

## RAIN GARDEN DESIGN & MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

\* Use of seed mixes is unacceptable

### RECOMMENDED PLANTS:

#### Sunny Areas

Blue Flag Iris  
Boneset  
Culvers Root  
Fringed Sedge  
Golden Alexander  
Marsh Milkweed  
Marsh Marigold  
New England Aster  
Switchgrass  
Black-Eyed Susan  
Blazing Star  
Blue Vervain  
Butterfly Weed  
Indian Grass  
Joe Pye Weed  
Little Blue Stem  
Spiderwort  
Spirea Alba

#### Shady Areas

Cardinal Flower  
Caterpillar Sedge  
Pointed Broom Sedge  
Sensitive Fern  
Spotted Monkey Flower  
Tall Bellflower  
Virginia Bluebells  
Wild Columbine  
Wild Geranium  
Brown-Eyed Susan  
Fox Sedge  
Jacobs Ladder  
Spiderwort  
Zig Zag Goldenrod

### RECOMMENDED SHRUBS:

#### Sunny or Shady Areas

Black Chokeberry  
Low Brush Honeysuckle  
Pussy Willow  
Red Osier Dogwood

#### Shady Areas Only

High Bush Cranberry  
Meadow Sweet

#### **Sizing/Spacing:**

2" Plugs, Min. 18" on Center for Plants  
4" Pots, Min 24" on Center for Shrubs  
Gallon Pots, Min 36" on Center for Shrubs

#### Shady Fern Garden

Blue Flag Iris  
Boneset  
Jack-In-The-Pulpit  
Lady Fern  
Maidenhair Fern  
Marsh Milkweed  
Meadow Rue  
Ostrich Fern  
Sensitive Fern  
Wild Geranium

#### Sunny Day Lily Garden

Autumn Joy Sedum  
Barbara Mitchell Day Lily  
Blue Vervain  
Boneset  
Eenie Weenie Day Lily  
Feather Reed Grass  
Fox Sedge  
Joe Pye Weed  
Marsh Milkweed  
Moonbeam Coreopsis  
Pardon Me Day Lily  
Ruffled Apricot Day Lily  
Russian Sage  
Spirea

#### Shady Hosta Garden

Blue Lobelia  
Culver's Root  
Ginko Craig Hosta  
Hadspen Blue Hosta  
June Hosta  
Marsh Milkweed  
Royal Standard Hosta

## RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

### *First Year:*

- Water the rain garden with 1" of water every week for the first 3 months.
- Weed the garden monthly.

### *Annually:*

- Weed the garden three times per year.
- Replenish mulch to a depth of 3".
- In the spring, once plants are at least 4" to 6" tall, cut tattered plants back.
- Cut plants 6" to 8" high or by the plant type.
- Check for standing water and improve drainage if the water stays for longer than a day.
- Water garden if needed.
- Remove sediment, debris and leaves.

### **Sources**

"Plants for Stormwater Design, Species Selection for the Upper Midwest" Appendix 1 by Daniel Shaw and Rusty Schmidt, July 2003, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

"City of Prior Lake Rain Garden Program" by Andi Moffat, WSB & Associates, Inc., no date.

"The Blue Thumb Guide to Raingardens, Design and Installation for Homeowners in the Upper Midwest", by Rusty Schmidt, Dan Shaw and David Dods, 2007 Waterdrop Innovations, LLC>

"Rain Gardens, a How-To Manual for Homeowners", 2003, Board of Regents, University of Wisconsin System.