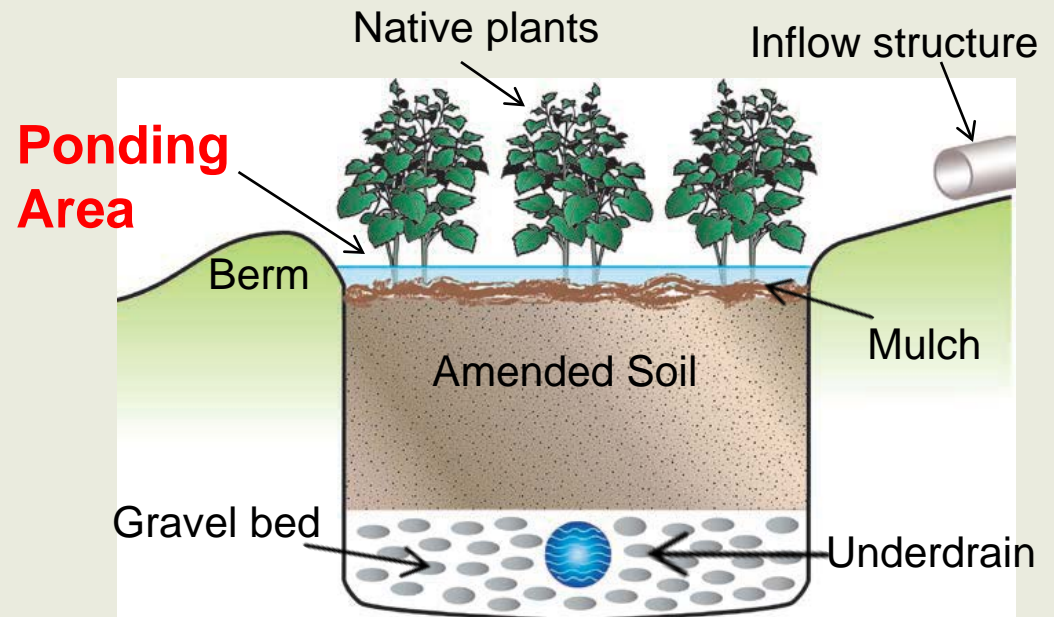


# Creative Inflow



# Ponding Area

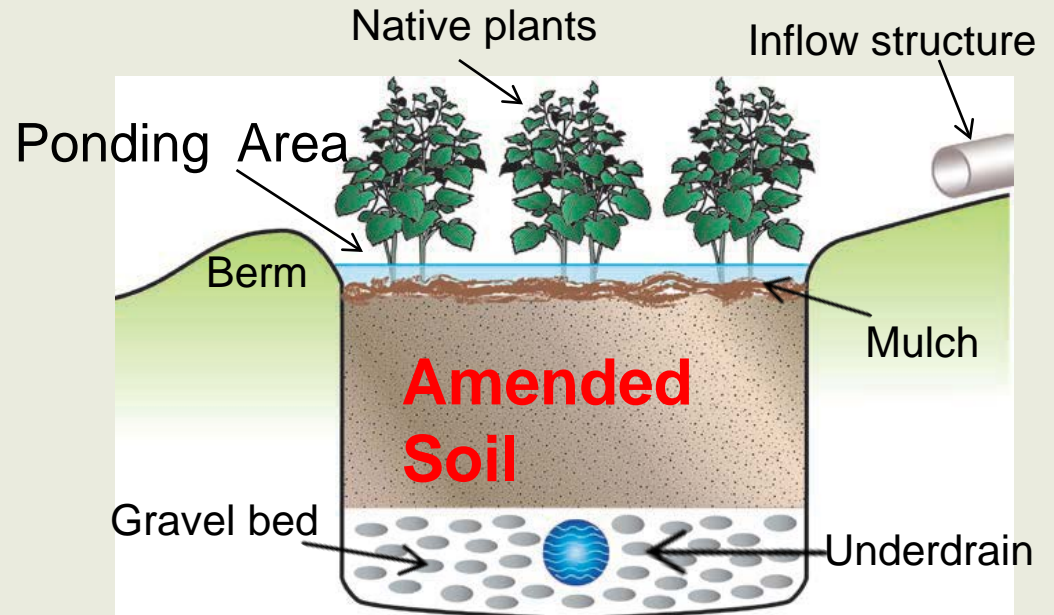
The storage space on top of the rain garden. Its depth varies from 6 inches to 12 inches.





# Amended Soil

Most of the time the natural soil inside the rain garden needs to be amended. Depth of amended soil varies from 1.0 to 2.5 feet.



# Gravel filter & under drain

