

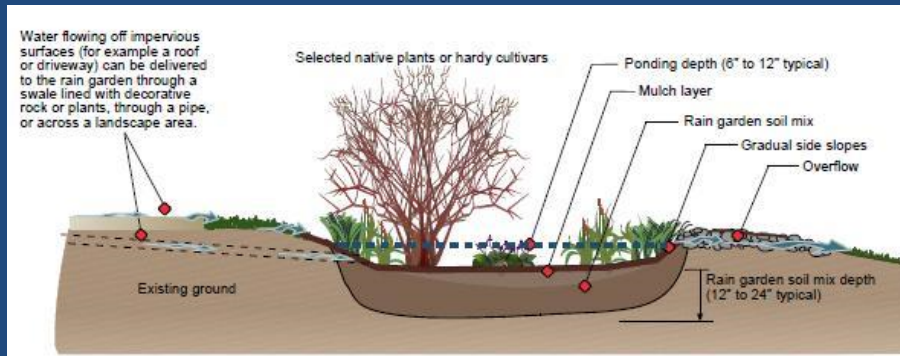
Landscape Tools – Rain Garden

A rain garden takes advantage of rainfall and runoff in its design and plant selection. It can be a small, large or linear garden which is designed to withstand



the extremes of moisture & concentrations of nutrients that are found in rainwater runoff.





- Rain gardens collect water (from paved surfaces, roof leaders) and allow the water to slowly infiltrate into the soil layer and be taken up by plants
- Rain gardens are sized based on the upstream impervious area that it services



SELECTED TOOLS *to Achieve Watershed Goals*

Tree Protection Bylaws

Tree Protection Bylaws are used to reduce the number of trees unnecessarily removed or damaged from a site and can require replacement trees be planted when trees are removed. Regulations ensure that neighbouring trees are protected during construction.

Trees provide many benefits including beauty, shade, habitat and rainfall interception and storage.



Water Balance Model Express

This provincial on-line user-friendly and interactive tool helps landowners incorporate landscape features such as rain gardens on their properties by using pre-set drainage targets based on local hydrology.

The tool informs landowners on actions they can take to achieve water balance on their site. The interface is colourful and easy to use.



Topsoil Bylaws Toolkit

Soil depth creates a sponge which can limit runoff during wet-weather; and reduce water need during dry weather. The Toolkit provides law, policy and technical guidance.

An absorbent topsoil layer is a fundamental building block. When sites get the topsoil part right, other parts of the water sustainability equation are easier to attain.



Erosion & Sediment Control

All four local governments have tools to ensure that sediment-laden runoff does not enter the community's drainage network, including storm-sewer systems, ditches and streams.

Sediment in the drainage system is costly to remedy and is harmful to ecosystem health, including fish habitat.

The City of Courtenay is currently exploring strengthening and making more clear Erosion and Sediment control requirements for all developments.



Design Charrettes

Collaborative intensive design session in which a group collectively drafts a solution to a land use issue or development proposal, prior to any design or development plans. They are more effective than the usual "silo" review approach, help to build consensus and get the application "right at the front end".

They have been very successful for projects of many scales and is a useful tool to consider as part of a pre-development application meeting.



Design Charrettes & Review Teams



Collaborative intensive design and review session
where all players are at the table and are
committed to reaching solutions
“anti-silo action”