Boulevard Park Rain Garden Project Planting Day

September 24, 2011

Rain Gardens slow water flow, minimize flooding and improve the water quality in rivers and lakes. Rain Gardens like this one can be used to reduce your stormwater footprint as well as address soggy or poorly drained areas in your yard.

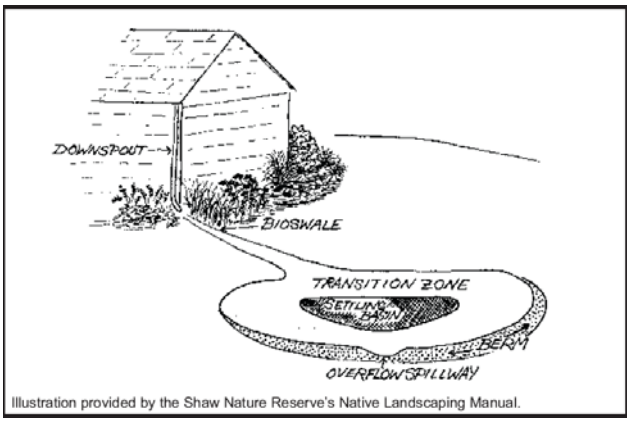

Illustration provided by the Shaw Nature Reserve's Native Landscaping Manual.

Bioretention vs. Rain Gardens:

- Both are planted with similar plants
- Both reduce water runoff
- Both promote infiltration
- Under drains are required in Bioretention
- Bioretention uses layers of different filter media
- Bioretention areas are designed by a professional, and sized for a specific treatment area

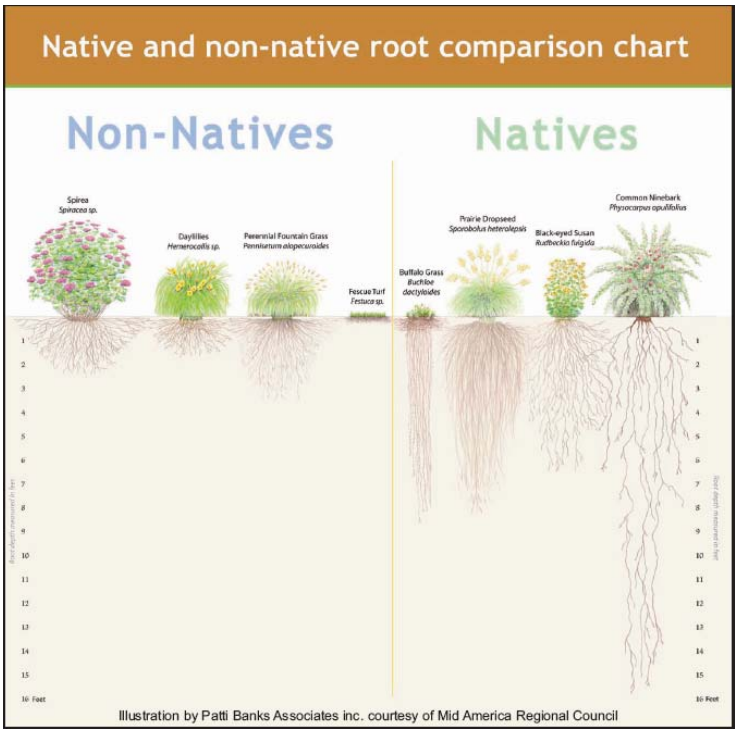

Illustration by Patti Banks Associates inc. courtesy of Mid America Regional Council

Why use Native Plants?

- Deeper root structures promote infiltration and improve drought tolerance
- Less likely to require fertilizer or pesticide
- Are better suited to local soil type and climate
- Attract local wildlife
- Can more quickly absorb excess water

Plan your own rain garden

- The size of your Rain Garden should be 10% to 30% of the square footage of your roof or other impervious areas draining to it.
- Plant rain gardens at least 10 feet from building foundations.
- Plant a rain garden near roof drains to catch water.
- Amending soil with sand and compost greatly improves function.
- Call 1-800-DIG-RITE before you dig.

Sources:

- www.lakesaintlouis.com
- www.showmeraingardens.com
- www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativeLandscapingManual/ChapterTwo.aspx
- www.grownative.org

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VII, through the Missouri Department of Natural Resources has provided partial funding for this project under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources