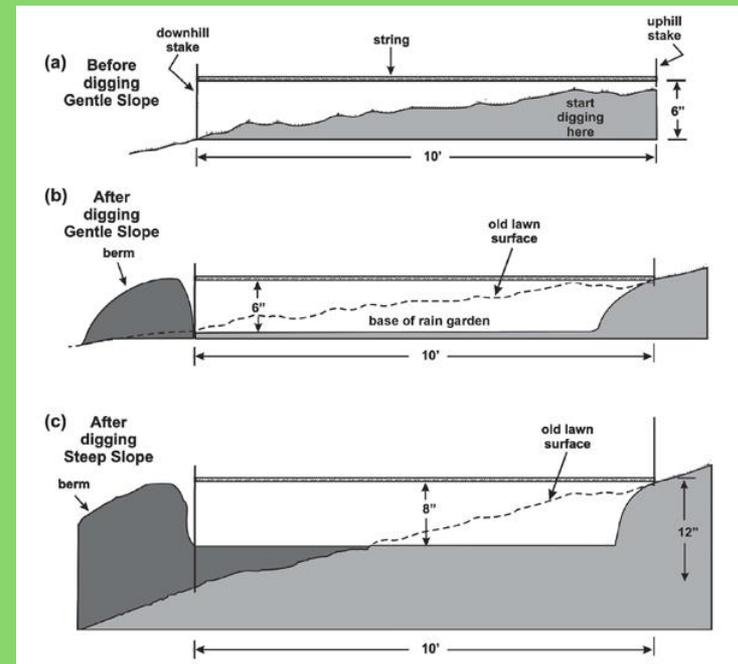


Rain Garden Construction & Maintenance

Rain Garden Construction: Preparing the garden bed

1. Layout the garden with spray paint or rope
2. Remove sod
3. Remove soil and shape the garden bed
 - Rear tine tiller helps!
4. Add 3 inches of leaf compost
5. Till compost into garden bed



Rain Garden Construction: Adding inlet and outlet

1. Make sure inlet is higher than outlet
2. Add rocks to inlet for splash area



Rain Garden Construction: Edging and Mulching



1. Use plastic edging or blocks to prevent lawn creep
2. Add 3" of shredded hardwood mulch
 - fibrous strands will mat together
 - Weed suppression
 - Moisture



Rain Garden Construction: Plants

1. Layout plants while they are still in their pots prior to planting
2. Install pots or plugs deep into soil
3. Break up root ball
4. Lightly compact soil around the plant to prevent air pockets
5. Thoroughly water plants within 12 hours after planting and biweekly afterwards for best success
 - Soaker hose



Costs for 100 sq. ft Rain Garden

- Plant Materials
 - Plugs: \$100 or Pots: \$200 or Gallons: \$250
- Soil Amendments
 - 1 cu yd compost: \$15
 - 1 cu yd mulch: \$30
- Inlet/outlet
 - \$0 - \$50
- Equipment Rental
 - Tiller: \$64 for 4 hours
- Delivery fees
 - ~\$65 per delivery
- Labor

TOTAL: ~\$500



Designing a Rain Garden: **Maintenance**



First Season Maintenance

1. Watering is key in first year. Water 1 inch every week for the first 3 months.
2. Keep grass area around garden higher, around 3”.
3. Routinely week to reduce competition.



Annual Maintenance



1. Cut perennials and grasses to the ground.
2. Remove cuttings and trash/debris
3. Replace mulch as needed, typically every 3 years.
4. Water in times of severe drought.
5. May need supplemental water after the first 2 years.
6. Inspect downspouts or inlet pipes to prevent blockage.

Questions or Comments

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Thank you for keeping our waterways healthy!