

## RAIN GARDEN: Operation and Maintenance

- Annual maintenance of plant material, mulch layer and soil layer is required. Maintenance of mulch and soil is limited to correcting areas of erosion or washout. Any mulch replacement shall be done in the spring. Plant material shall be checked for disease and insect infestation.
- Occasional pruning and replacement of dead vegetation is necessary. If specific plants are not surviving, more appropriate native species should be used. Watering may be required during prolonged dry periods.
- Where practices are used to treat areas with higher concentrations of heavy metals (parking lot, road) mulch should be replaced annually. Otherwise, the top 2 to 3 inches should be replaced as necessary.
- The top few inches of the planting soil should be removed and replaced when water ponds for more than 48 hours. Silts and sediment should be removed from the surface of the bed as needed.
- Soil erosion and flow blockages to be addressed on an as needed basis with a minimum of once per month and after heavy storms. Inspect clean outs and observation wells along with overflow/outfall/exit pipes.

