

## Rain Gardens

are bowl-shaped depressions that capture rain water and snow melt and allow it to soak in rather than run off.

Rain gardens help prevent lake and stream pollution and provide habitat for birds and beneficial insects.

## Rainwater Harvesting

saves money and energy by using “free” water; conserve precious groundwater by using rainwater instead of potable water for outdoor uses; nourish plants with naturally soft, untreated water; and help protect lakes and streams by reducing stormwater pollution.

## Native Landscaping

mimics the complex prairies that used to exist here. By using plants best suited to our climate in a diverse plant community, a habitat for beneficial insects, birds and mammals is created.



## TOP TEN LIST FOR INSTALLING A RAIN GARDEN

10. Provides habitat and food for birds and beneficial insects.
9. Beautiful blooms to enjoy in spring, summer and fall.
8. Helps recharge groundwater.
7. Helps Dane County's lakes, streams and fish by reducing stormwater pollution.
6. Reduces the amount of turf you have to mow, water, fertilize, and maintain and increases your free time.
5. Helps minimize local flooding.
4. Is a natural outdoor classroom for kids and adults alike.
3. No need for fertilizers and pesticides making it a welcome area for all living creatures.
2. Some municipalities offer credit for installing and maintaining a rain garden.
1. So you're not the only one on your block without one!

[myfairlakes.com](http://myfairlakes.com)

Madison Area Municipal Storm Water Partnership  
608-224-3746 [info@myfairlakes.com](mailto:info@myfairlakes.com)



## Retain the Rain! Workshop

### Rain Gardens Native Landscaping Rainwater Harvesting

Learn how implementing these simple, effective and beautiful ideas in your yard can help local lakes and streams.

**Saturday, March 1, 2014  
8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.**

Conference Room, 121A  
LFA Agriculture and Conservation Center  
5201 Fen Oak Drive, Madison

**\$5**



## AGENDA

Saturday, March 1, 2014

8:00 a.m. *registration and refreshments, displays*

8:30 **Benefits of Harvesting Rainwater**

**How to Plan for and Install Rain Gardens**

**Plant Dane! Cost-Share Program**

Q&A

11:30 **Adjourn**

*Agenda subject to change.*



Workshop will cover:

- Site selection
- How to gauge size
- Site preparation
- Plant selection, especially for pollinators
- Installation, including digging, planting and establishment
- Maintenance
- Exciting new modular rainwater harvesting options—goodbye ugly barrels, hello solar pumps!
- additional resources



Retain the **Rain!** Workshop  
is possible thanks to:  
**myfairlakes.com**  
**Graham-Martin Foundation**  
**RainReserve**  
**Agrecol**

Register by  
February 21<sup>st</sup>.

## REGISTRATION

Space is limited; register early. Copy as necessary. Registration due by February 21st. Enclose \$5 for each participant. Make checks payable to "Dane County Treasurer."

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail forms with payment to:  
Retain the Rain! Workshop  
5201 Fen Oak Drive, Rm 234  
Madison WI 53718-8827

Contact Marcia Hartwig at 608-224-3746  
or [hartwig@countyofdane.com](mailto:hartwig@countyofdane.com) with  
questions.