



Water-wise structures featured in the garden:

Rainwater Harvesting: Stormwater may be collected and reused for drinkable and non-drinkable uses within a house or building or for watering the landscape. The rain harvesting system in this garden includes features that allow the system to be used to water a portion of the garden.

Vegetated Swale: A long, narrow channel planted with a variety of trees, shrubs and grasses. Stormwater runoff from roofs or asphalt driveways is directed through the swale, where it is slowed and in some cases filtered, allowing pollutants to settle out as water soaks into the soil reservoir.

Rain Garden: A shallow depression planted with water-loving plants intended to collect and hold stormwater runoff, allowing pollutants to settle and filter out as water soaks into the soil reservoir.

Thanks to the following Water Wise Garden benefactors

All About Quality Sod: donated sod

Braun Landscape: donated some time and materials for irrigation system

Ewing Irrigation Products: donated supplies for irrigation system

Green Ridge Concrete: concrete work at reduced rate

Hunter Industries: donated irrigation supplies

John Deere Landscapes, Eugene, OR: donated irrigation supplies

JTI Supply: discount on cistern and supplies, donated delivery and expertise

Lane Forest Products: discounted mulch

Lane Community College water conservation technician program students: design of rainwater catchment system and installation.

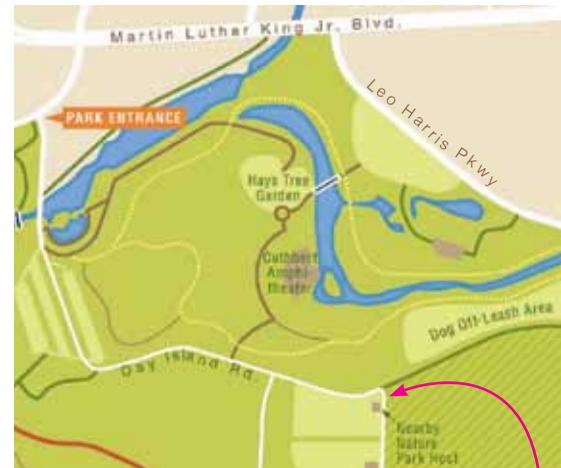
Mid Valley Gravel: donated six to seven tons of basalt rock

Network Charter School: volunteer labor

New Roads School: volunteer labor

Schelsky's Landscape & Irrigation: donated labor for part of the irrigation system

University of Oregon urban farm students: volunteer labor



The Water Wise Garden is located next to the Nearby Nature Park Host in Alton Baker Park

Water Wise Garden Partners

EWEB: project coordinator, contributed project maintenance and signage

City of Eugene:

Parks & Open Space contributed labor, materials, equipment, and land

Stormwater Education Program provided materials and graphic design

Waste Prevention and Green Building Program provided funding for rainwater harvesting system

LandCurrent Landscape Architecture, Anita Van Asperdt – Principal: donated landscape architecture design and consultation

