Your land. Your water. Your solution!

NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF
Environmental
Services

Overview of Soak Up the Rain NH Program:

- How to prevent runoff at the residential and small business scale
- Website with tons of resources!
  - “Do It Yourself” fact sheets
  - Project Highlights
  - Existing partners around state

- Mainly work through lake and watershed associations
- Cannot do individual site visits

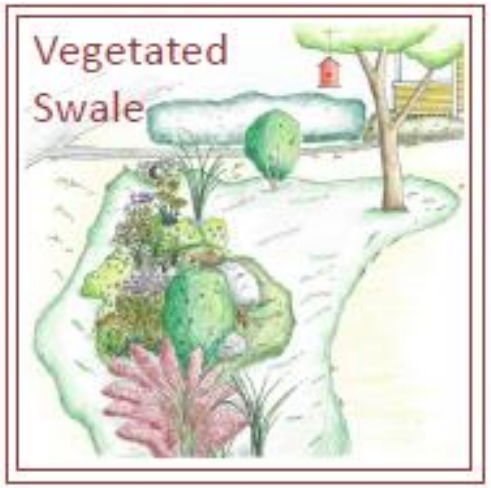
Follow the Flow

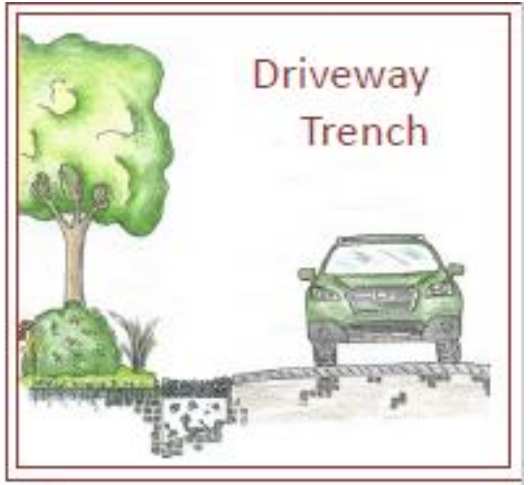
Resources to show how to assess your property and how to capture rain and melting snow to prevent runoff.

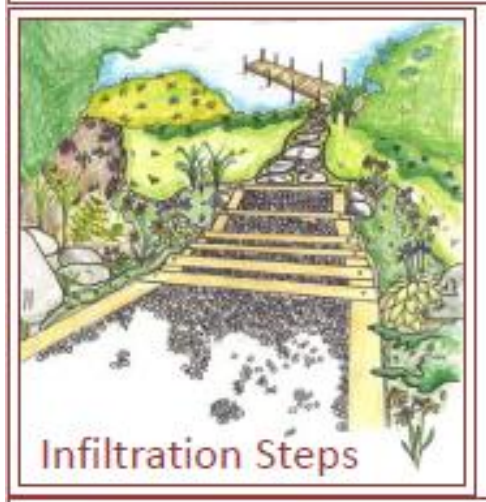
Infiltration "landing"

