

BUILD YOUR RAIN GARDEN



SURVEY YOUR AREA

Watch where the rainwater mainly builds up near your home and how much of it. This will tell you how much water your rain garden will get so you can plant accordingly. Your rain garden should be built downhill from where rainwater comes down from a pipe or where the water naturally pools. It should be at least 10 feet away from your home to prevent molding and damage.

BUILD DOWNHILL PATH

If your field already has a downhill slope, you can use this to be where the water will travel down. You can also dig one yourself using a shovel.

MAKE YOUR GARDEN

You need at least six inches of soil in your rain garden once you've picked a spot. You can also improve the filtering and absorption of the water into your rain garden by creating a soil mixture that is 2 parts sand, one part compost, and one part topsoil.

TEST YOUR SOIL

Drill a 12-inch deep hole in your rain garden and fill it with water. The water should fully disappear after 24 hours. This test makes sure that the water will drain into the soil rather than just sitting on top of the dirt. This will prevent mosquitos and flooding.

PICK YOUR PLANTS

Pick plants that take in the appropriate amount of water you saw gather when it rains. Wildflowers, shrubs, and ferns are good. The most water-tolerant plants should be at the end or middle of the rain garden where water can accumulate longest. Plant drought-resistant plants on the outskirts of the garden.

Sources:

• Das, Chintu. "What Is a Rain Garden and How You Can Make One?" Agriculture News, Latest News Updates on Agriculture, Farming, Food Processing, Farm Tools & Machinery. Latest Updates on Agriculture Events and Seminars. Live Update on Educational and Employment Alerts., Krishi Jagran, 2 Apr. 2021, <https://krishijagran.com/agripedia/what-is-a-rain-garden-and-how-you-can-make-one/>.

Infographic by Tehreem Qureshi.