

### 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.

<https://www.mwmo.org/news/spring-maintenance-native-plants/>

### Green Stormwater Infrastructure In Action



Water from the street flows into the GSI basin through curb openings like this one.

Native plants are more sustainable and create habitat for pollinators.

Keeping this curb inlet clean will help keep the GSI healthy and functioning properly.

### 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).

[Reference the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Noxious Weed List](#)

Do not use herbicides or fertilizers in the basins.

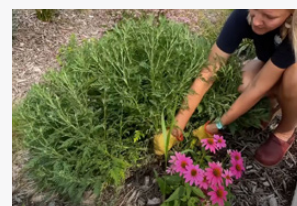
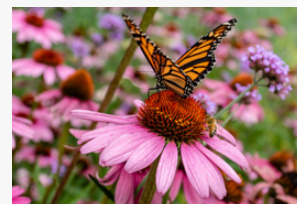
Cut back plants that obstruct the sidewalk.

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.

<https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/environmental-programs/salt-mini-course/>



### 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 than 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@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:forestry@minneapolisparcs.org)



# Green Stormwater Infrastructure

## Plant List

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.



*Asclepias incarnata*  
Marsh Milkweed



*Carex vulpinoidea*  
Brown Fox Sedge



*Elymus canadensis*  
Canada Wild Rye



*Echinacea purpurea*  
Purple Coneflower



*Eupatorium perfoliatum*  
Boneset



*Glyceria striata*  
Fowl Manna Grass



*Lobelia cardinalis*  
Cardinal Flower



*Lobelia siphilitica*  
Great Blue Lobelia



*Liatris pycnostachya*  
Prairie Blazing Star



*Monarda fistulosa*  
Wild Bergamot



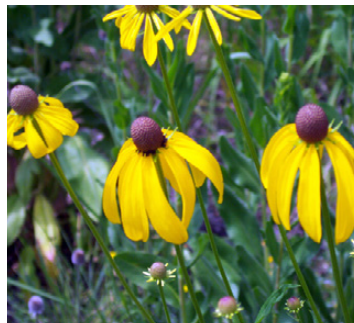
*Penstemon digitalis*  
Foxglove Beard Tongue



*Panicum virgatum*  
Switchgrass



*Physostegia virginiana*  
Obediant Plant



*Rudbeckia pinnata*  
Yellow Coneflower



*Scirpus atrovirens*  
Dark-Green Bulrush



*Verbena hastata*  
Blue Vervain