

Basics of Building a Residential Rain Garden

Garden Construction

- Dig 4-6 inches
- Create a berm
- Cover berm with grass or mulch to prevent erosion
- Add compost to top layer of soil



Sizing Your Garden

- Volume of water draining to the garden from the roof will be equal to the square footage of the house multiplied by the percentage of roof feeding the downspouts to the garden
- Add to this number the surface area of your paved driveway



Soils and Drainage

- Check that soil is suitable for drainage



Plant Away

- Plant high on edge of garden to raise roots above ponded water level
- Mulch area with 2-3 inches of hardwood mulch



Select Best Location

- Stay within 10 feet from foundation of home
- Avoid underground utility lines
- Plant in partial to full sun exposure



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