



Congratulations! Your rain garden is installed and ready to help clean some water!

There are several maintenance practices that you can perform regularly to keep your new rain garden in tip-top shape.

## Actions you can take

### Immediately after installing:

- ◆ Take a few pictures of your rain garden. This will help you record how it was installed and let you become familiar with plants, making weeding easier.
- ◆ Water often if no rain is in the forecast. One inch of water per week is recommended for the first two growing seasons.

### Regularly (at least monthly):

- ◆ Weed out pesky and aggressive plants like thistle, reed canary grass, and dandelions.
- ◆ Prevent turf grass from growing inside your rain garden's border.
- ◆ Pick up trash and debris that make their way into your rain garden (including leaves and lawn clippings)
- ◆ Ensure that your rain garden's inlets and outlets are not blocked by debris or sediment.

### On occasion (whenever necessary):

- ◆ Replace any decomposed mulch and cover bare soil with about 2-3" of mulch.
- ◆ Remove accumulated sediment in your garden, especially after snowmelt.
- ◆ Pull and replant any dead vegetation.

**If standing water is present 48 hours or more after it rains, your rain garden may need some special care. Call your contractor or RWMWD immediately to find a solution.**

**Feel free to call the RWMWD offices for suggestions and advice on how to best care for your rain garden.**

