Rain Garden Rebate Guide

LAKE ERIE STORMWATER STEWARDS

Rain gardens are designed to collect and filter rainwater that runs off impervious surfaces, like rooftops and driveways. Rain gardens naturally manage stormwater by allowing it to infiltrate into the ground, rather than sending it directly to storm sewers and nearby streams untreated. Rain gardens can help manage flooding issues on your property by allowing excess rainwater to more easily soak into the ground, while providing beautiful habitat for wildlife.

Find out if you're eligible for the Lake Erie Stormwater Stewards Rebate Program!

How It Works

Rebates are awarded on a first come, first served basis after confirmation of completed installation and a final rebate application is received. You must complete pre-approval materials prior to installation. Completion of pre-approval materials does not guarantee a rebate. Any rain garden installed must meet all program requirements for approval. Funding is limited. See program website for eligibility requirements.
https://crwp.org/lake-erie-stormwater-rebate/

Rebate Amount

Rate of $5 per square foot of rain garden installed. Max rebate amount: $1,300. Rebate cannot exceed the costs of the rain garden installation.

CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS

Blue Stone

friends of EUCLID CREEK

cuyahoga SOIL&WATER conservation district

WILLIAM BINGHAM FOUNDATION WBF 1955

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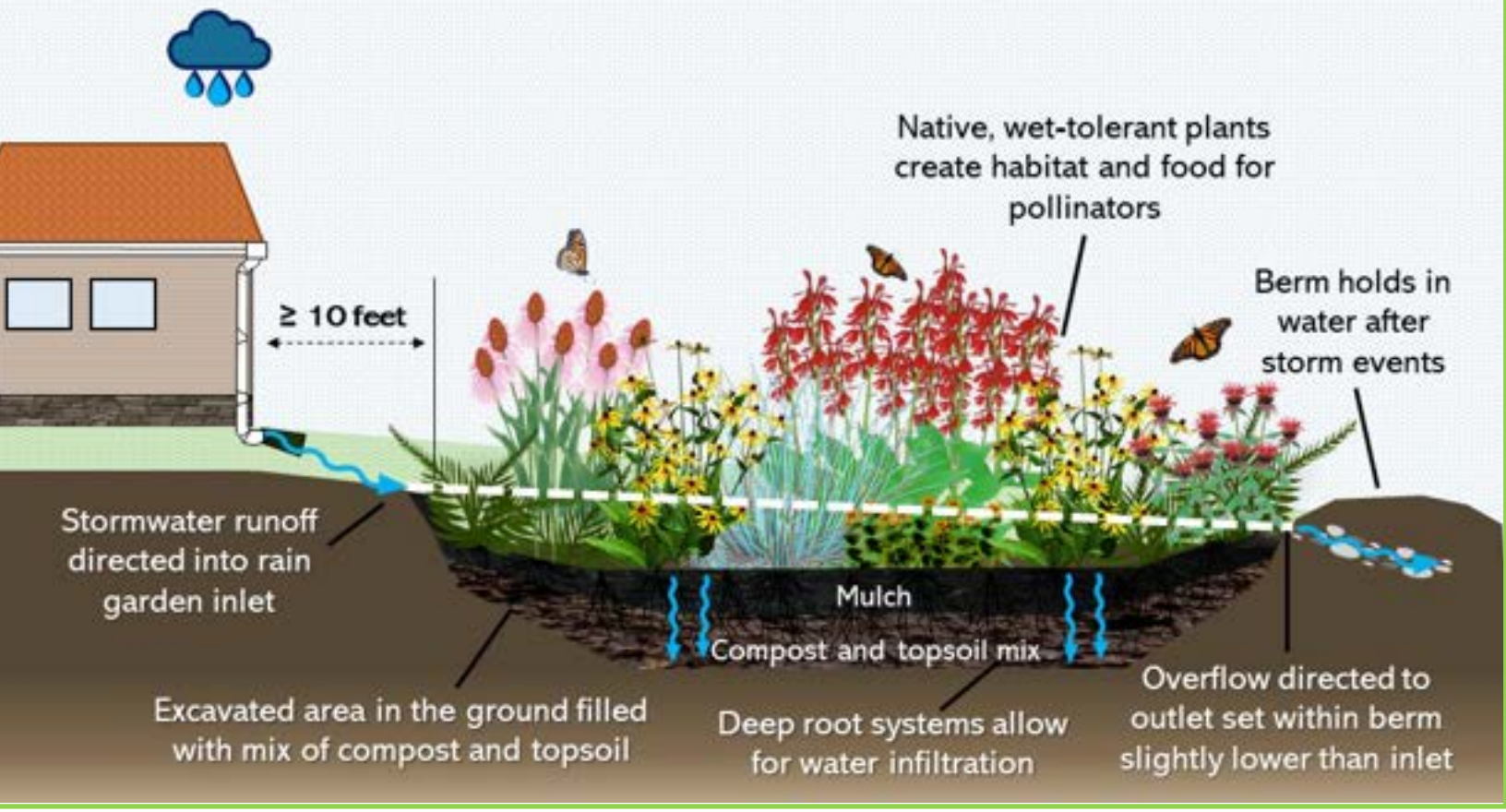


