

# Perkiomen Rain Garden



MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Rain gardens are bowl-shaped to catch the rain that runs off the land, allowing time for the water to soak into the soil, which filters pollution naturally. The garden is filled with many species of deep-rooting native plants, which also work to soak up the water and can help break down some pollutants. By installing this large rain garden, we are able to improve a wet area of the property while protecting the Perkiomen Creek.

You too can plant a rain garden on your property! For more information, contact the Montgomery County Conservation District.

[www.MontgomeryConservation.org](http://www.MontgomeryConservation.org) • 610-489-4506

## Rain Gardens Can...

- Reduce flooding in our communities.
- Filter pollution out of rainwater and melting snow.
- Protect and replenish drinking water supplies, like the Perkiomen Creek.
- Provide important food and shelter for wildlife.
- Replace wet areas with a lovely garden feature!

*Lawns have shallow roots and don't absorb excess water*

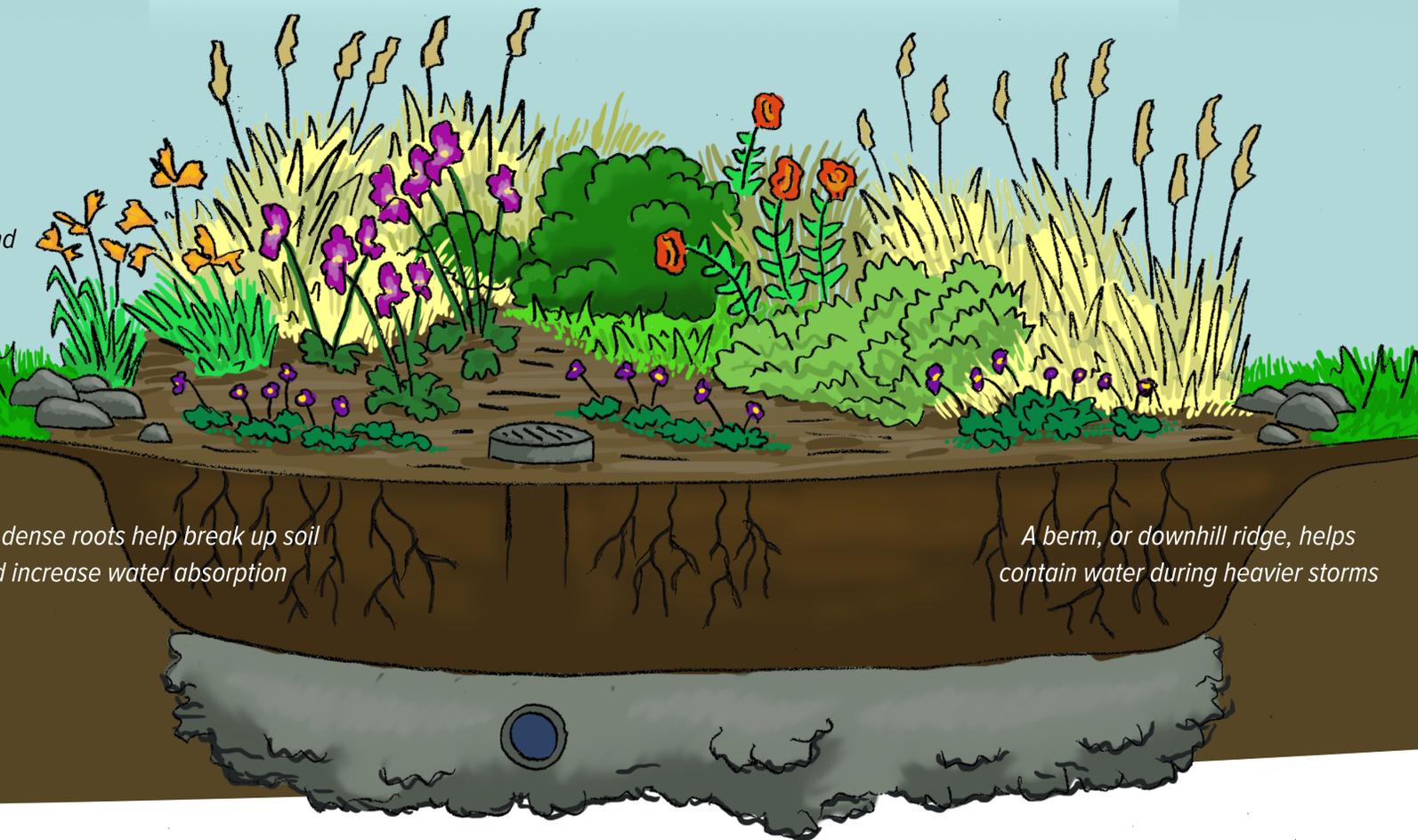
## Native Plants — Keep it Local!

Plants that originated in this region are adapted to local conditions, so they require less effort to grow. They do not have the potential to spread into and disturb natural areas, as some exotic plants do, and planting native plants benefits important pollinators and other wildlife.

The landscaping plan for the garden was designed with students from Perkiomen Valley High School's Key Club, who also helped to plant the garden. The students selected a diverse group of native species for their ability to filter stormwater, thrive in a rain garden habitat, provide benefits for wildlife, and create an amenity for the community. In addition, the back row of the rain garden contains shrubs and trees with edible berries.

*Deep, dense roots help break up soil and increase water absorption*

*A berm, or downhill ridge, helps contain water during heavier storms*



Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The rain garden was also awarded a grant through the PECO Green Region Open Space Program. The project was also funded in part by Exelon Corp through the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund and the Delaware River Basin Commission.



**SCHUYLKILL RIVER**  
NATIONAL & STATE HERITAGE AREA



**Exelon**

