

Lee Miley Rain Garden

The rain garden between the Lynn building and the Chapel was completed in November 2007 as a solution to winter rains flooding the basements of Lynn, Hunthausen, Xavier and the Chapel buildings. A rain garden is an excavated depression planted to look like a garden. Stormwater infiltrates through layers of soil and gravel as plants transpire moisture and help filter pollutants. Surface area equaling 17,740 sq. ft drains into this rain garden. The rain garden is ten feet deep, lined with a special fabric and perforated drainage system, and filled with a bio-retention mix designed to absorb and retain as much water as possible. Two trenches along the Lynn building west wall route water away from the building. One trench fills the rain garden and the other trench diverts the water from the building's foundation to the City's combined sewer overflow system. As the garden reaches capacity, excess water flows into the City's combined sewer overflow system.

For Our Waterways, Salmon, and Other Wildlife

- Reduced stormwater runoff = less erosion and sediment in salmon streams
- Increased groundwater recharge = better summer stream flows
- Less demand for irrigation water supply = more water in rivers for wildlife
- Bio-filtration of urban pollutants (running through compost-amended soil filters out 60-95% of contaminants)
- Less need for fertilizers and pesticides, so less washing off into streams

2007



2021