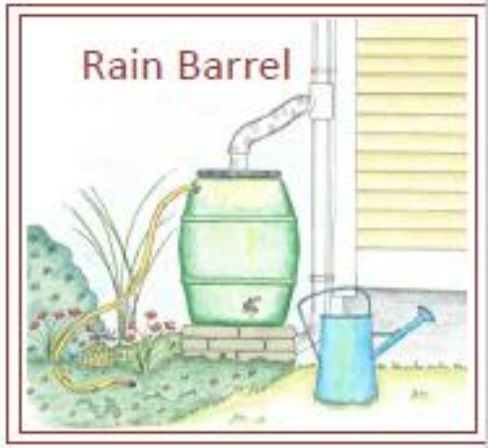
Soak up the Rain
New Hampshire

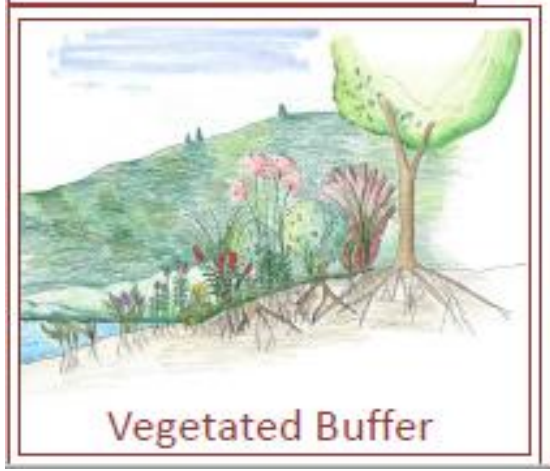
SOAKNH Stormwater Solutions

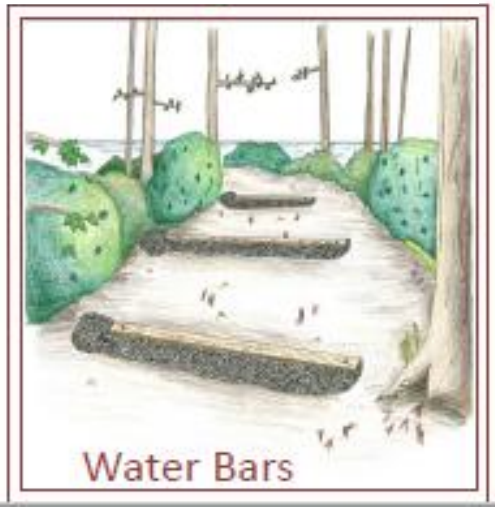


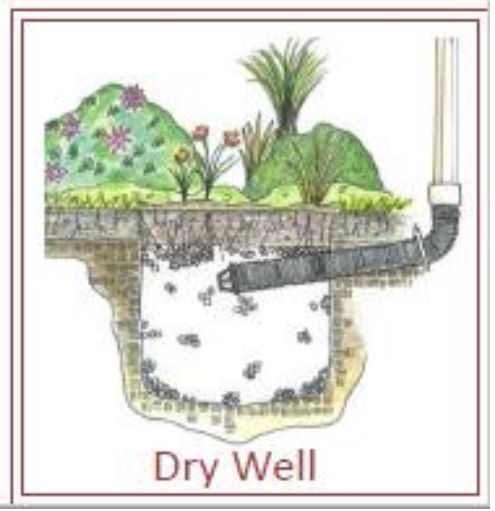




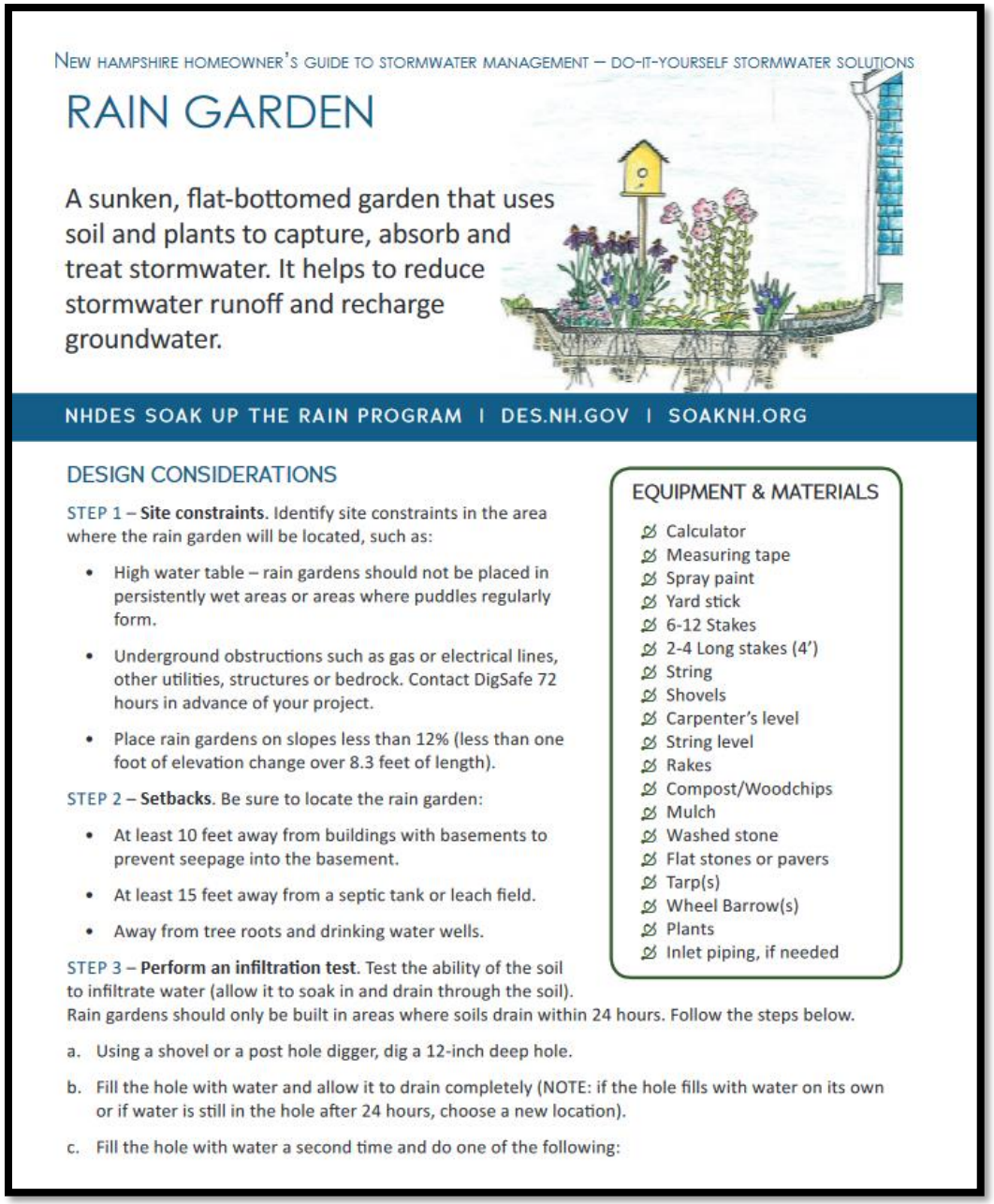








Do-It-Yourself "Stormwater Solutions"



NEW HAMPSHIRE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT – DO-IT-YOURSELF STORMWATER SOLUTIONS

RAIN GARDEN

A sunken, flat-bottomed garden that uses soil and plants to capture, absorb and treat stormwater. It helps to reduce stormwater runoff and recharge groundwater.

NHDES SOAK UP THE RAIN PROGRAM | DES.NH.GOV | SOAKNH.ORG

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

STEP 1 – **Site constraints**. Identify site constraints in the area where the rain garden will be located, such as:

- High water table – rain gardens should not be placed in persistently wet areas or areas where puddles regularly form.
- Underground obstructions such as gas or electrical lines, other utilities, structures or bedrock. Contact DigSafe 72 hours in advance of your project.
- Place rain gardens on slopes less than 12% (less than one foot of elevation change over 8.3 feet of length).

STEP 2 – **Setbacks**. Be sure to locate the rain garden:

- At least 10 feet away from buildings with basements to prevent seepage into the basement.
- At least 15 feet away from a septic tank or leach field.
- Away from tree roots and drinking water wells.

STEP 3 – **Perform an infiltration test**. Test the ability of the soil to infiltrate water (allow it to soak in and drain through the soil). Rain gardens should only be built in areas where soils drain within 24 hours. Follow the steps below.

a. Using a shovel or a post hole digger, dig a 12-inch deep hole.