Rain Garden Criteria

- A minimum of 400 ft^2 of impervious surface needs to be redirected from the roof through a downspout or from other runoff sources to the project area.
    - If you are unable to meet the 400 ft^2 requirement, we will consider single downspout rain gardens treating less than 400 ft^2 on a case-by-case basis.
- Follow all guidelines for building a rain garden in the Rain Garden Manual for Homeowners or consider taking the Master Rain Gardener course.
- Overflow must be directed to the original intended stormwater management area and away from neighboring properties, sidewalks, steep slopes, retaining walls, or building foundations.
- Rain garden must comply with all community codes.

Rain Garden Rebate Guide

Getting a Rebate Pre-Approval

1. Email stormwaterrebates@crwp.org, and a program representative will reach out to you to discuss your site.
2. Review the rain garden installation resources and rebate requirements.
3. Determine rain garden location, perform a percolation test, and determine rain garden sizing.
4. Complete the Pre-Installation Form and submit before photos of your rain garden location and a signed Maintenance Agreement.

Purchasing Rain Garden Materials and Services

1. Obtain program approval before purchasing all materials and services.
2. Purchase materials to build your rain garden yourself or pay labor and materials cost if hiring a contractor to install your rain garden for you.
3. Save all receipts for proof of purchase.

Installing Your Rain Garden

1. Install your rain garden using the Rain Garden Manual for Homeowners or consider hiring a contractor from the List of Professional Rain Gardeners to install your rain garden for you.
2. Take photos of your newly installed rain garden.

Completing the Rebate Process

1. Submit a Rain Garden Rebate Application, post-construction photos, and proof of payment for all materials and services.
2. After obtaining program approval, receive and install program signage.
3. Optional: If you meet the criteria for NEORSD's credit program, apply to receive credit from NEORSD.

Rain Garden
Percolation Test Guide

The size of your rain garden will be determined by the size of the runoff area and the permeability of your soil. Soil permeability is the rate in which water runs through the soil. Follow theses steps to perform a soil percolation test for soil permeability.

Always call OHIO811 or visit oups.org to have utilities marked before you dig!

1. Dig a hole

After consulting with a CLEB representative on rain garden placement, dig a hole about 6 inches wide and 18 inches deep within your proposed rain garden site.

2. Fill the hole with water

Fill the hole completely water and allow it to drain. This step will allow the soil to saturate and prep the soil for the percolation test.

3. Perform the percolation test

Fill the hole completely with water again and note the time. Check back on your hole in 24 hours to see if the water has drained

Water that drains in **less than 24 hours**, is well-draining (e.g. sand, silt).
Water that drains in **more than 24 hours**, is poorly-draining (e.g. clay).

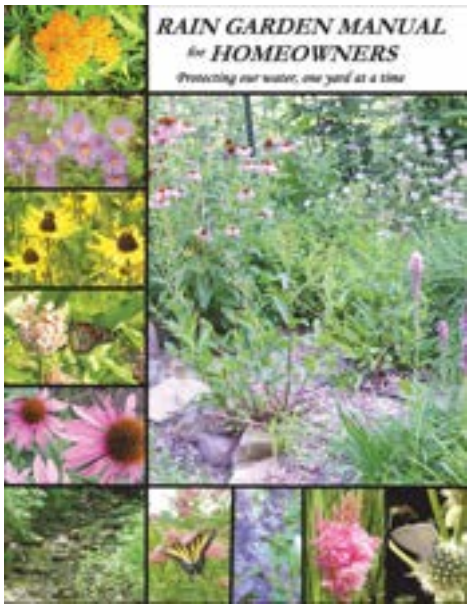
Use the chart below to determine what percentage of the drainage area to use to calculate the size and depth of the rain garden.

Time to Drain	Impermeable Surface Multiplier	Ponding Depth
Less than 24 hours	20% (0.2 x Drainage area)	4 – 6 inches
More than 24 hours	30% (0.3 x Drainage area)	3 inches

Rain Garden
Installation Resources

Rain Garden Manual for Homeowners

This guide was developed by regional organizations and agencies in cooperation with the Northeast Ohio Public Involvement Public Engagement (NEO PIPE) work group. In this manual you will find information to help guide you on how to design, install, and maintain rain gardens on your property. See the Rain Garden Manual for Homeowners.



