



Rainscaping Education Program

Demonstration Rain Garden

County Name Rock Island

Background Information

Riverside Rain Garden is a small demonstration garden that is part of a larger park plan. Done in partnership with the City of Moline, the rain garden is located next to the park building, a highly visible location. Water from the building is diverted into the garden. An existing sidewalk provides easy viewing for park visitors and easy access to an educational sign referencing the garden.

Illinois Master Gardeners and Illinois Master Naturalist partner with Friends of Riverside to maintain a few planting beds within the park. The rain garden will be maintained as an Illinois Extension project.

The planting plan was derived from a recommended plan developed by the University of Illinois Red Oak Rain Garden. Plant growth and garden development will be documented, and data will contribute to the study of those plans as they continue to be improved.



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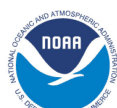
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Garden Design: Plantings and Information

Plant Scientific Name	Common Name	Number Used
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Columbine	-
<i>Baptisia alba</i>	White Wild Indigo	2
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	4
<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	Purple Joe Pye Weed	2
<i>Carex spp.</i>	Emory's Sedge	12
<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	Great Blue Lobelia	9
<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i>	Blazing Star	5
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie Dropseed	8
<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Indian Grass	3
<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexander	3
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	2



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Maintenance Plan: Establishment Period

- Year One
 - Monitor soil moisture and provide supplemental water as needed to support the establishment
 - Inspect after rain events. Repair erosion, remove mulch from plants if floated and covered
 - Control weeds
- Year Two
 - Inspect after rain events. Repair erosion, remove mulch from plants if floated and covered
 - Replace plants if needed

Maintenance Plan: Post Establishment Period

- Plants
 - Prune as needed
 - Remove biomass in late spring to maintain pollinator habitat
- Garden
 - Develop educational signs, rotate seasonally
 - Winterize pipe before winter, reconnect in spring
 - Replace dead plants and repair garden structure as needed



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Resource Contact

Emily Swihart - Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator: eswihart@Illinois.edu

Tracy Jo Mulliken - Illinois Extension Program Coordinator, Horticulture and Agriculture: tmully@Illinois.edu

Rachel Curry - Illinois Extension Agriculture and Agribusiness Educator: rccurry@Illinois.edu

About the Rainscaping Education Program

The Rainscaping Education Program is a bi-state partnership which offers state-wide training for Master Gardeners, conservation agencies and organizations, stormwater professionals, and landscape companies and consultants.

The two day workshop sessions cover an introduction to rainscaping and rain gardens with specific modules for rain garden site selection, plant selection and garden design, installation, maintenance, and community engagement.

Workshops include hands-on activities, interactive discussions, and field trips to community rainscaping projects. Participants also gain experience through creation of a demonstration rain garden with community partners in a public space.

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