

Rain Garden

Rain gardens are specially constructed gardens that have two purposes:

- to help keep water on site so that it is absorbed into the sub-soil
- to help slow down water flow and cleanse water before it reaches waterways.

In Maroochy Bushland Botanic Gardens Rain Garden this is achieved by the construction of a barrier (used as the pathway) that collects run-off water and allows it to soak in.

Once this is full water overflows into a planted watercourse that leads to a “soakage pit”. This is a 6m x 4m x 75cm sand filled catchment area that collects the water flow and also allows water to soak into the sub-soil. These catchment areas are designed so that water does not sit for more than 72 hours after rain.

Any water that then overflows passes through a planted area to help in the slowing and cleansing of the excess run-off.

This Rain Garden is a demonstration on a reasonably small scale. It is also a system that can be used on a large scale to help in the health of waterways.

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