Nearby Nature: provided volunteer labor and water feature

Schirmer Satre Group: donated landscape architecture design and consultation



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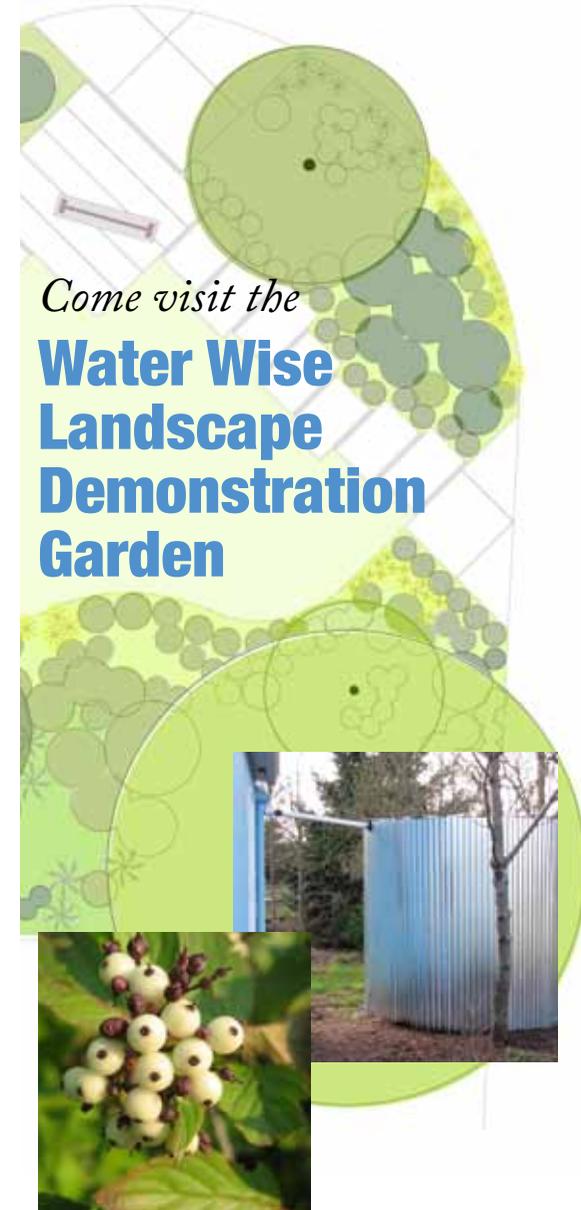
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A new garden in Alton Baker Park showcasing water-saving plants, landscape design and structures for residential use.

The Water Wise Landscape Demonstration Garden is the product of a remarkable community collaboration. Partners from local agencies and businesses worked together to plan and create this living landscape of plants, stormwater structures and architectural details to inspire and inform those with an interest in water conservation and rainwater collection for their own gardens.

Local landscape architects, with input from stakeholders, developed the plan for this site. Many of the plants they selected do not require much water after their establishment period. The watering system is controlled by a Smart Controller that receives watering data via a wireless connection, adjusting daily to plant water needs. Maintenance is provided by a local professional landscape maintenance contractor through a grant provided by Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB).

Right plant, right place

Water loving plants such as dogwood shrubs and vine maples were planted in and around the rain garden and vegetated swale.

Functional lawn areas

A low water-use turf variety was planted in one area to give the look of a highly manicured lawn without the need for a lot of water. Another area was sown with a blend of ecoturf containing cool season grasses and broadleaf annuals and perennials.

Water-loving plants in the rain garden

The swale and the rain garden in the demonstration landscape create a unique microclimate.



Plant selection is important when incorporating these features in your home garden.

Some plants suitable for these areas include:

- Tufted Hairgrass—*Deschampsia caespitosa*
- Wild Strawberry—*Fragaria virginiana* (above left)
- Slender Rush—*Juncus tenuis*
- Red-osier Dogwood—*Cornus sericea* (cover panel)
- Dwarf Oregon Grape—*Mahonia nervosa*
- Douglas Spirea—*Spiraea douglasii*
- Vine Maple—*Acer circinatum*
- Serviceberry—*Amelanchier alnifolia*

Tips for creating your own water-wise garden

- Creating a plan for new or existing landscapes allows you to install your landscape in phases and avoid costly mistakes.
- Healthy soil is a reservoir that provides water, air and nutrients to plants as well as soil-dwelling organisms. Three inches of organic matter were worked into the top six inches of the soil in the demonstration site.
- Lawns typically require a great deal of water and maintenance. Consider replacing grass in some areas with less-thirsty mixtures like ecoturf, ground covers, low-water-use plants, mulches or hardscape features.
- Different plants need different amounts of water, sun and shade to thrive. Assess growing conditions in each part of your landscape so that you can select plants best suited for each area.
- Avoid overwatering. A well-planned, well-designed, well-timed sprinkler system promotes plant health by applying the right amount of water. Soaker hoses or drip systems are the most water-efficient systems for trees and planting beds.
- Mulch, such as wood chips or pebbles, provides a protective layer that covers the soil surface and is not tilled into the soil.
- Routine maintenance will keep your plants healthy and your landscape at its best.