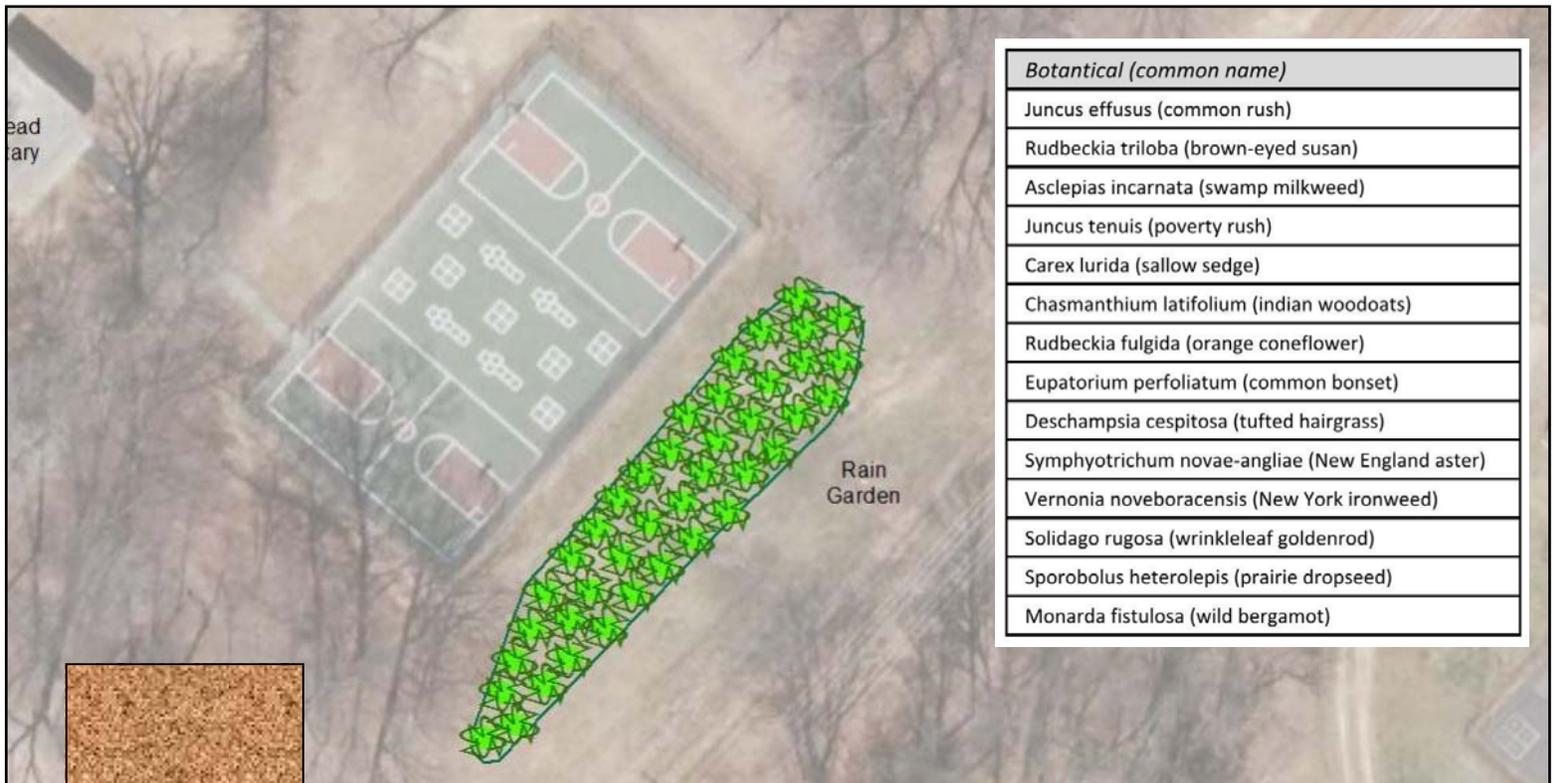


# Homestead Elementary Rain Garden

A **rain garden** is a landscaped area placed in a location to capture and treat pollutants suspended in stormwater runoff. Rain gardens differ from traditional landscaping by providing depressed areas that temporarily hold and slowly absorb water and pollutants.



The graphic to the left is a cross section of the **materials** used to construct the rain garden at Homestead Elementary School.

The **planting soil** is a special mixture of sand, clay and silt that is porous and allows water to enter the soil and absorb pollutants. The selected **plants** tolerate intermittent standing water and through their roots also absorb pollutants. The **gravel layers** buffer the planting soil from the **under-drain pipe** and temporarily store water that is slowly absorbed into the groundwater. Excess water flows from the rain garden through the pipe and discharges to a swale that drains into a tributary to Plumtree Run. All of these features work together to **improve water quality**.



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