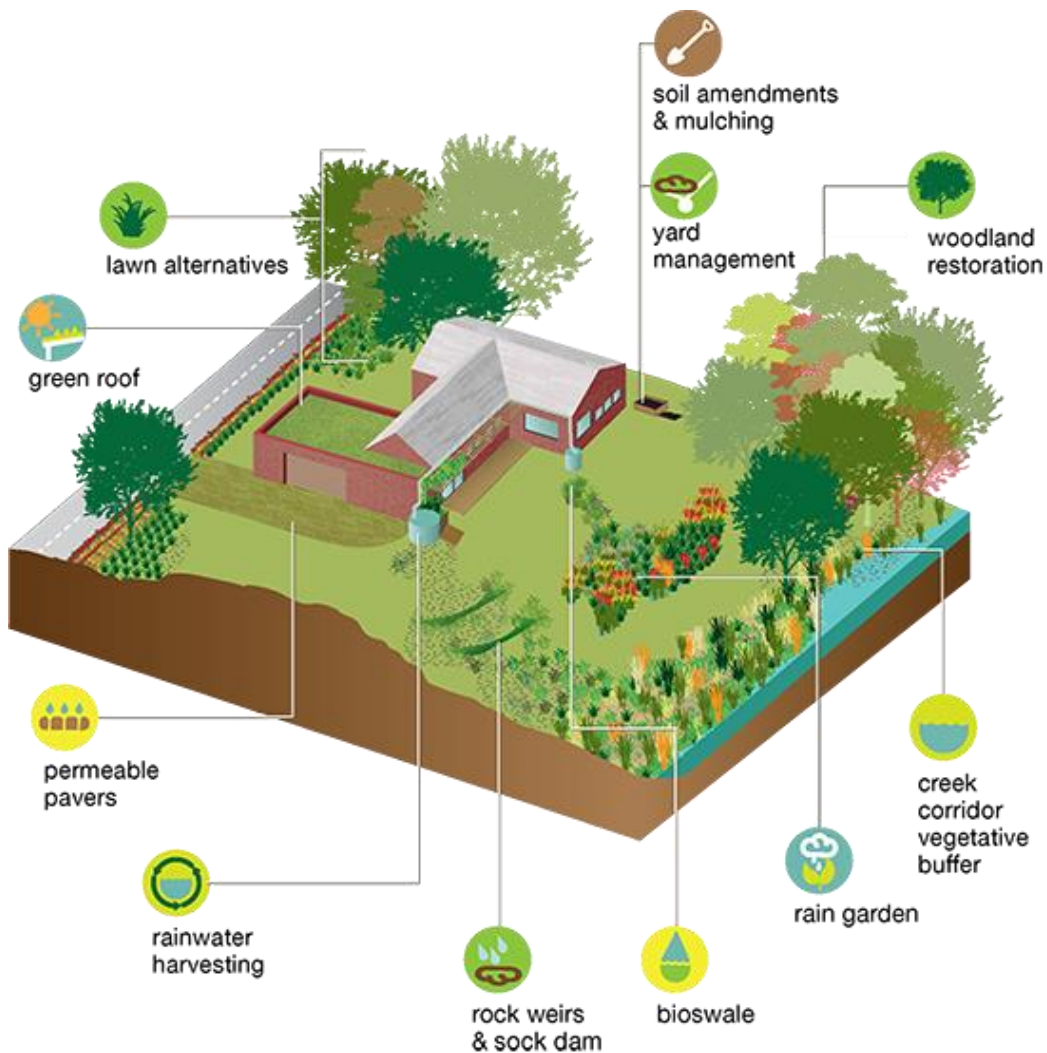


## Excerpt from: Missouri Botanical Garden's RainScaping Guide

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/sustainability-conservation/sustainable-living/at-home/rainscaping-guide.aspx>

### What Is RainScaping?

RainScaping consists of an array of sustainable landscaping practices that a landowner may voluntarily employ to improve rainwater related problems. In addition to rain gardens and bioswales, a diverse landscape that includes trees, shrubs, perennials, mulch, grass and amended soils intercepts and disperses rain as it falls, and allows more water absorption into the soil and by plants. Click on each landscape option below to explore the range of RainScaping possibilities:



### Why RainScape?

Impervious surfaces such as rooftops and driveways have replaced native soils and natural plant communities that once readily absorbed rainwater. The resulting runoff contributes to water pollution, health challenges and property damage. You can landscape your yard for both beauty and function. Address specific water issues on your own property such as erosion, wet areas of the yard and difficult-to-mow places, while positively impacting your neighbors and area streams as well. Use our [Benefits & Goals Checklist](#) to clarify which rainscaping benefits are most important to you.

