

# Gardening For Water Quality: Rain Gardens



*Bacopa monnieri (Aeae), foreground, and Cyperus javanicus (Ahuawa), middle*



*Department of Natural Sciences, Madison, Wisconsin*

**DATE:** Saturday, June 27, 2009  
**LOCATION:** Meet at Hui Ku Maoli Ola Nursery, 46-403 Haiku Road, Kaneohe  
**REGISTRATION:** Call 780-8872 or ~~295-7777~~. Workshop capacity is limited.

**MORNING SESSION (9-Noon):** Introduces purpose, design, function and implementation of a rain garden. Also Adopt-A-Stream Bank Stabilization Project Highlights. Bring your own lunch.  
**AFTERNOON SESSION (1-3pm):** Hands-on implementation of the rain garden.

## WHAT IS A RAIN GARDEN?

*A rain garden is a storm water sustainable practice that forms a “bioretention area” by collecting water runoff and storing it to be filtered and slowly absorbed by the soil. The bioretention concept is based on the hydrologic function of forest habitat, in which the forest produces a spongy litter layer that soaks up water and allows it to slowly penetrate the soil layer.*

*A nutrient removal or “filtering” process takes place as the water comes in contact with the soil and roots. This process accounts for improved water quality. The first flush of rain water is ponded in the depression of the rain garden and contains the highest concentration of polluted run off from hard surfaces such as roofs, roads, and parking lots.*

## SPONSORED BY