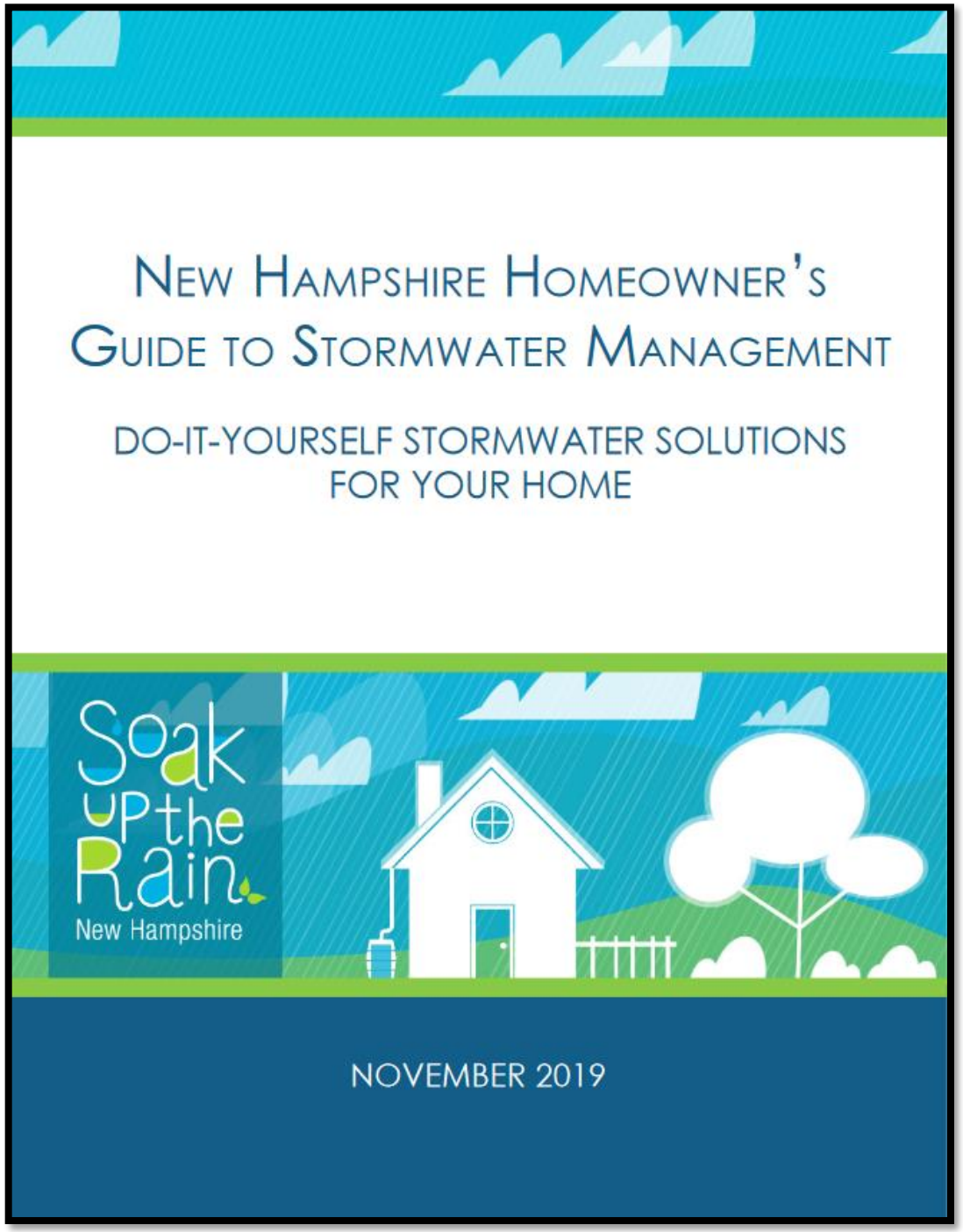
b. Fill the hole with water and allow it to drain completely (NOTE: if the hole fills with water on its own or if water is still in the hole after 24 hours, choose a new location).

c. Fill the hole with water a second time and do one of the following:

EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

- Calculator
- Measuring tape
- Spray paint
- Yard stick
- 6-12 Stakes
- 2-4 Long stakes (4')
- String
- Shovels
- Carpenter's level
- String level
- Rakes
- Compost/Woodchips
- Mulch
- Washed stone
- Flat stones or pavers
- Tarp(s)
- Wheel Barrow(s)
- Plants
- Inlet piping, if needed

