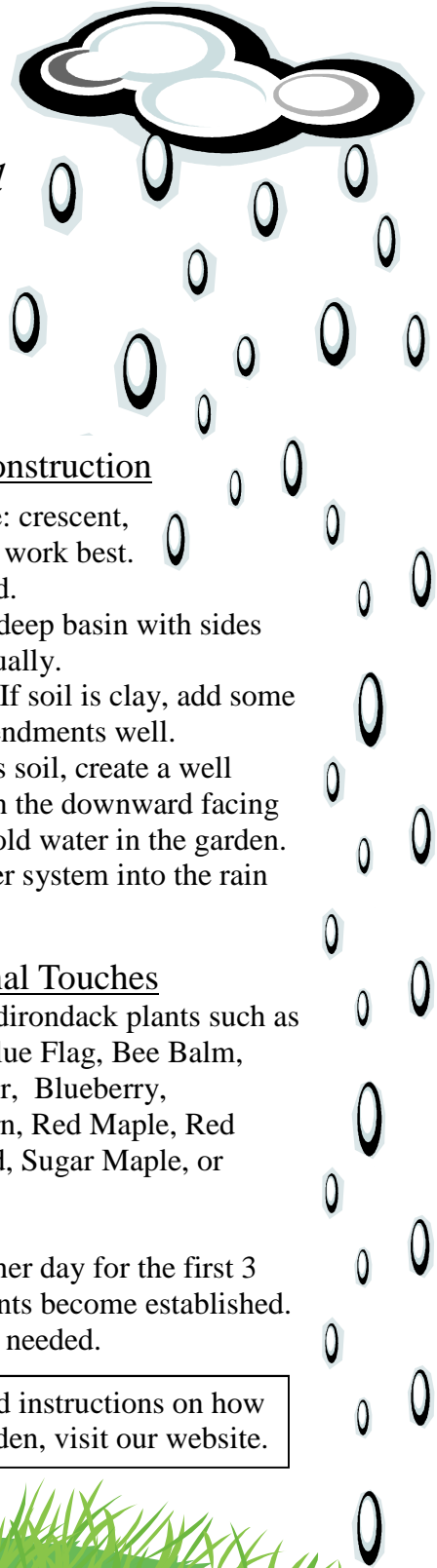


# Rain Gardens

*Creating a rain garden on your property is a beautiful way to enhance wildlife habitat, decrease flooding, recharge groundwater, and absorb polluted runoff that harms our waterbodies.*

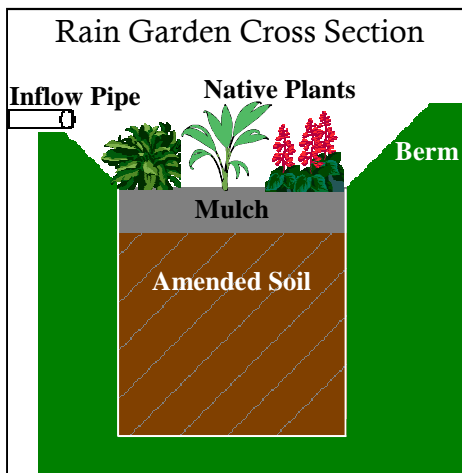


## 1. Choose a Site

- 10 or more feet away from your home
- on a flat area.
- 50 or more feet away from your well
- away from the septic system, trees, and utilities.
- In a location that receives full or partial sunlight.
- Away from standing water where infiltration is slow.

## 2. Sizing

- The garden should be 1/3 of the drainage area (roof and driveway) that contributes runoff to the garden.
- Ultimately, any size will do!



## 3. Construction

- Choose a shape: crescent, kidney, or oval work best.
- Remove the sod.
- Dig a 4-8 inch deep basin with sides that slope gradually.
- Add compost. If soil is clay, add some sand. Mix amendments well.
- With the excess soil, create a well packed berm on the downward facing slope to help hold water in the garden.
- Divert the gutter system into the rain garden.

## 4. Final Touches

- Plant native, Adirondack plants such as Arrowwood, Blue Flag, Bee Balm, Cardinal Flower, Blueberry, Maidenhair Fern, Red Maple, Red Osier Dogwood, Sugar Maple, or Winterberry.
- Mulch.
- Water every other day for the first 3 weeks until plants become established. Fertilizer is not needed.

Fore more detailed instructions on how to build a rain garden, visit our website.