Master Rain Gardener Program

The Northeast Ohio Master Rain Gardener Program is a 5-class course that teaches participants how to design, install, and maintain residential rain gardens. Master Rain Gardeners earn their certification by completing the course content and building a rain garden. This course is taught by experienced instructors who will walk you through every step to putting your rain garden in the ground. Visit neomasterraingardener.org for course options and to learn more.

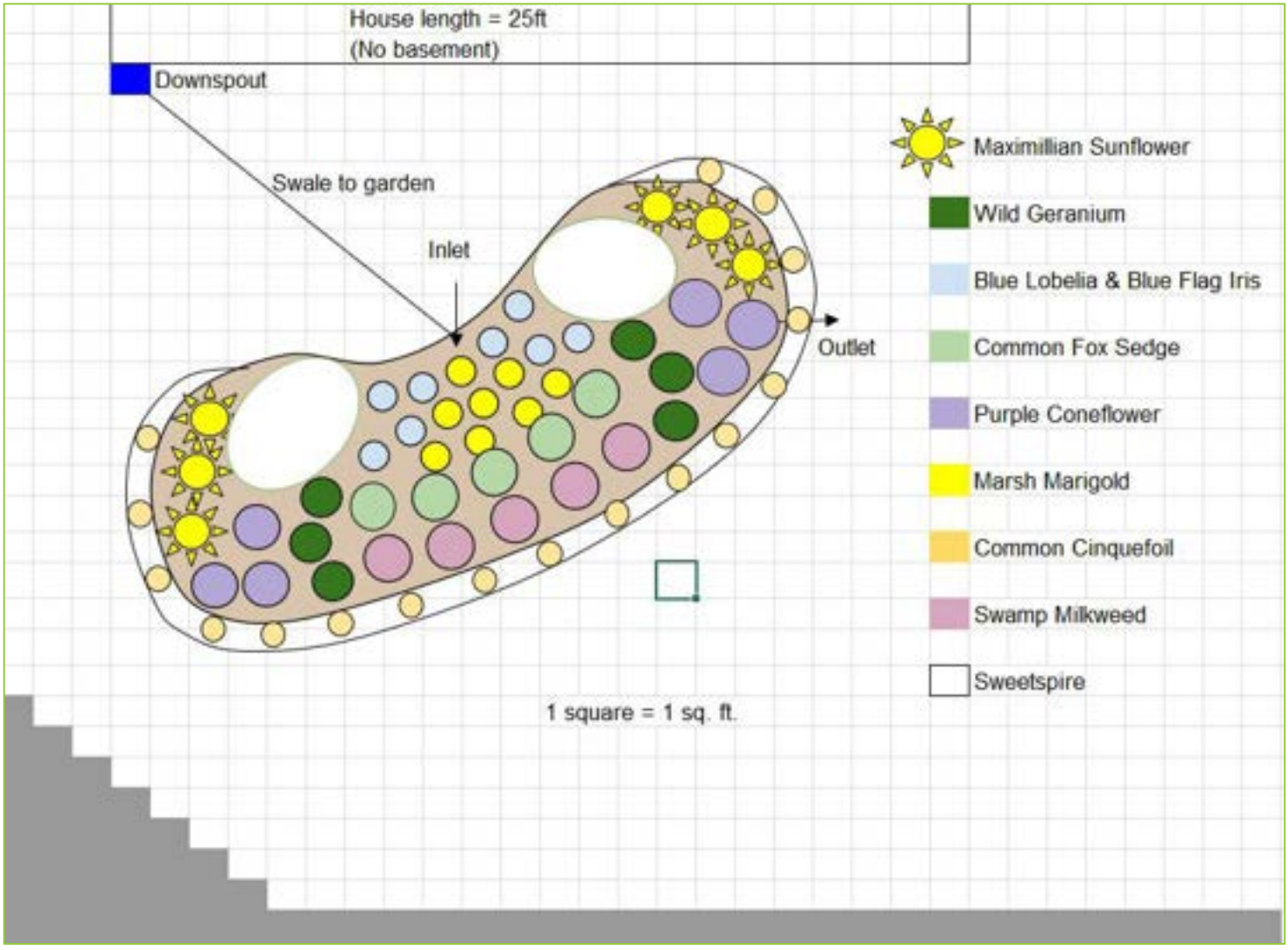
Prefer to Hire a Pro? Consider a Professional Rain Gardener!

Professional Rain Gardeners are certified landscaping professionals who have completed the Professional Rain Gardener course as part of the Master Rain Gardener Program. See the List of Professional Rain Gardeners. Inclusion on this list does not constitute an endorsement.

