Green Stormwater Infrastructure
Native Plant Maintenance and Care

Plant Care
Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) was installed in your neighborhood. This includes rain gardens, which are also known as bioretention basins. Crews will take care of the basins: perform inspections, clean inlets, take care of the plants, and handle repairs.

There are some things you can do to help keep the basins healthy and thriving! Follow the tips below to do your own basin upkeep and care.

To learn more, visit the City’s Green Infrastructure page, and watch this video from the Mississippi Watershed Management Org.

What You Can Do

GENERAL ACTIVITIES
Remove trash and debris from the basins.
Clean out dirt, leaves, and debris from curb openings.
Harvest seeds to plant in your yard or share with friends.
Promote the benefits of your garden to friends and neighbors.

SPRING (April - May)
Remove leaves and debris as soon as the snow melts.
Cut plants down to a height of 4” above the ground.
Overseed the garden as desired with seeds collected from the native plants.
Use the plants on the back of this page to add your favorites to the landscape.

SUMMER (June - September)
Pull weeds (refer to plant list for native plants to keep).
Do not use herbicides or fertilizers in the basins.
Cut back plants that obstruct the sidewalk.
Water only in times of severe drought (more than 10 days without rain).

WINTER
Refer to the City Salt Mini Course to learn more about reducing salt use.

When to Contact the City
Call 311 if you see any of these conditions in the Green Stormwater Infrastructure:
• Standing water more than 48 hours after a rainfall
• Areas of bare soil (greater that 2 square feet in size)
• Vandalism or physical damage to the planting area
• Noxious weed patches (per MN Department of Agriculture)
• For sick or damaged trees call 612-313-7710 or email forestry@minneapolisparks.org
These plants are especially suited to survive in your Green Stormwater Infrastructure. If you choose to add more plants to the GSI in front of your home please consider these species. Do not plant any invasive or prohibited species.

For more info about weeds visit: https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list