



Stormwater Solutions Garden Tour

8115 Lilly Stone Drive

RainScapes Demonstration Project

Behind this berm, you will see a series of walls with planting, which is the Carderock RainScapes Demonstration Project. The project was designed to capture and absorb runoff on the narrow slope between the two homes. The Carderock Conservation Committee (CCC) received funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust to help defray costs of this demonstration project. The committee chose this residence because it had significant water problems common to many Carderock homes: run-off from homes located up-hill and adjoining neighbors, and pooling water after major rain storms.

Landscape architect Lisa Wilcox Deyo worked closely with Montgomery County RainScapes staff to design an attractive and functional terraced garden that absorbs stormwater, slows its movement, and helps direct it to an existing storm drain. The project planners also worked with the adjacent homeowner to install an underground pipe that directs water from the neighbor’s yard to a storm drain at the bottom of the stairs.

The 360 ft² slope is planted with a variety of native deer-resistant plants, including a serviceberry tree. The native plants are deep rooted, will fill out, and help to absorb runoff, which the residents have already observed. The modular *Envirobloxx* walls were installed to create a flat area at the base of the hill where water can pool and be absorbed. A rich compost soil mix encourages water infiltration while also providing native plants with a medium conducive to a long and healthy life. The walls are constructed of lightweight, interlocking hollow units filled with *Grosoxx*, heavy-duty tubular mesh bags containing absorbent soil that have also been planted. The “living walls” also filter pollutants as the water slowly move down the hill to a conservation garden located to the left of the retaining wall. The *Envirobloxx* – made of recycled plastic – can be seen at the end of the driveway.

PLANTING LIST

| Botanical Name | Common Name |
|---|-------------------------|
| <i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> | Serviceberry |
| <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> | Buttonbush |
| <i>Ilex glabra</i> ‘Shamrock’ | Inkberry |
| <i>Clethra alnifolia</i> ‘Hummingbird’ | Hummingbird Summersweet |
| <i>Amsonia hubrichtii</i> | Hubricht’s Bluestar |
| <i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i> var.. <i>salicifolia</i> | Eastern Bluestar |
| <i>Aster divaricatus</i> | White Wood Aster |
| <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> ‘Purple Magnus’ | Purple Coneflower |
| <i>Iris versicolor</i> | Harlequin Blueflag |
| <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> | Cardinal Flower |
| <i>Lobelia siphilitica</i> | Great Blue Lobelia |
| <i>Packera aurea</i> | Golden groundsel |
| <i>Dryopteris marginalis</i> | Evergreen Wood Fern |
| <i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> | Christmas Fern |
| <i>Dryopteris erythrosora</i> ‘Brilliance’ | Autumn Fern |
| <i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> | Cinnamon Fern |
| <i>Carex stricta</i> | Upright Sedge |
| <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> | Tufted Hairgrass |
| <i>Carex flacca</i> ‘Blue Zinger’ | Blue Sedge |

Native plants can successfully replace all or part of a traditional lawn. Native plants are hardy, low-maintenance, and don’t require frequent mowing and watering like most traditional lawns.

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