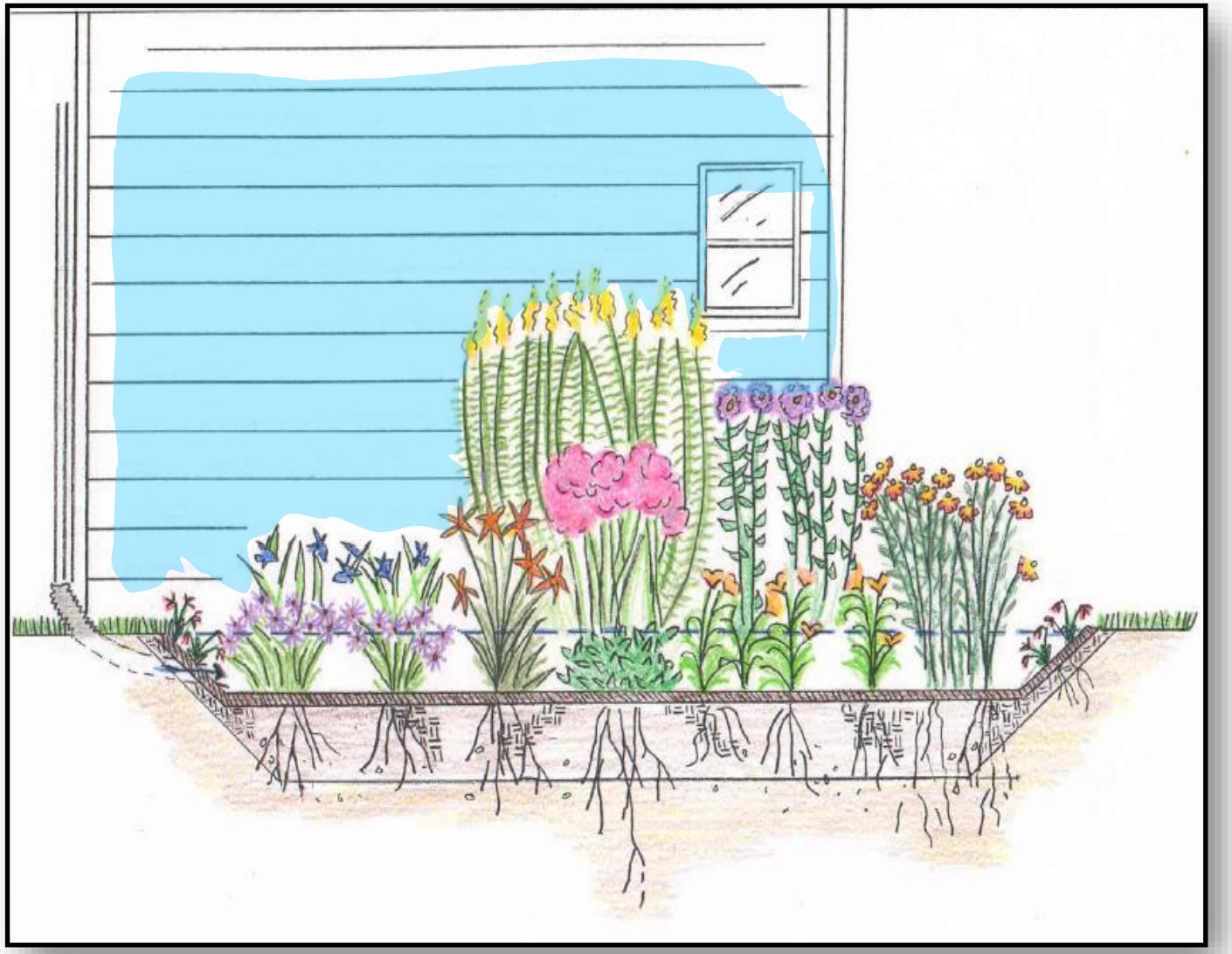
- ✓ **Step by step instructions for 10 "stormwater solutions"**
  - ✓ **Siting**
  - ✓ **Sizing**
  - ✓ **Equipment**
  - ✓ **Materials**
  - ✓ **Maintenance**



