1 Rain Garden Headwaters
The roof run-off from Seattle University’s new library addition is released at the headwaters of the Upper Rain Garden. The water will be pooled and then channelled into a culvert under the entry walk.

2 Upper Rain Garden
The vegetated swale will receive the roof run-off next as it flows downstream to the lower rain garden. Along the way the rain garden plants will help clean the water by filtering the water, helping to remove sediment and pollutants. Healthy roots will enhance storm-water infiltration and plants will enable evapo-transpiration. The remaining stormwater will be funneled through an underground pipe and will be released into the lower rain garden and meadow.

3 Waterwall
A particularly engaging feature of this flow of stormwater is the Waterwall. It celebrates the movement of water by flowing underfoot on each of the stair landings and finally down a carved granite panel until it spills into a small pool of water at the lower entrance to the new addition.

The waterwall is visually connected, yet independent of the other stormwater system. A small amount of roof run-off is diverted to this recirculating system. The waterwall will utilize about 3 gallons of non-potable water to operate with only a minimal amount lost to evaporation. The waterfeature meets LEED and Sustainable Site Initiative (SSI) standards for waterfeature design.

4 Lower Rain Garden
Stormwater will continue to infiltrate and evapo-transpirate in these lower rain garden beds. Only during large storm events will run-off need to be directed to the underground stormwater system.