



Explore & Discover

WHAT ARE RAIN GARDENS?

Rain gardens collect and absorb stormwater from rooftops, sidewalks, and streets, allowing it to soak into the ground with the help of deeply rooted plants. These natural plantings also bring beauty to the neighborhood and support important pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Common features include native plantings, inlet and outlet structures, and native soil mixed with compost.

How it Works: Wet Weather

DRY WEATHER

NATIVE PLANTS

AMENDED NATIVE SOIL

Water that flows into the garden is absorbed by deep-rooted plants and stored in the soil.

Green Infrastructure

- 🌿 Helps our community manage stormwater the way nature intended by capturing and utilizing rainwater where it falls.
- 🌿 Decreases the amount of water getting into our pipes, improves water quality, and reduces flooding, pollution, and trash in our creeks, streams, and rivers.
- 🌿 Takes many forms, depending on its location. Installations can be found along streets or as small gardens in parks or yards.



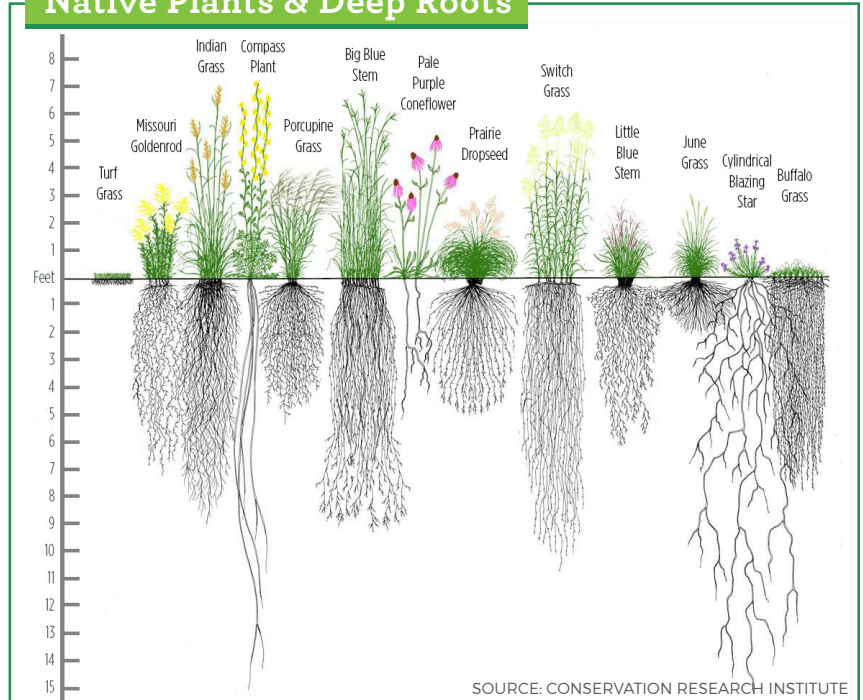
OUR GOAL? Protect public health and the environment with infrastructure to last a lifetime.

KC Water's Smart Sewer program is a multi-decade initiative to upgrade Kansas City's wastewater collection system to last for generations, while meeting the requirements of our Consent Decree with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Green infrastructure plays an important role in this program by helping our community manage stormwater the way nature intended by capturing and utilizing rainwater where it falls. It is a long-term solution that looks beautiful above ground and works wonders below. Every gallon of rainwater that green infrastructure keeps out of our combined sewer system helps lessen the volume of combined sewer overflows in our creeks, streams, and rivers.

As part of the Consent Decree, KC Water plans to treat at least 480 green acres, or acres of impervious surface like streets and parking lots, using green infrastructure in the combined sewer system by 2035. Learn more at kcsmartsewer.us

Native Plants & Deep Roots



Middle Blue River Basin Pilot Project



Learn more about Kansas City's Green Infrastructure Program:
WWW.KCSMARTSEWER.US/GREEN