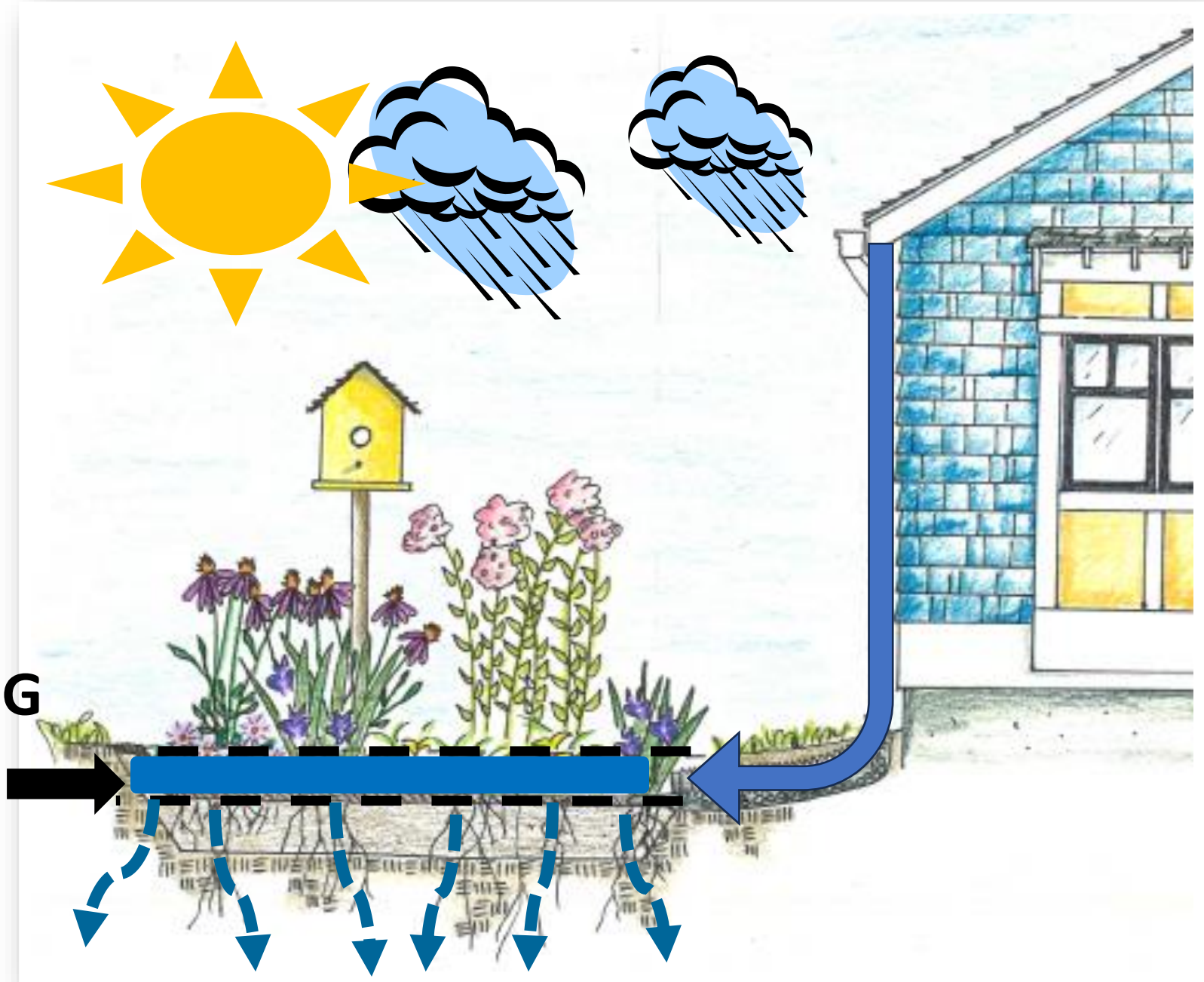
- ✓ **Provides the "how" and "why" for soaking up the rain**
- ✓ **Available fully online**

