

# DEMO RAIN GARDEN

Rock Island County, Illinois

PURDUE EXTENSION  
**RAINSCAPING**  
**EDUCATION**  
**PROGRAM**

## Background Information

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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.

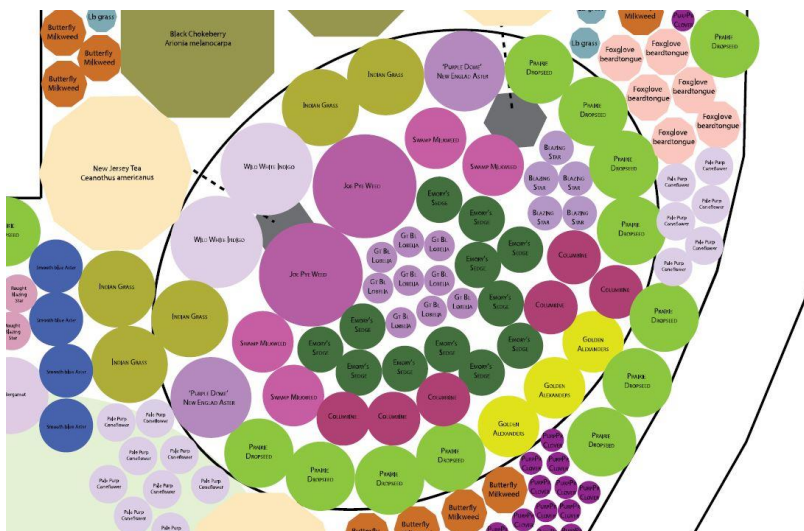
The planting plan was derived from a recommended plan developed by the University of Illinois Red Oak Rain Garden. Plant growth and garden development will be documented, and data will contribute to the study of those plans as they continue to be improved.



# Demo Rain Garden: Rock Island County, Illinois

## Garden Design: Plantings and Information

Plant Scientific Name	Common Name	Number Used
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Columbine	Number goes here
<i>Baptisia alba</i>	White Wild Indigo	2
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	4
<i>Eutrochium purpureus</i>	Purple Joe Pye Weed	2
<i>Carex</i> spp.	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 Alexanders	3
<i>Aster novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	2



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## Maintenance Plan: Establishment Period

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- 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: General Maintenance

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- 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

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## About the Purdue Rainscaping Education Program

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The Purdue Rainscaping Education Program offers state-wide training for Purdue 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.

