



Application to Receive a Rain Garden

By hosting a Rain Garden Workshop & Hands-on Rain Garden Installation

The Land + Water Works Campaign is continuing our mission to help Detroit become a greener, more sustainable city by preventing stormwater runoff and creating healthier communities. Sewage and urban runoff are polluting Detroit's rivers. [We invite you to help prevent this pollution by planting a Rain Garden!](#)

The Land + Water Works rain garden series being offered to **three** non-governmental organizations/institutions (i.e. community development organizations, non-profit and faith-based organizations) in Detroit. The series is split into three workshops:

1. Introduction to rain gardens (June)
2. Rain Garden installation at the site (August)
3. Rain Garden maintenance (October)

The workshops are designed to teach the community about rain gardens, their purpose and the steps to take to create and care for a rain garden of their own. Garden installations will provide an opportunity to educate and engage your constituents. Educational material will be provided between workshops. The expectation is that you will share this information with your constituents via newsletters, email, social media, etc.

Chosen organizations will be provided supplies and installation support to create their rain garden.

****Applications are due by June 7, 2019****

What is a rain garden?

A rain garden is a shallow depression in the ground planted with native flowers that tolerate varying water levels and weather conditions. The garden is designed to hold rainwater on site temporarily so that it infiltrates the soil or evaporates, rather than running off into storm drains. Rain gardens help reduce pollution in lakes and streams by reducing storm water flowing into combined sewer systems, which overflow to the river when they reach capacity.



In addition, rain gardens:

- protect our properties from flooding
- beautify our yards and neighborhoods
- improve quality of life
- provide habitat for birds, butterflies, and many other beneficial creatures
- increase the amount of water infiltrated into the ground, which helps recharge our local aquifer
- may be eligible to receive "green credit" to apply against drainage fee

- attracts pollinators and beneficial insects that help gardens/farms be more productive.

How will the rain garden recipients be determined?

1. Sierra Club and Friends of the Rouge will review all applications. Applications will be rated on:
 - a. Completeness of application
 - b. Potential for managing rainwater
 - c. Potential for community engagement
 - d. Space for the rain garden
2. If your application/rain garden is selected, Friends of the Rouge and Sierra Club will work with you to design the best rain garden for your site. The rain garden must be constructed and installed in a publicly visible location according to these plans.
3. Selected applicants must schedule a site visit with program staff at the location where the rain garden is to be planted.
4. Selected applicants will work with project partners to complete a binder that includes a map of the rain garden and logistics, plant list, budget, planting prep, maintenance schedule, and contacts and resources.
5. Selected applicants are required to invite 20 volunteers to help plant their rain garden.
6. Friends of the Rouge will purchase all supplies (plants, mulch, compost, etc.) to be used for the installation of all rain gardens.
7. Rain gardens, depending on size, are valued at approximately \$2,000 per garden.
8. After the rain garden is completed, partners will provide plant labels and a yard sign that identifies the garden as a rain garden. Selected applicants will keep plant labels and yard sign in garden for at least five years.
9. Rain gardens must be maintained by the selected applicants for a minimum of five years.
10. Selected applicants will photograph gardens throughout the seasons and share with program partners annually over the five year maintenance period.
11. Organizations not selected to receive a rain garden through Land + Water Works program are invited to attend the workshops and assist with rain garden plantings to learn how to create a rain garden on their own. Registration is required. Register by calling (313) 965-0055.



**Deliver completed application in-person or mail it to
Sierra Club at 2727 Second Avenue, Suite 112, Detroit, MI 48201.**

Applications must be received by June 7

***If you need assistance with the application, contact Quentin Turner with Sierra Club at (313) 965-0055
or (313) 444-3705 or quentin.turner@sierraclub.org.***



2018 Land + Water Works Rain Garden Application

Please complete and return to Sierra Club, 2727 Second Avenue, Suite 112, Detroit, MI 48201 **no later than June 7, 2019.**

How did you hear about this opportunity?

- Land + Water Works Coalition Member _____ Media (Internet, TV, Radio, etc.)
 Land + Water Works! Coalition Event Other _____

Contact Information

Name _____
Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email Address _____

I would like to be contacted (check all that apply): Email Phone Text Message

Garden Information

Address of where rain garden will be planted _____

NOTE: The rain garden must be located in a publicly visible spot in Detroit. Location preference will be given to one location in each Detroit City Council district.

Name of person with whom the rain garden details must be approved by? _____

Contact information for this person

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email Address _____

Who owns the land where you want your garden? Organization Landlord
 City-Owned County or State-Owned Unsure/Need Help

If you do not own the land, are you able to get signed permission from the owner? Yes No

Who will maintain the garden for the next five years during the Spring, Summer, and Fall months?

A minimum of 20 volunteers are needed to help dig and plant each garden. Volunteers may include your organizations members, friends, family, and neighbors. My organization will provide 15+ volunteers

Over →

All gardens need to be planted in publicly visible location near a downspout. Please describe the landscape where you are interested in planting a rain garden. Are the downspouts from your building connected to the sewer or do they empty into the lawn? Are there low areas?

Please attach a photo of the location, where you want the garden planted. (Photos may be emailed or texted. Contact Sierra Club at (313) 965-0055 to make those arrangements if needed.)

Why do you want to participate in this program? _____

Please describe your organizations mission and / or the type of community development work in which you are involved: _____

Please describe your experience gardening or any other garden training you have received. Include any area of specialization (flowers, vegetables, native plants, etc.) _____

Are you a Land + Water Works Campaign partner or Ambassador? Partner Ambassador Neither

Please describe the interests, hobbies, and any other activities your primary volunteer / staff member for this program is involved with (does not necessarily need to be garden-related).

Please tell us anything else about your organization that you feel is relevant.

Deliver or send to: Sierra Club, 2727 2nd Ave., Suite 112, Detroit, MI 48201 by Friday, June 7

