

# What is a Rain Garden?

Rain gardens are a type of green infrastructure - a landscape with a purpose. They are bowl-shaped landscapes that are meant to capture, not hold, rain for 24-48 hours, eliminating the possibility for mosqui-

They capture rain and let is slowly soak into the ground, reducing the amount of runoff that comes from our properties. They come in all shapes and sizes and are versatile. Native plants work best as they are adapted to our region, attract and offer benefits to wildlife, and root systems of native plants help water infiltrate into the ground.

There are many rain gardens in our area, go check one out!

# Rain Garden Project Locations

### Bentonville, AR

- 1. Benton County Boys and Girls Club
- 2. Benton County Planning & Environmental 29. Gulley Park
- 3. Bentonville Public Library
- 4. Benton County Road Dept.
- 5. Benton County Solid Waste Dept.
- 6. Compton Gardens
- 7. Crystal Bridges/ "A" St. Trailhead

### Rogers, AR

- 8. Downtown Rogers
- 9. Horsebarn Trailhead
- 10. Murphy Dog Park
- 11. Northwest Arkansas Community College
- 12. St. Marv's Center for Non-Profits

### Cave Springs, AR

- 13. Community Building
- 14. IRWP Watershed Sanctuary

### Siloam Springs, AR

- 15. White Water Recreation Park
- 16. John Brown University
- 17. Public Library

### Springdale, AR

- 18. Bernice Young Elementary
- 19. Botanical Gardens of the Ozarks
- 20. Helen Tyson Middle School
- 21. Murphy Park
- 22. Shaw Elementary
- 23. Springdale Airport
- 24. Springdale Public Works
- 25. T.G. Smith Elementary
- 26. Walker Elementary
- 27. Westwood Elementary

### Favetteville, AR

- 30. Holt Middle School
- 31. Leverett Elementary
- 32. Sunshine House Pre-K
- 33.Tri-cycle Farms
- 35. Unity Church
- 36. Westside Water Treatment Plant
- 37. Wilson Park

### Farmington, AR

39. Senior Center



- 28. Butterfield Trail Elementary

- 34. Trinity United Methodist Church

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**BELLA VISTA** 

LITTLE FLOCK

LOWELL

38. Randall G. Lynch Middle School

### Prairie Grove, AR

### Lincoln, AR

40. Lincoln Elementary

41. Lincoln High School



Shaw Elementary, Springdale, AR

# Illinois River Watershed Partnership Green Infrastructure Tour

### What is Green Infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is an approach that communities can choose to maintain healthy waters, provide multiple environmental benefits and support sustainable communities. Unlike single-purpose gray stormwater infrastructure, which uses pipes to dispose of rainwater, green infrastructure uses vegetation and soil to manage rainwater where it falls. Examples of green infrastructure include rain gardens, bioswales, pervious paving, tree wells and vegetated walls, to name a few. Refer to the back to see more on green infrastructure.

By weaving natural processes into the built environment, green infrastructure provides not only stormwater management, but also flood mitigation, air quality management, and much more. (US. EPA)

Thanks to our non-point source grant funding, provided by Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, and matching funds provided by our partners and sponsors, we are working to implement green infrastructure along the Razorback Regional Greenway in the Illinois River Watershed. Find a location near you to see first-hand how these projects capture rain, filter and clean pollutants and provide many benefits to our communities!

## **Green Infrastructure Project Locations**

Bentonville, AR

Scott Family Amazeum

Completed Spring 2014

Springdale, AR

Mercy Trailhead

Rogers, AR

Lake Springdale Trailhead

To be completed Summer 2015

To be completed Spring 2015

To be completed Summer 2015

Fayetteville, AR

Gordon Long Park Trailhead

Carol E. Van Scyoc Trailhead

To be completed Fall 2015

Gentry, AR

Johnson, AR

Completed Spring 2015 Arvest Bank



### **Rogers Mercy Trailhead**

Award-winning, green infrastructure design incorporates a bioswale, pervious pathway, native plants and trees, and riparian enhancement along a tributary to Osage Creek.

The Illinois River Watershed Partnership works with Cities, Counties, Schools and Public Facilities to implement Green Infrastructure demonstration projects to educate and train stakeholders on improving and protecting the Illinois River Watershed.

Illinois River Watershed Partnership www.irwp.org contact@irwp.org







The Illinois River Watershed Partnership was formed in 2005 and is a nonprofit that works with and represents all stakeholders within the Illinois River Watershed, including Agriculture, Business, Conservation, Construction, Government and the Technical Education & Research

Through public education and outreach, conservation and restoration projects and water quality monitoring, we work to improve the integrity and quality of the Illinois River.



Illinois River Watershed Learning Center & Sanctuary 221 S. Main St. Cave Springs, Ark

Website: www.irwp.org **Blog: Upstreammatters.com** Email: contact@irwp.org

Thanks to our partners & sponsors who make good things happen!



















































# Watershed Words

Watershed - Area of land that drains rainfall to a river, lake or stream. The Illinois River Watershed is 1.1 million acres!

Rain Garden - A landscape depression that captures water and allows it to slowly soak into the ground, where it belongs.

**Bioswale** - A landscape feature that channels water from one point to another, and uses native vegetation to filter and clean water.

Native Plants - Plants that are adapted to our region, that attract and benefit local wildlife, and require little maintenance once established.

Pervious - A surface that allows water to move through it. Example) Land is pervious, rooftops and driveways are impervious.

Riparian Buffer - A strip of land next to a waterway that relies on vegetation such as trees, shrubs and grasses to protect the river & banks.

Phosphorus - A nutrient required in all living, biological systems, but if too much is present, can cause imbalances in ecosystems.

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# In the Illinois River Watershed

