

LOW MAINTENANCE LANDSCAPE inc.

HIGH QUALITY, EFFECTIVE DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS

Nothing is more frustrating than dealing with a wet basement. It can damage walls and flooring and ruin irreplaceable things like photo albums and family heirlooms. But knowing the causes of wet basements and how to prevent water damage can help avoid this frustration.

When it rains, are you left with standing water around your flower beds, lawn, walkways, patios, driveway, or near your home's foundation? This is one of those "if you don't fix it, it will cost a lot more later" problems that will only get worse. Heavy rains can quickly identify these problem areas around your home. Our team of professionals at Low Maintenance Landscape can design and install the appropriate drainage solutions to fix the problem. Call us today for a consultation and estimate on your property's drainage needs.



French Drains are used to catch water over a large surface area in the yard that is a low spot. The water is then moved to a desired area away from your foundation or towards a rain garden.



Dry river beds are used to catch water from your downspouts or low areas in the yard. Water is then transported to an area away from your foundation or into a rain garden. A dry river bed is the most attractive and elegant way of moving water.



Buried drain extensions are used to catch water from your downspouts and move the water to an area away from your foundation.



LOW MAINTENANCE RAIN GARDENS

Rain gardens offer a way for homeowners to protect our environment and prevent flooding. What is a rain garden? A rain garden is a shallow depression that is planted with native wetland or wet prairie wildflowers and grasses. Rain gardens are strategically located to capture runoff from impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways, parking lots, and roads. These landscaping features help create beautiful green spaces while absorbing water, reducing runoff, protecting water quality and preventing flooding. If everyone captured their runoff, there would be much less flooding problems.

How does a rain garden work? Rain gardens improve water quality by reducing and filtering runoff. The most polluted runoff occurs in the beginning of a rain shower as water rushes over hard surfaces. This water is the first to pick up sediments and pollutants. Rain gardens catch this water before it enters the storm drainage system. Sediments and pollutants settle out of the water and are absorbed by plant roots or treated through chemical processes in the soil.



RAIN GARDEN FAQ'S

Q. Will a rain garden provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes?

A. No. A properly designed rain garden will drain before mosquitoes can reproduce. It takes 10-14 days for a mosquito to develop from an egg into an adult. The rain gutters on your home are more likely to provide a better breeding ground than a rain garden.

Q. Do all rain gardens have a wild and messy appearance?

A. No. Rain gardens do have a natural rather than a manicured appearance, but they need not look messy. You can keep a rain garden looking neat and attractive by keeping the edges well defined. Taller plants often have a more unkempt appearance; so use shorter plants if you want your garden to have a cleaner look.

Q. Would a rain garden cause flooding in my basement?

A. Not if they are properly located and designed. Rain gardens should be located at least 10 feet away from buildings so that water does not drain along foundations. Also, your rain garden should drain away from rather than toward buildings.

Q. Would I need to water my rain garden during dry periods?

A. Maybe. How much water your rain garden needs will depend on the plants you choose. Native plants are adapted to a wide range of conditions, so they will only need watering in the driest seasons.

RECOMMENDED PLANTS FOR RAIN GARDENS

- Joe Pye Weed (Eupatorium)
- Yellow Flag Iris (Iris sp.)
- Switchgrass (Panicum)
- Iron Weed (Vernonia)
- Pink Butterfly Flower (Asclepias)
- Great Coneflower (Rudbeckia)
- Cup plant (Silphium)
- Prairie Dock (Silphium)
- Obedient Plant (Physostegia)
- Shining Blue star (Amsonia)
- Fireworks Goldenrod (Solidago)
- Spiderwort (Tradescantia)
- Bee Balm (Monarda)
- Sweetflag (Acorus)
- Sedge (Carex sp.)
- Hardy Hibiscus (Hibiscus)
- Maiden Grass (Miscanthus)
- Butterbur (Petasites)
- Horsetail Reed (Equisetum)
- Variegated Giant Reed (Arundo)
- Buttonbush (Cephalanthus)
- Ruby Spice Clethra (Clethra)
- Coralberry (Symphoricarpos)
- Beautyberry (Callicarpa)
- Paw Paw Tree (Asimina)
- Bald Cypress (Taxodium)
- Red Maple (Acer)
- Bur Oak (Quercus)
- River Birch (Betula)
- Hornbeam (Carpinus)

