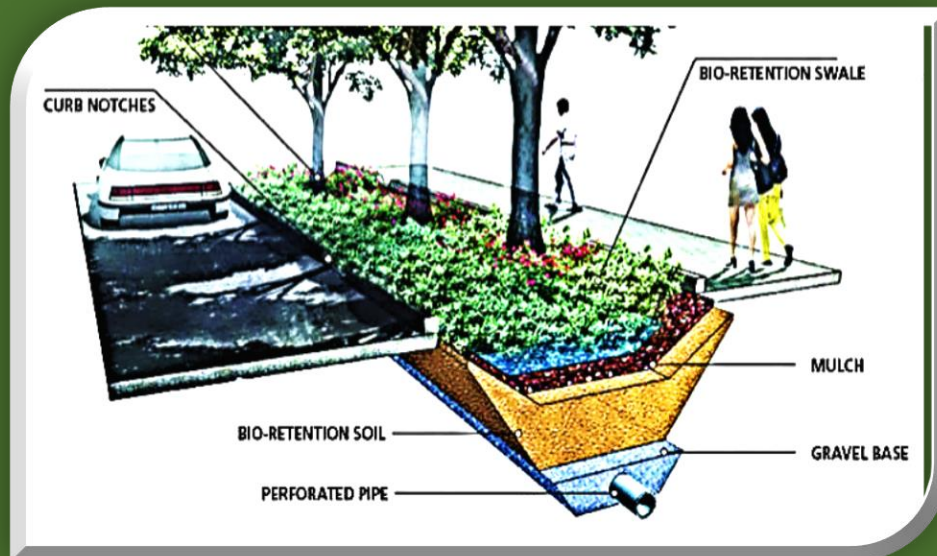


RAIN GARDENS are versatile features that can be installed in almost any unpaved space. Also, known as bioretention or biofiltration cells, they are shallow, vegetated basins that collect and absorb runoff from rooftops, sidewalks, and streets. This practice mimics natural hydrology by infiltrating and “evapotranspiring” – stormwater runoff.



Application

The rain garden area usually consists of a grass filter, sand bed, ponding area, organic/mulch layer, planting soil, and vegetation. A rain garden can be installed in almost any unpaved space and can usually be found within “landscaping islands.” A rain garden is well suited for highly impervious areas and has good retrofit capabilities - not recommended for steep slopes.



Photos: Rain Gardens – Image Results (Public Images)

Additional Resources

Please see the links below for more information regarding the following:

[Rain Garden Minimum Construction Standards](#)
[Recommended Plant List](#)

Fact Sheet:

A&M AgriLife Extension: [Bioretention Areas](#)

Maintenance:

[iSWM Technical Manual Bioretention 2.7 – Inspection and Maintenance Requirements](#)

The design shall include detailed information on long-term activities, and in some cases the owner of the device shall enter into a maintenance agreement with the City.