

RAIN GARDENS 101

Meet Us in the Garden Program

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Lake County Master Gardener Volunteer Helpline

440-853-2634 (please note new telephone number) MGVLakeCounty@gmail.com

Lake County OSUE MUITG programs online

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvTUiG58xAcmjC7uE7OmPyg>

Northeast Ohio Master Rain Gardener Program

<https://crwp.org/index.php/projects/mrg>

Lake County

- Laura Bonnell, Project Manager, Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc.
(440) 975-3870 ext. 1002 lbonnell@crwp.org
- Natalie Gertz-Young, Education/Information Coordinator, LCSWD
(440) 350-2730 Natalie.Gertz-Young@lakecountyohio.gov

Cuyahoga County

- Elizabeth Hiser, CPSWQ, Watershed Program Manager, CSWD
(216) 524-6580 ext. 1002 ehiser@cuyahogawcd.org

Percolation Test Guidelines to Determine Rain Garden Area and Depth

Percolation rate *less* than 24 hours: The square footage of your rain garden should be 20% of the drainage area, and the ponding depth should be 4-6 inches.

Percolation rate *more* than 24 hours: The square footage of your rain garden should be 30% of the drainage area, and the ponding depth should be 3 inches.

The NE Ohio Rain Garden Filterable Plant List can be accessed here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BHLsz0ESgCjYci891jAtkPy1tawxCdTaowUWDUq2EMY/edit#gid=1696831925>



Identifying Your Soil for Rain Gardens/Soil Texture Feel Test Key

https://arboretum.wisc.edu/content/uploads/2015/04/RGS-2-3_Identifying-Soil.pdf

Soil Texture Analysis "The Jar Test"

<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/soil-texture-analysis-the-jar-test/>

To obtain an elevation/contour map of your Lake County property:

1. Go to <https://www.lakegis.org/>
2. Click on the Lake Navigator 3.0 image on the left side of the page.
3. In the upper-left corner, you will see five icons in a row. Click on the magnifying glass icon and a menu box titled "Search Layers" will appear.
4. Click on "Owner Name". Enter last name and click "Apply". Click on the appropriate listing, and the map will zoom to that property.
5. "X" out the Search Layers menu box to better view the map.
6. On the right is another menu box listing different layers. Click on the box next to "2016 Contours". Green lines should appear on the map.
7. Each green line represents a 2' change in elevation.
8. "X" out the menu box and the map can be printed, using the print icon in the top right corner.

Where can I buy native plants? <https://www.ohionativeplantmonth.org/>

Resources

- Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Finder
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plantfinder/plantfindersearch.aspx>
- Missouri Botanical Garden Rainscaping Guide
<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/sustainability/sustainability/sustainable-living/at-home/rainscaping-guide.aspx>
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Plant Database
<https://www.wildflower.org/plants/>
- USDA PLANTS Database (to determine nativity of plant)
<https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/java/>

And for a fun little jingle about rain gardens, courtesy of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, please visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=42LYqrj4qqY>

Rain makes everything beautiful!

