

A healthy bioretention area will treat storm water and remove harmful pollutants such as nutrients, metals, and grease before leaving the site and entering into local streams and lakes.

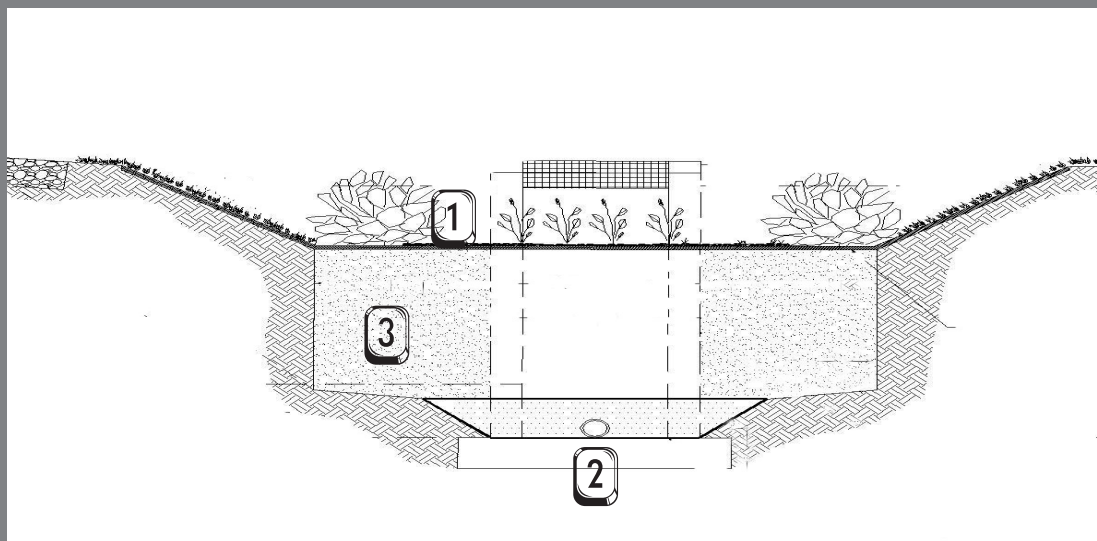
HOW DOES IT WORK?

These areas capture rainfall runoff from rooftops, parking lots, driveways, and other hard surfaces. There are three main components of the Bioretention area that help control storm water:

- 1 Plants and mulch help uptake nutrients, water and other pollutants that wash off parking lots and other hard surfaces.
- 2 The under drain system helps to drain water two to five days after it enters the rain garden. The soil media and under drain system both help with infiltration which reduces storm water volume.
- 3 The soil media acts as a filter to remove total suspended solids, metals, bacteria, nitrogen, phosphorus and reduces temperature.



RAIN GARDEN SCHEMATIC



REMEMBER

Properly designed rain gardens can effectively trap and remove over 90 percent of common pollutants in urban storm runoff.

Rain gardens act as mosquito cemeteries because the rain water drains quickly and leaves the mosquito eggs high and dry.

BIORETENTION MAINTENANCE TASKS AND SCHEDULE



TASK	SCHEDULE
Sedimentation prevention - Inspect banks and surrounding drainage areas, including out parcels and parking lots for erosion and stabilize .	Monthly
Perimeter mowing (maintain a 3-6 inch height)	Monthly
Remove sediment or other organic material	As needed
Inspect/Clean Inlets (blockage, bypass, erosion or damaged)	Monthly
Trash removal	Monthly
Inspect pea gravel diaphragm	As needed
Inspect plants, replace as necessary	Monthly
Inspect/Clean Outlet (blockage, bypass, erosion or damaged)	Monthly
Test P Index of soil media and replace if over 50	Every 2 years
Mulch renewal	Yearly
Mulch replacement	Every 3 years
Pruning	Yearly
Inspect for proper drawdown/ clogging	Monthly
<u>Grassed Bioretention Only</u>	
Mow basin to recommended height in alternating patterns to prevent compaction and prevent weed growth	Weekly to biweekly during the growing season, as needed other seasons
Light fertilizing to establish healthy roots	Only during first 2 years
Aerate and de-thatch basin floor	Every 2 years

- Regular inspections, especially after rain events, are important to ensure that the Bioretention Area is functioning properly.
- Preventative maintenance will help you avoid costly corrective maintenance and repairs.
- If the Bioretention Area is not functioning properly, such as unusual water levels, call 311. An inspector will help you determine what the issue is so repairs can be made.