

13.2 Rain Gardens

Earlier, we discussed the idea of Rain Gardens. We can also call them 'urban edible gardens' or 'community gardens'. I like the term 'rain garden' because it has less syllables and it sparks a curious question.



Benefits of Rain Gardens

Community gardens play a greater role in society than just producing food.

Among the subtle yet powerful benefits that will flow are:

a. Cooperation

Community gardens promote human cooperation. People will begin to 'compare notes' on the growth of their plants. Seeing each other in the pathways, they will greet and talk to each other, thereby removing the sense of loneliness in urban areas. Activities to promote inter-action and cooperation may also be held such as fairs and festivals of the harvests, sharing of vegetables and fruits produce with hospitals, orphanages, elderly homes, jails, and soup kitchens.

b. Human Interaction

Humans are reconnected to the reality that the Land, Air, and Water interacting in a delicate dance with one another, are the ingredients of Life.

c. Healthier People and Less Carbon Footprint.

People will be eating more vegetables and fruits, lower in the food chain, and with much reduced carbon footprint. This is especially important because the food will no longer have to come all the way from distant places transported by carbon-burning engines. The food planted in rain gardens in the urban areas will be right next to people's homes

d. Flood Control and Water Supply

Collecting rainwater will supply the community's irrigation water. Irrigation systems must be state-of-the-art efficient. With more rainwater collected, there will be less rainwater run-off, and less flooding.

e. Spirit of Sharing

In scarcity, humans steal. But in abundance, humans share.

f. Cooler Climes

Of course the plants will exhale oxygen, inhale carbon dioxide, thereby cleaning and cooling the air.