

# WISCONSIN STORMWATER WEEK

September 21-29, 2024

Stormwater is water that runs off of surfaces like roads, roofs, driveways, or sidewalks after it rains or snows. Infiltration ponds, like the one shown here, help to filter this water and prevent pollution from ending up in our bodies of water!





## How You Can Help

# Things We Can Do to Maintain Stormwater Ponds



Keep stormwater ponds clear of any objects or structures that could compact the soil and reduce infiltration



Remove trees and other woody brush from stormwater ponds



Check to see if inlets and outlets, surrounding your local stormwater pond, are clear of debris



Take a walk around your stormwater pond to check for erosion and take action to repair it



Make sure that stormwater ponds are well vegetated as those plants are an integral part of the filtration system



Beautify your stormwater pond by creating a rain garden within it to help with infiltration and vegetation

# Rain Gardens

Rain gardens are gardens made up of water-tolerant native plants. They filter water slowly and prevent stormwater from running into a storm drain. These work well in urbanized areas due to the increased non-absorbent surfaces like sidewalks, roadways, and parking lots.



Decrease street flooding



Beautify stormwater ponds



Create a pollinator habitat



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH





# Stormwater: Where It Flows, Everything Goes

When it rains, snows, or sleet, water hits hard surfaces and takes anything on that surface with it, through drains, pipes, and ditches to local rivers, lakes, and streams.



## Where Stormwater Flows, Everything Goes



All of the pollutants that are on streets, parking lots, and driveways often get into waterways during precipitation events. Due to pollutants in stormwater, stormwater can pollute our local streams, rivers, and lakes – ultimately harming fish and wildlife population, hurting recreational activities, and killing native vegetation. Some common examples of these pollutants include: yard waste, pesticides and herbicides, pet waste, road salt, sediment, and trash.