How to do a SITE ASSESSMENT

Step 1: Outline your roof peaks and draw a 10’ perimeter around house

Step 2: Mark your downspouts
Step 3: Outline your walkways and driveway

Legend
- Outlets County
- Outlets State
- Inlets State
- Inlets County
- 2 FT Contour

1 inch = 20 feet
0 10 20 Feet

Step 4: Outline tree locations and canopy

Legend
- Outlets County
- Outlets State
- Inlets State
- Inlets County
- 2 FT Contour

1 inch = 20 feet
0 10 20 Feet
Step 7: Draw lot drainage arrows

Legend
- Outlets County
- Outlets State
- Inlets State
- Inlets County
- 2 FT Contour

1 inch = 20 feet

Step 8: Outline offsite impervious that’s draining onto your property

Legend
- Outlets County
- Outlets State
- Inlets State
- Inlets County
- 2 FT Contour

1 inch = 20 feet
Step 9: Using the scale and a ruler, measure impervious drainage areas.

Step 10: Determine best location for a rain garden

- No existing landscaping
- Not directly under canopy trees
- Relatively flat
- At least 10’ from foundation
- Does not direct water onto pavement
- Does not direct water onto neighbors property
Step 11: Size rain garden using table based on impervious area flowing to rain garden site

Rain garden sizing tables

An impervious drainage area of 500 sq. ft. will require a rain garden media footprint of 60 square feet to capture 1.4” of rain. Since the impervious area is 1000 square feet we can double 60 sq. ft. to 120 sq. ft. If a smaller garden is desired then the area of the garden can be reduced and the depth of the garden increased. Use tables 2 and 3 for these calculations.

Step 12: Draw a rough outline of your rain garden