

Belle Meade Rain Garden Policy

The City of Belle Meade encourages landowners within the City to construct and maintain rain gardens (or bioretention areas) at residences to help promote capture and infiltration of stormwater from hard surfaces such as roof downspouts and driveways. The City realizes that the cumulative effect of properly functioning rain gardens in the City will reduce the burden on the City's stormwater management infrastructure and will help to improve the water quality of the stormwater runoff. In an effort to accomplish this, the City will not require a Land Disturbance Permit if a proposed rain garden installation meets all of the following criteria:

1. The rain garden is constructed at an existing residence and is not part of an overall development plan that would otherwise require a land disturbance permit.
2. The amount of surface area disturbed by the construction is less than 0.25 acre.
3. The rain garden installation will not impact existing stormwater management practice(s) at the site. Contact the City to receive more information about what constitutes an existing stormwater management practice.
4. The rain garden installation will not impact the on-site sanitary sewer collection and/or pumping system. Contact the City to receive more information about the on-site sanitary sewer collection and/or pumping system.

To assist landowners who are interested in installing a rain garden on their property, the City encourages the use of the "Rain Gardens for Nashville" document. This document may be found on the following website: <http://www.raingardensfornashville.com/what-is-a-rain-garden.html>