

Calculate Your Roof Runoff



To estimate the amount of stormwater runoff your roof produces during a 1-inch rain event, take the square footage of your roof, multiply it by 623, and divide that number by 1,000.

Michigan's average annual precipitation is 32 inches. So, a 2,000-square-foot home produces nearly 40,000 gallons of stormwater runoff yearly! Driveways and decks add even more.

Capture and reuse some of this water using a rain barrel at your home. You can reduce your water bill during dry periods, prevent erosion from gutter downspouts, and help limit the amount of runoff that could otherwise transfer pollutants through the storm sewer system!



Do Your Part



Use green infrastructure to reduce runoff and filter pollutants at home with rain gardens and rain barrels.



For more information or to learn more about protecting our water, visit the link below or contact the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission.



mywatersheds.org
mywatersheds@mitcrpc.org



TRI-COUNTY
regional planning commission



POLLUTION ISN'T PRETTY.



Green Infrastructure At Home



mywatersheds.org

What Is Green Infrastructure?

When rainwater falls on the ground, vegetation and soils collect and absorb much of it. When rainwater falls on impervious surfaces like parking lots and rooftops, the water flows off into storm drains and drainage ditches. Pollutants such as pet waste, fertilizers, and leaking motor oil are swept up with the runoff, which eventually discharges into our lakes, rivers, and streams without undergoing treatment.

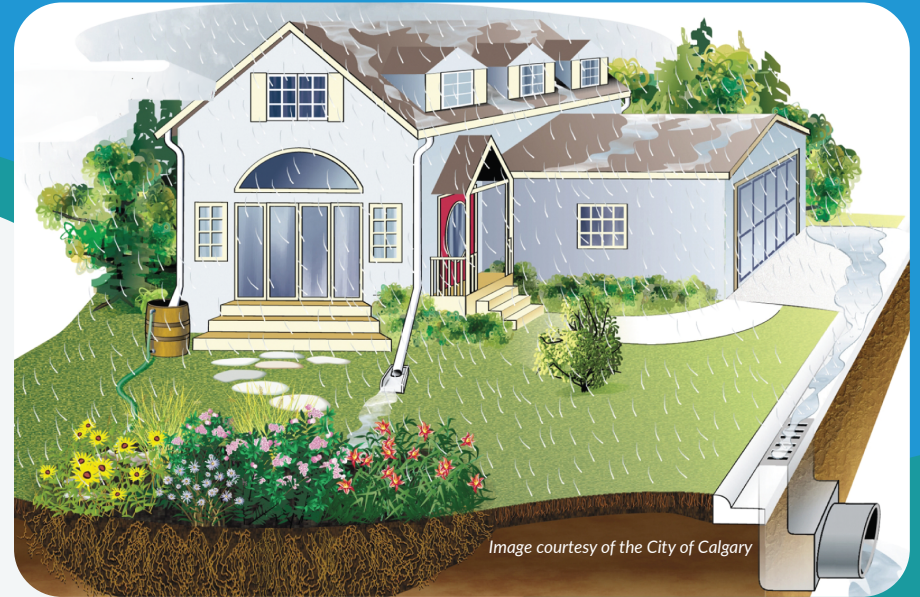
Green infrastructure mimics natural landscapes by capturing excess runoff on site, reducing runoff volumes, and filtering out pollutants that would otherwise enter and impact our surface water resources. Green roofs, permeable pavement, bioswales, rain gardens, and rain barrels are all examples. You can help protect local water quality by using a rain barrel or planting a rain garden with native plants.



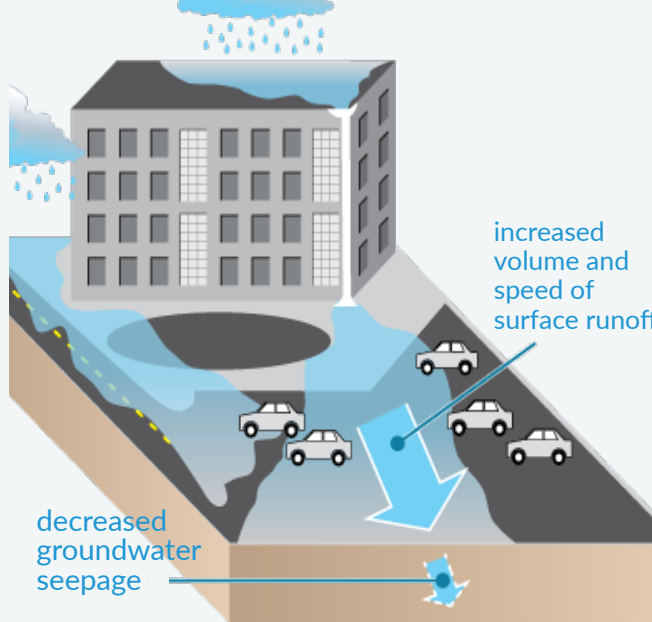
Rain Gardens Reduce and Filter Runoff

A rain garden is a planted depression in the landscape that collects water from roof downspouts, driveway runoff, or sump pump discharges and allows it to soak into the ground rather than enter the storm sewer system. Planted with native grasses and flowering perennials, rain gardens are a cost effective, low maintenance, and beautiful way to reduce and filter runoff from your property.

Install a rain garden at your home or business to create butterfly habitat, prevent flooding, and make your lawn more attractive! Learn how at mywatersheds.org/rain-garden-101.



Impervious Surfaces



Pervious Surfaces

