

County of Wetaskiwin No. 10

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

August 21, 2018

RAIN GARDENS 4 RESILIENCE

The County of Wetaskiwin was selected under the Rain Gardens 4 Resilience program, of the Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership, to convert the turf around the main entrance to the County administration building into a more sustainable, resilient form of landscaping, including 2 demonstration rain gardens.

Rain Gardens 4 Resilience describes a rain garden: it is a shallow, planted depression that collects rain from downspouts, or from any area of concentrated flow, such as driveways, rain barrel overflows, etc. Rain gardens hold back water from reaching the street, which reduces overland and downstream flooding. They also improve water quality. Rain gardens have similar treatment capabilities as wetlands, but they fit better in the urban environment because they are only wet briefly after it rains. Rain gardens are great for our pollinators too, as they usually incorporate a variety of flowering plants.

The Rain Gardens 4 Resilience Program is a project of the Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership, a non-profit working to advance sustainable stormwater management practices in Alberta. The project is funded under the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program of Alberta Environment and Parks.

You can read more about rain gardens and the Rain Gardens 4 Resilience program at <http://www.alidp.org/initiatives/citizen-education-and-demonstration/rain-gardens-4-resilience>.

