Rain Gardens: Managing Water Sustainably In The Garden And Designed Landscape

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A rain garden is a garden of native shrubs, perennials and flowers planted in a small depression, which is generally managed for water sustainability. Rain Gardens: Managing Water Sustainably in the Garden and Designed Landscape.
Rain gardens encompass all possible elements that can be used to capture, channel, divert and make the most of the rain and snow that fall on a property. Using the innovative and attractive approaches described here, it is possible to enhance outdoor spaces and minimize the damaging effects of drought, stormwater runoff, and other environmental challenges. Nigel Dunnett & Andy Clayden have created a comprehensive guide to water management techniques for the garden and built environment. In this authoritative work, we see how rain gardens follow the principles of the natural water cycle by using the landscape to slow down the rate at which water is lost to the public drainage system.
Even in the comparatively short time of writing Rain Gardens there has been an escalation in media coverage on issues relating to global warming and the increased probability of serious summer drought. Hosepipe bans are now common in the UK and in London there is a real prospect that drinking water will be supplied from street standpipes in exceptionally dry summers. Rain gardens represent a radical change in our thinking about how we manage rainfall. Rain gardens, also called bioretention facilities, are one of a variety of practices designed to treat polluted stormwater runoff. Rain gardens are a designed depressed area in the landscape that store runoff from impervious urban areas, like roofs, driveways, walkways, parking lots, and compacted lawn areas. Rain gardens typically rely on plants and an engineered soil medium to soak up stormwater while absorbing and filtering pollutants carried in urban runoff.