

## Did you know a raingarden lives in your street?

**A raingarden, also known as a bioretention system, is a vegetated area that collects and filters stormwater run-off from local streets that protect our natural waterways. They achieve this by preventing litter and excess nutrients from entering our waterways.**

They also recharge groundwater supply and provide habitat for native fauna. The types of plants chosen for raingardens are selected based on their ability to improve water quality and grow within a raingarden environment.



### Where can I plant within the raingarden?

Planting by residents is restricted to the positions described in Figure 1. This ensures optimum functionality of the raingarden.

### Can I place rocks and other materials within the raingarden?

Rocks, timber and other materials are not permitted to be placed within the raingardens as this can impact their functionality. Such requests would require a permit. However it is important to note approval is not guaranteed.



### Can I plant in the raingarden?

- You may plant along the edges of the raingarden without a permit. However plants are restricted to 500mm in height and must be listed on the Road Verge Planting List available on council's website.
- Plant species are determined by council to avoid compromising the infrastructure and to ensure pedestrian movement and sightlines are not obstructed.

Residents are advised that council may renew raingardens at any time and as such the devices will be reverted to their original or new design specification. This will not include additional plantings or other changes made by residents.

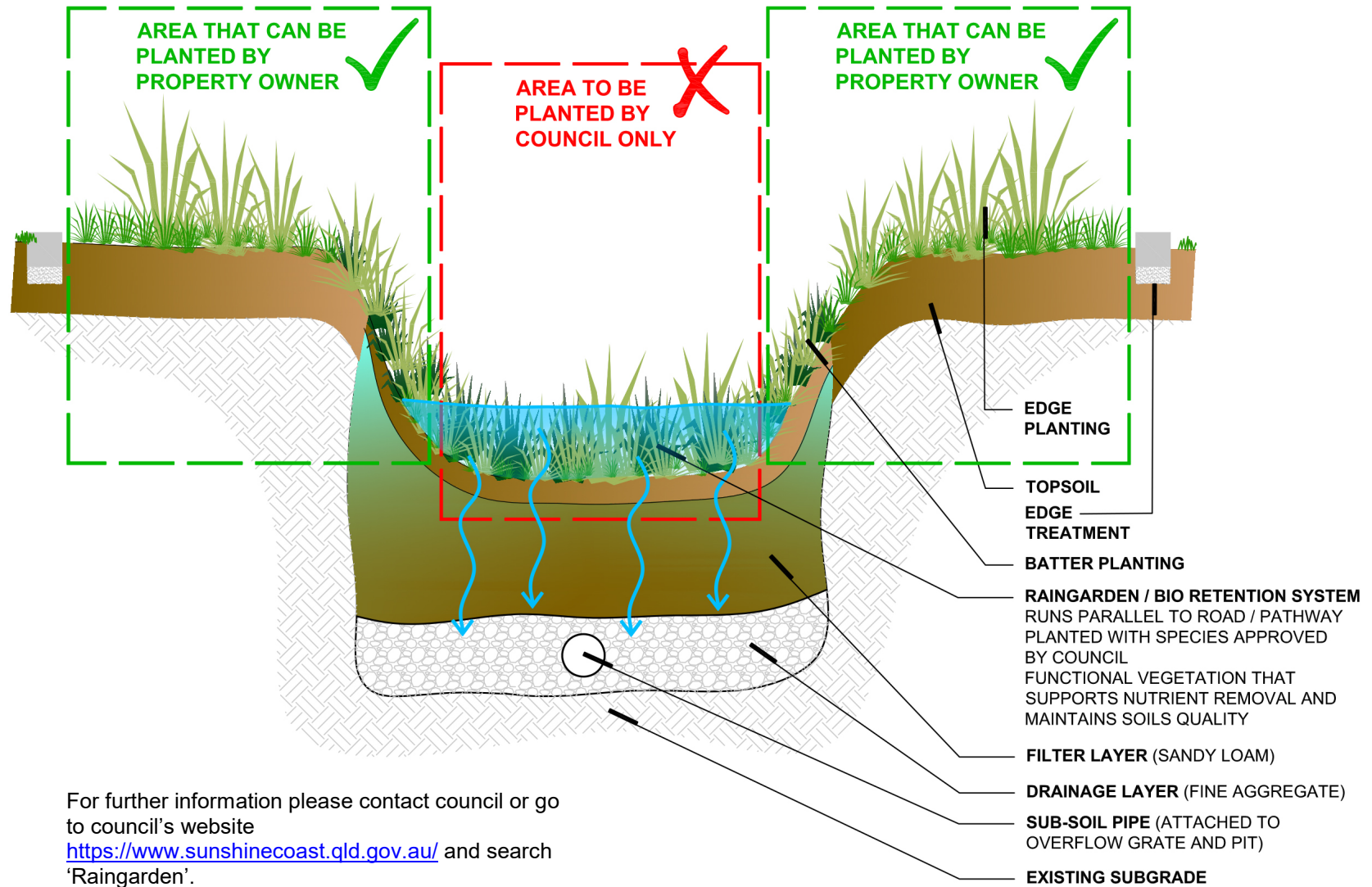
### Can I plant trees or fruit and vegetables in the raingarden?

Trees, fruit and vegetables are not permitted to be planted within the raingardens as they will have a detrimental effect on their function and the ongoing maintenance.

### How can I help?

- You may "adopt" your closest raingarden by hand pulling weeds, removing litter and other debris. However, do not remove or prune any other plants as this will reduce the raingarden's ability to filter runoff.
- Keep your closest raingarden clear of green waste or lawn clippings.
- Raingardens should not contain any mulch. Mulch will wash away during rain events and it will have a detrimental effect downstream.
- Your adopted raingarden must be free of any chemicals or herbicide use. Any chemical or herbicide use will have a negative impact downstream.
- Monitor the raingarden stormwater grate and report blockages or other maintenance issues to council.
- Please discourage children from playing in raingardens as plants can easily be damaged.
- Raingardens are home to plants and native animal species. Please ensure wheelie bins or other items are stored outside all raingardens.

Figure 1: Typical raingarden section



For further information please contact council or go to council's website <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/> and search 'Raingarden'.

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