

Who We Are

The Friends of Lower Muskingum River (FLMR) is joint watershed and land trust Team. As a watershed organization, FLMR is committed to improving water quality in the Lower Muskingum River, and co-operating with other organizations and individuals to achieve sound watershed management to protect the river while promoting economic development, and recreational use of our river.

As a land trust, we are involved in acquiring land as well as land preservation agreements (conservation easements) from concerned landowners. Our objective is to restore, preserve and protect natural areas and farmland along the Lower Muskingum.

Achievements

- In 2010, received grants through ODNR and MWCD to develop a Watershed Action Plan for the Southern Subwatershed.
- Coordinate annual River Sweep and trash clean-up events in communities along the Muskingum River.
- Host the annual Mighty Muskingum River Raft Race.
- Host and conduct educational programs; presentations for local fairs, festivals, schools, youth and civic organizations; and watershed tours highlighting different areas of the watershed.
- Development of Luke Chute Conservation Area, 60 acres along the Muskingum River with several miles of volunteer developed walking trails. Open to the public.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:



Rain Gardens, Clean River



**A Beautiful Solution to
Stormwater Pollution**

Suggested Plant List

- Purple Coneflower
- New England Aster
- White False Indigo
- Turtlehead
- Ironweed
- Rattlesnake Master
- Bee Balm
- Ohio Goldenrod
- Queen of the Prairie
- Brown-eyed Susan
- Prairie Blazing Star
- Big Bluestem
- Switch Grass
- Red Maple
- Elderberry
- Silky Dogwood
- Winterberry



Picture provided by Groundwork Hudson Valley

What is a Rain Garden?

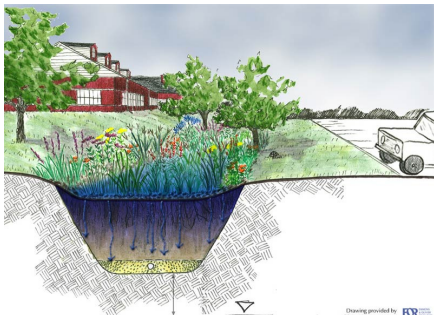
A rain garden is a beautiful landscaped area planted with perennial native plants that is designed to absorb stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, such as rooftops and parking lots. These gardens have deep, loose soil and are built in depressions with a saucer or bowl-like shape. Rain gardens can be designed in any size or shape to fit your needs.



Why Do We Need Rain Gardens?

Rain gardens look like a normal garden, but they are much more.

- Rain gardens absorb stormwater runoff and allow the water to filter into the ground, which helps recharge the local groundwater aquifers.
- Compared to a normal patch of lawn, rain gardens allow 30% more water to soak into the ground.
- Rain gardens help prevent pollutants from entering our local rivers and streams by filtering these pollutants and reducing the amount of stormwater runoff that enters our storm drains.



Picture provided by Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc.

What is Rain Gardens, Clean River?

Rain Gardens, Clean River is a best management practice (BMP) project the Friends of Lower Muskingum River (FLMR) is initiating in Marietta. Our vision is to construct rain gardens in residential, commercial and community areas throughout Marietta where their presence will be most effective in treating stormwater runoff before it reaches our storm drains and flows into our rivers.



Photo by Kim Steese

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is all of the water that does not soak into the ground during a rainstorm or snowmelt. Instead, this water runs over the land and can pick up litter and chemicals as it flows over impervious surfaces, such as streets, and goes into storm drains that lead directly into our local waterways.

Contaminants stormwater may pick up include:

- ◆ Oil
- ◆ Road Salt
- ◆ Fertilizer
- ◆ Eroded Soil
- ◆ Pesticides

Picture provided by Hamline Midway Coalition.



Benefits of Rain Gardens

- ◆ Filter runoff pollution
- ◆ Recharge local groundwater
- ◆ Conserve water
- ◆ Protect our rivers and streams
- ◆ Remove standing water from your yard
- ◆ Reduce mosquito breeding
- ◆ Provide habitat for butterflies and birds

Get Involved

Support our initiative to reduce pollution while beautifying Marietta by volunteering for us or planting your own rain garden. Spread the word about our initiative to help us connect to partners in our community. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about FLMR's initiative, rain gardens or how to construct your own garden, contact us.