Rain Garden

A sunken, flat-bottomed garden designed to capture rainwater



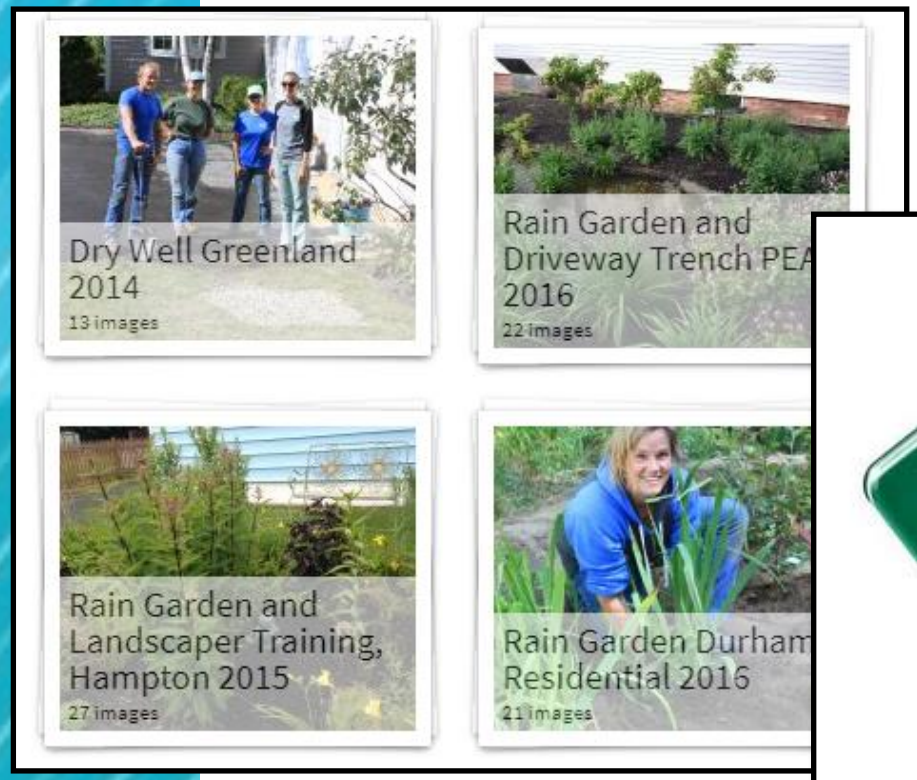
Rain Garden - Key Features



PONDING AREA

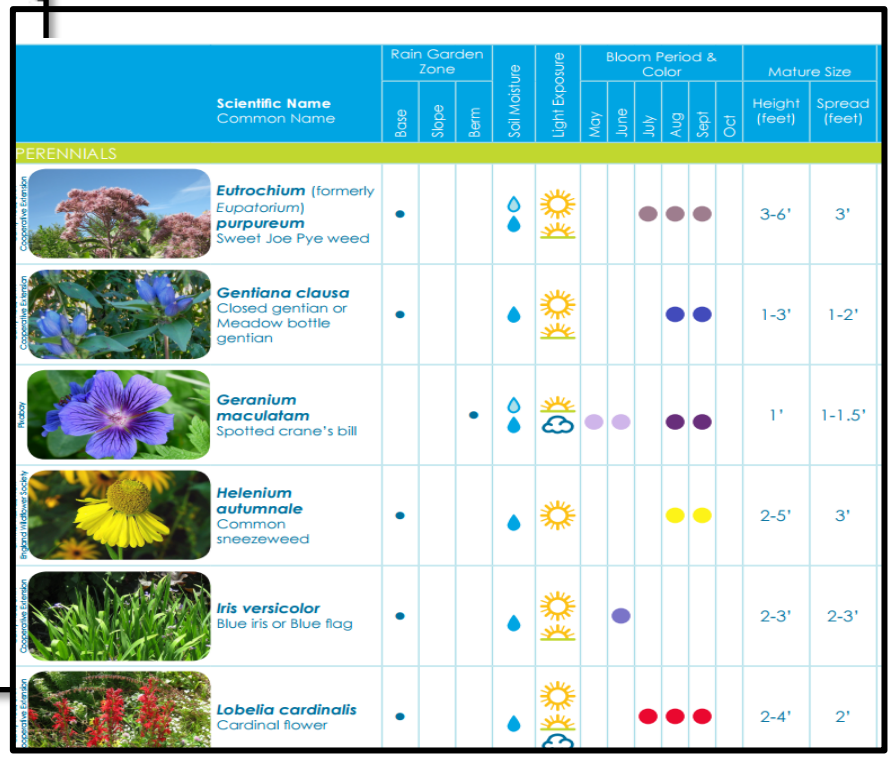
Lots of Other Resources too!

Stories and Photo Galleries



Good Housekeeping Tips
Ex: Responsible lawn care and landscaping

Rain garden planning page



Scientific Name / Common Name	Rain Garden Zone: Base	Slope	Berm	Soil Moisture	Light Exposure	Bloom Period & Color: May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Mature Size: Height (feet)	Spread (feet)
PERENNIALS													
Eutrochium (formerly *Eupatorium*) ***purpureum*** Sweet Joe Pye weed	•											3-6'	3'
Gentiana clausa Closed gentian or Meadow bottle gentian	•											1-3'	1-2'
Geranium maculatam Spotted crane's bill			•									1'	1-1.5'
Helenium autumnale Common sneezeweed	•											2-5'	3'
Iris versicolor Blue iris or Blue flag	•											2-3'	2-3'
Lobelia cardinalis Cardinal flower	•											2-4'	2'

Rain Garden. Partner: Great Bay Stewards

Infiltration Landing. Partner: Wentworth Watershed

QUESTIONS?

For SOAKNH inquiries:

robert.Livingston@des.nh.gov

Soak Up the Rain NH Website:

https://www4.des.state.nh.us/SoakNH/

Soak up the Rain New Hampshire

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Services

Dry Well. Partner: Great Bay Stewards

Infiltration Trench. Partner: Green Mtn Conservation Group