Rain Garden

Design Sketch Examples

OPTIONAL: The following are examples of rain garden design sketches for your planning purposes. Design sketches can be done in a variety of formats by hand or digitally. In your sketch, you can include and label any houses, fences, trees, utility lines, or any other relevant structures near the proposed rain garden. It may be helpful for you to include a scale and indicate the location of the water source as well as the rain garden inlet and outlet location. A planting plan and a list of plants that you plan to use can also be helpful as you plan your rain garden. If you are hiring a contractor to install the rain garden, you may request that they provide you with a design sketch.



Rain garden sketch designed on a computer using Microsoft Excel

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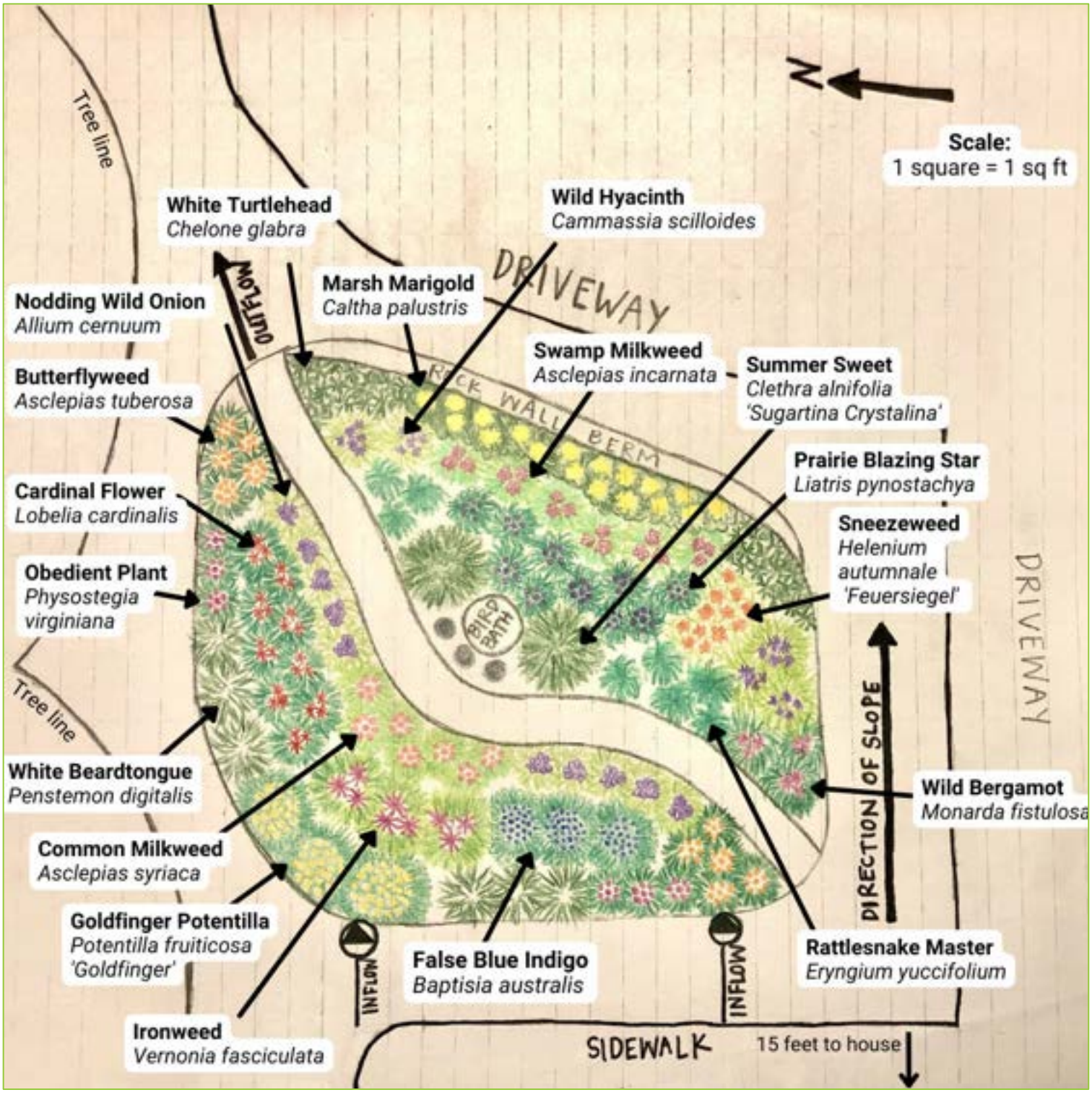

Rain garden sketch designed by hand using graph paper