## Rainscaping Could Be a Good Choice for Hinkson Stakeholder's Group to Consider Because:

A Rainscaping program is underway in several municipalities in the St Louis area

Per: <http://deercreekalliance.org/rainscaperebates.aspx>: RainScape Rebates Program  
Landowners in participating municipalities are eligible to take part in a RainScape Rebates program .. a voluntary program that financially assists landowners in the Deer Creek Watershed wishing to landscape their yards to improve stormwater management. Seventy-five percent of the funds will be reserved for residential landowners; the remaining 25 percent will be available for schools, churches, businesses, and parks. The maximum rebate per site is 75 percent of documented expenses up to \$2,000. Participating municipalities are: Brentwood, Clayton, Creve Coeur, Des Peres, Frontenac, Kirkwood, Ladue, Maplewood, Olivette, Richmond Heights  
*The program is funded by Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District, Mabel Dorn Reeder Foundation, cooperating municipalities, and US EPA Region 7 through the Department of Natural Resources (subgrant number G11-NPS-15), under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.*

With help from the EPA, Kansas City, MO undertook a "10,000 Rain Garden's project". See: [http://www.epa.gov/region7/newsevents/events/proceedings/om\\_green\\_infrastructure/KC\\_Metro\\_initiatives\\_and\\_OM\\_solutions\\_rain\\_garden.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/region7/newsevents/events/proceedings/om_green_infrastructure/KC_Metro_initiatives_and_OM_solutions_rain_garden.pdf) and [http://www.sustainablecitiesinstitute.org/view/page.basic/casestudy/feature.casestudy/Case\\_Study\\_KS\\_City\\_Rain\\_Gardens](http://www.sustainablecitiesinstitute.org/view/page.basic/casestudy/feature.casestudy/Case_Study_KS_City_Rain_Gardens)

There is already a significant local commitment to rain gardens/ rainscaping.

1. See the content – including videos, etc. provided by Columbia's Storm Water Educator (Mike Heimos) at: <http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/PublicWorks/StormWater/StormwaterUtility-EducationProgram.php>
2. Several successful collaborations across multiple departments of City staff such as the Hinkson bottoms near forum (which we've heard about and are hoping to expand) and the Grissum Building project (Bear Creek watershed). <http://www.columbiamissourian.com/m/31115/graphic-grissum-building-stormwater-installations/>
3. Sunrise Estates – per: Built in the 1960-80s (4 miles E of Columbia, MO) without stormwater controls, residents experience problems with erosion, flooding, and standing water. In 2011, Boone County and partners rec'd a Section 319 Implementation Grant through MO DNR. To help reduce flooding, 65 rain gardens/rain barrels, 60 tree plantings, and three community water treatment features will be installed in next three years. Since many of these retrofits will occur on private property, this will be done on a volunteer basis, through cost-share. Per: <http://www.showmeboone.com/stormwater/SunriseEstates.asp>
4. Significant citizen involvement already – such as Columbia's Aquatic Plant Restoration (CARP) program <http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Volunteer/Opportunities/carp.php> with many volunteer hours contributed every year.
5. Past funded projects through Missouri River Communities Network have raised awareness and helped develop several rain gardens in the area – see: <http://www.moriver.org/rain-gardens/>.
6. Students at the Career Center are creating a map for the City's Storm Water Educator to identify the locations of some 200 storm water best management practices (BMPs) already in place. Approximately 80 of these 200 are rain gardens – some on public land, some on private land.

Diane Oerly, Member Hinkson Stakeholders,  
January 31, 2013