

# Native Plants for Rain Gardens



## *Perennials and ferns*

Blue flag iris (*Iris versicolor*)  
Cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)  
Cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)  
Golden ragwort (*Packera aurea*)  
Goldenrod (*Solidago rugosa*)  
Great blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)  
Marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*)  
New England aster (*Aster novae-angliae*)  
New York aster (*Aster novi-belgii*)  
Mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum muticum*)  
Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)  
Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)  
Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)  
Soft rush (*Juncus effusus*)  
Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)  
Swamp rose mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)  
Swamp sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*)  
Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)  
Tussock sedge (*Carex stricta*)  
White turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)  
Blazing star (*Liatris spicata*)  
Blue star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*)  
Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)  
Calico aster (*Aster lateriflorus*)  
Green and gold (*Chrysogonum virginianum*)  
Mistflower (*Eupatorium coelestinum*)  
Threadleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis verticillata*)  
Tickseed (*Coreopsis tinctoria*)  
Blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*)  
Broomsedge (*Andropogon virginicus*)  
Culvers root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*)  
Mistflower (*Eupatorium coelestinum*)  
Obedient plant (*Physotegia virginiana*)  
Threadleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis verticillata*)  
Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)

## *Shrubs*

American cranberry bush (*Viburnum trilobum*)  
Black chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)  
Gray Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*)  
New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)  
Sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*)  
Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*)  
Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)  
Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*)  
Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*)  
Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)  
Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)

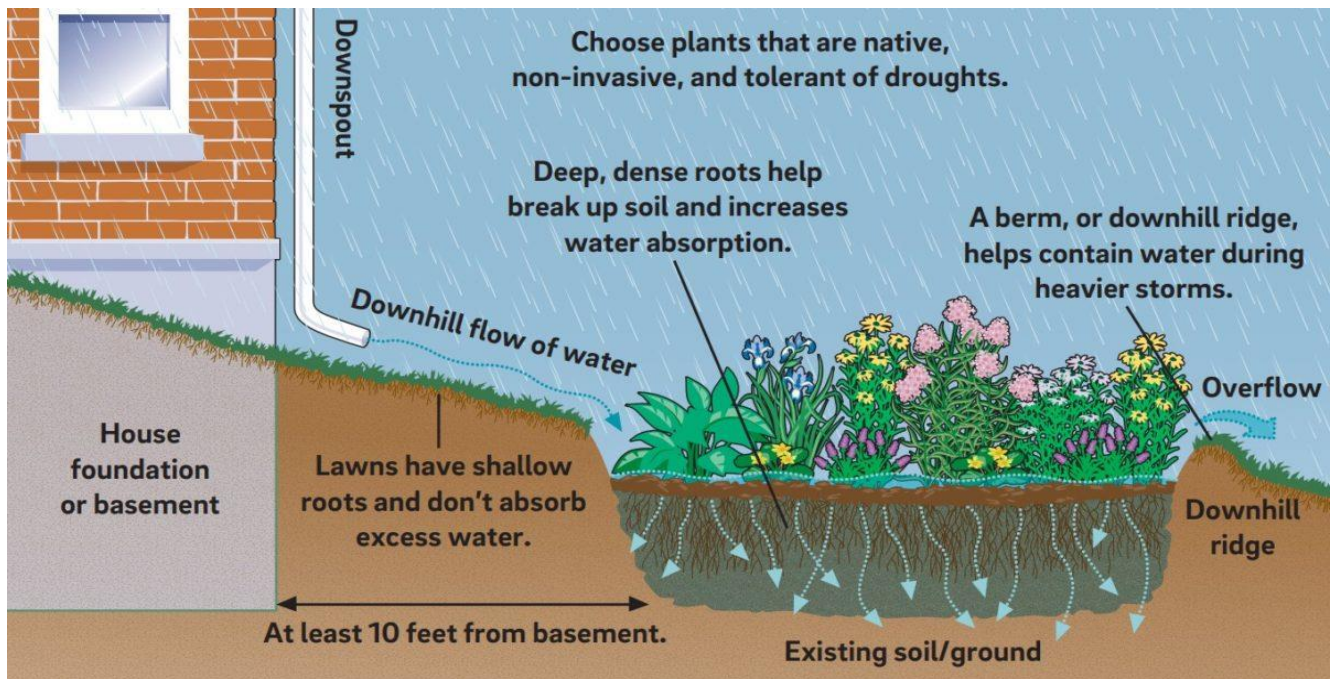
## *Trees*

Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia* and *A. parviflora*)  
Carolina silverbell (*Halesia carolinae*)  
Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)  
Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)  
Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)  
Paw paw (*Asimina triloba*)  
Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)  
Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*,  
*A. canadensis* and *A. laevis*)



## Rain Gardens:

A rain garden is a depressed area in the landscape that collects rain water from a roof, driveway or street and allows it to soak into the ground. Planted with grasses and flowering perennials, rain gardens can be a cost effective and beautiful way to reduce runoff from your property. Rain gardens can also help filter out pollutants in runoff and provide food and shelter for butterflies, song birds and other wildlife.



## Rain Barrel:

Rain barrels collect free rainwater to water gardens, trees, and lawns and even wash cars, which can save on your water bill. They also help limit stormwater runoff pollution and erosion by diverting water. Installing a rain barrel is one of the easiest ways to reduce your household's water footprint and help keep our streams and other waterways clean. The average American family uses more than 300 gallons of water per day at home. A single 55-gallon rain barrel can save up to 1,300 gallons of water every year.

New Castle County offers a spring and fall discount rain barrel sale through the Clean Stream Champion program. The only requirements are that you live in New Castle County and you've pledged to be a Clean Stream Champion!



[CleanStreamChampion.org](http://CleanStreamChampion.org)