

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES INVENTORY
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

PROJECT: Lathrup Village Community Rain

CATEGORY:
Stormwater Management

PRACTICE:
Rain Gardens

CONTACT:
SOCWA Healthy Lawns and Gardens

3910 W Webster Road, Royal Oak, MI 48073

248-288-5150



Constructing the Rain Garden involved excavation to 3 feet, and replacing the clay soil with a sand/compost mix. Photo courtesy Lillian Dean, Coordinator, SOCWA Healthy Lawns & Gardens

OWNER: City of Lathrup Village

PARTNERS:
City of Lathrup Village, SOCWA Healthy Lawns and Gardens

DESIGN: Barbara Bini and Celeste Watts, SOCWA volunteers

CONSTRUCTION: SOCWA volunteers

MAINTENANCE: Handled primarily by SOCWA volunteers.
Lathrup Village staff provides additional assistance.



Lathrup Village Community Rain Garden - 2 years post-construction. Photo courtesy Lillian Dean, Coordinator, SOCWA Healthy Lawns & Gardens

DATE INITIATED: June 2002

INITIAL COST: (not submitted)

MAINTENANCE COST: (not submitted)/year

PROJECT

The City of Lathrup Village's (27400 Southfield Rd.) north entrance and parking lot consisted of broken concrete and disturbed soil prior to the installation of a 50' x 25' rain garden in 2002. Construction consisted of excavation and removal of clay soil to a depth of about 3 feet. Original clay soil replaced with a mix of 2/3 yard waste compost and 1/3 sharp sand. Stone filter (stones wrapped in landscape fabric) placed in the front of the garden to encourage infiltration. Several perforated pipes (4 feet long) were placed at a depth of 2 feet to encourage overflow drainage to the storm drain pipe (leading to the drainage system on Southfield Rd). The Lathrup Village Community Rain Garden was the first installed in Oakland County. The garden project has received two awards: Rouge River Habitat Award - 2002 and Keep Michigan Beautiful Award - 2003. Rain garden enthusiasts as well as others regularly visit the site for ideas. Mary Kearney, Lathrup Village volunteer, prepared a planting guide to the Community rain garden and several of the individual residential rain gardens. SOCWA uses the site for public education workshops.