

# INTERESTED IN DOING YOUR PART? CLEAN WATER CAN START WITH YOU

MILLBURY  
MASSACHUSETTS

## What is a rain garden and how do I build one?

Rain gardens, also called bioretention facilities, are beautiful landscaped areas designed to treat and infiltrate stormwater runoff. They reduce the flow rate, total quantity, and pollutant load of runoff from impervious areas like roofs, driveways, walkways, parking lots, and compacted lawn areas. Rain gardens rely on plants, soil and gravel to retain stormwater and promote infiltration, while remediating and filtering pollutants carried by urban runoff into water bodies including the Blackstone River and Dorothy Pond. Rain gardens provide a method to reuse and optimize the rain that falls, reducing or avoiding the need for additional irrigation.



Click on the following links for easy step-by-step instruction on how to locate and build a rain garden:

<https://www.thisoldhouse.com/how-to/how-to-build-rain-garden-to-filter-run>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1S\\_qVwzfsA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1S_qVwzfsA)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h88RB0J\\_EqQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h88RB0J_EqQ)

<https://www.gardeners.com/how-to/rain-garden/5712.html>

## How can a rain barrel be used for irrigation?

Rain barrels are containers used to collect rain water from the roof of a building via a gutter and downspout. The downspout is cut to a height that permits the rain to flow into the barrel placed beneath it. Ideally, the barrel has a spigot to which a hose may be attached, and an overflow hose to direct water away from the foundation if rain continues after the barrel is full. Rain barrels are often made from 55-gallon food-grade plastic barrels, although they can also be made of wood. The collected rain water can water gardens or lawns, wash cars, fill swimming pools or do other household chores.

For information about building and installing your own rain barrel, check out the following links:

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/rain-barrels-and-other-water-conservation-tools>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8D6leyW47U>



## How do I build a pervious paver patio or driveway?



Pervious paver walkways, patios and driveways are comprised of bricks separated by joints filled with small stones or sand, which are laid on top of layers of aggregate stones. When it rains, water infiltrates the joints and is stored within the voids between stones of the aggregate layer until it is slowly absorbed into the soil. Pervious paver surfaces are attractive and sturdy enough to accommodate both foot and vehicle traffic. By replacing conventional concrete walkways, patios and driveways with pervious pavers, individuals can do their part to clean up nearby rivers, ponds and lakes. In addition to pervious pavers' superior stormwater treatment and absorption capabilities, a

broad array of textures, colors, patterns and configurations yield endless aesthetic possibilities.

Click on the following for step-by-step instruction on pervious paver patio/driveway construction:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LHPzybDWtc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wyYHXo7lqw>

<https://www.thisoldhouse.com/driveways/21016426/how-to-install-a-permeable-paver-driveway>