

EUCLID CREEK RAIN GARDENS – MAYFIELD SCHOOL BOARD BUILDING

*Euclid Creek Watershed
Mayfield Heights, Ohio*

Installed in November of 2009, the 300 square foot Mayfield School Board Rain Garden was designed and planted by the Mayfield Horticulture Center Students. The Mayfield City School Board and the Cities of Highland Heights and Mayfield Heights funded the garden. The plants for the project were provided by Ohio Prairie Nursery and the soil and mulch were provided by Kurtz Bros.



A rain garden is a vegetated garden planted with native plants intended to allow runoff from impervious surfaces such as driveways, roads, rooftops, and parking lots to percolate into the groundwater rather than directly entering streams via storm sewers. This helps protect local streams by reducing the volume and velocity of streams during storm events and by purifying the water by allowing it to filter through the soil, thus lowering the amount of pollutants that ultimately enter the stream. Rain gardens also provide habitat for native birds and insects, and because they are planted with native plants, they require less water and maintenance once established than other non-native species.

Before Installation



During Installation



Completed Installation



2010:



2011:



2012:



2012:



Educational Signage:

THIS IS A RAIN GARDEN
~RESTORING THE CHAGRIN RIVER~

What is a Rain Garden?
Rain Gardens are artificial landscape features with permeable native plants which open "spongy" soil to filter storm water runoff before it enters local waterways and provide habitat for birds and butterflies.

What are the benefits of a Rain Garden?
Rain Gardens can provide multiple benefits. They recharge groundwater, reduce, help remove pollutants, filter storm water runoff before it enters local waterways and provide habitat for birds and butterflies.

Why do we need Rain Gardens?
Over the years, development of our land has resulted in compacted soil and an increase in impervious surfaces such as lawns, parking lots and roads. During rainstorms, instead of being absorbed and filtered by the soil, the storm water runs off the land, which contributes to flooding, erosion and water quality issues. Rain gardens are one measure that can help to increase the infiltration of storm water.

Why is this Rain Garden Here?
This particular Rain Garden was constructed to collect and filter storm water generated from 1,500 square feet of the Mayfield School Board Building roof. Water that previously flowed into a storm drain was directed into the rain garden to allow the storm water to be filtered of pollutants and to infiltrate into the soil providing groundwater recharge. Excess water flows into a storm drain located at the bottom of the lot and empties into the Chagrin River.

Plant Choices: Choose native plants chosen to help filter, absorb and store water. Rain gardens are not meant to be mowed and fertilized.

Soil Amendments: Amend soil with organic matter to improve soil structure and water infiltration.

Location: Rain gardens are often located in the yard and are a great way to reduce runoff and the drain.

Plant Choices: Choose native plants chosen to help filter, absorb and store water. Rain gardens are not meant to be mowed and fertilized.

Soil Amendments: Amend soil with organic matter to improve soil structure and water infiltration.

Location: Rain gardens are often located in the yard and are a great way to reduce runoff and the drain.

Developed in November 2009 by the City of Highland Heights and the City of Highland Heights and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District. Funded by the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District. Photo credit: Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District.

Thanks to our sponsors!!



For more information, please contact Claire Posius, Euclid Creek Watershed Coordinator, Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District, 216-524-6580x16 or email cposius@cuyahogawcd.org.