

When does rain garden maintenance become my responsibility?

Land developers design, build, and maintain rain gardens until the plants are established. At the end of this period, the rain garden becomes the responsibility of the adjacent property owner(s).

Did you know?

As per Township Bylaw No. 4758, property owners are responsible for the maintenance of their road frontage.



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tol.ca/raingarden

ENG15-056

Township of
Langley



Est. 1873

Maintaining Your Rain Garden



What is a rain garden?

A rain garden is a shallow, gently sloped channel filled with topsoil and plants. Rain gardens are an attractive and natural way to manage rainwater runoff in our developed neighbourhoods.

How does it work?

Runoff from small, frequent rain showers is stored in the topsoil. When the topsoil's storage is full, water flows into the pipe system and slowly enters the municipal drainage system. Plants also help absorb pollutants and prevent them from washing into watersheds.

Did you know?

Rain water treated by topsoil is cool, clean, and has nutrients that benefit wildlife.



Did you know?

Rain gardens allow about 30% more water to soak into the ground than a regular lawn.

How do I care for my rain garden?

While rain gardens do not need fertilizers, winter protection, or irrigation, they do need some maintenance to remain attractive and effective:

- weed by hand
- use durable, clean tools
- mow the grass strip
- work from the sides inward where possible
- clear sediment and debris from stones and drain
- water new plantings as needed during dry seasons
- top-dress planted areas with topsoil or compost as required

Call the Township of Langley to report rain garden issues:

- if the drainage system is blocked, and you are unable to clear it
- any damage you are unable to repair, like a broken culvert
- significant erosion
- spills and pollution that appears to be harmful or dangerous

For rain gardens, the Township will:

- prune street trees
- maintain pipes, culverts, and grate covers
- provide service and repairs that property owners are unable to perform

