

Common rain garden plants for full sun include:

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Cardinal flower    | Culver's root  |
| Great blue lobelia | Turtlehead     |
| Marsh milkweed     | Joe-pye weed   |
| Butterfly milkweed | Sedges         |
| Marsh blazing star | Blue flag iris |
| Ohio spiderwort    | Wild geranium  |
| Purple coneflower  | Grasses        |
| Black-eyed Susan   | Rushes         |

*Please contact us for specific recommendations.*

## example planting list



Top right photo by Rusty Schmidt

# about CORGI

The **Central Ohio Rain Garden Initiative** is a collaborative effort to promote the benefits of **rain gardens** for community beautification and clean water. The initiative can provide you with **education** and **technical assistance** to help with rain garden assessment, design, and planting plans. **Assistance** is available for residents, community organizations, municipalities, and businesses.

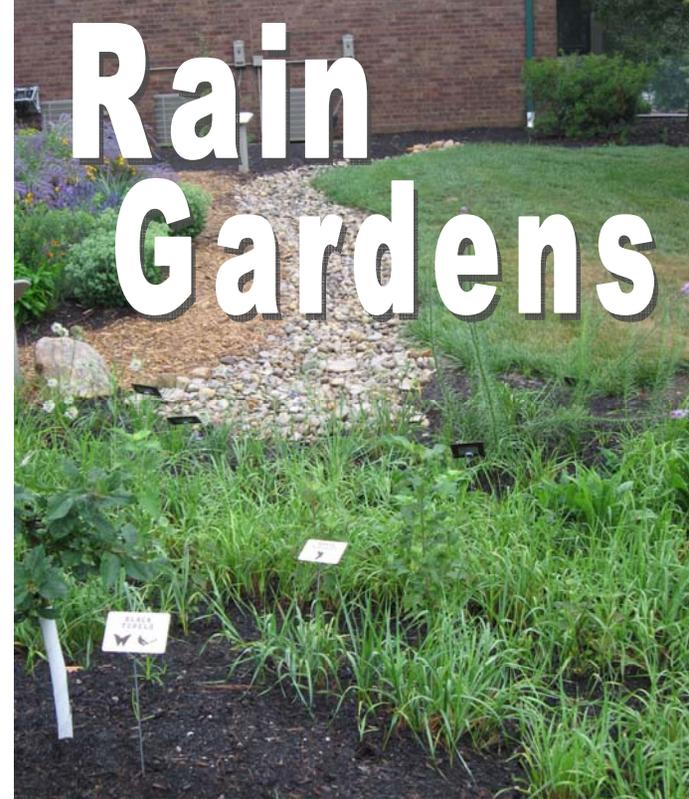
*Please visit [www.centralohioraingardens.org](http://www.centralohioraingardens.org) or call (614) 486-9613 for more information.*



## partners

- Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District •
- Franklin County Commissioners • Natural Resources Conservation Service •
- RC&D Council • Cities of Columbus, Delaware, Dublin, Gahanna, Grove City, and Westerville •
- MORPC • Sierra Club, Ohio Chapter • Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed •
- Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries • Sustainable Grandview •
- Malcolm Pirnie • Tetra Tech • Urban Wild •
- URS Corp. • Williams Creek Consulting • Brown and Caldwell

This brochure has been made possible by funding from the Ohio Environmental Education Fund.



our **mission:**  
To promote the benefits of rain gardens for community beautification and clean water.



Rice Creek Watershed, MN

# planting a rain garden?

1

## We're Here to Help

Visit [www.centralohioraingardens.org](http://www.centralohioraingardens.org) or call us at (614) 486-9613 for more information.

2

## Dig Safely

Call the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) before you dig: (800) 362-2764.

3

## Know Your Soil

Dig an 8"x8"x8" test hole, fill with water and check infiltration after 24 hours. Rain gardens should drain within 24 hours.

4

## Let Nature Work for You

Consider using native plants—they are used to our soils, climate, and pollinators.

5

## Check the Flow

Consider an outlet for overflow in heavy rain events.

6

## Recruit Your Friends

Consider having volunteers help with excavation and/or planting to keep costs low.

7

## Share Your Rain Garden

Call us at (614) 486-9613 x125 or email [ssuter@franklinswcd.org](mailto:ssuter@franklinswcd.org). We can update the number of backyard conversation practices implemented and gallons of storm water collected in central Ohio!

**Homestead Park  
rain garden in  
Washington Township**



## what is a rain garden?

A rain garden is an attractive, depressed area designed to allow rain water and snowmelt to seep naturally in the ground with help of deep rooted plants.

## how they work

Rain gardens slow and reduce storm water runoff from hard surfaces like rooftops, driveways, sidewalks, and parking lots. Rain gardens can address excess water, provide wildlife habitat, and help reduce harmful pollutants by filtering storm water runoff through the plants' roots and soil.

## benefits

- Protect local rivers and streams from storm water pollution and recharge ground water supply
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Reduce lawn maintenance and use of lawn mowers. Less lawn, less gas, fewer emissions!
- Provide an affordable and attractive natural solution to water pollution and flooding
- Prevent storm water from entering and overloading the local sewer system and overflowing into local waterways