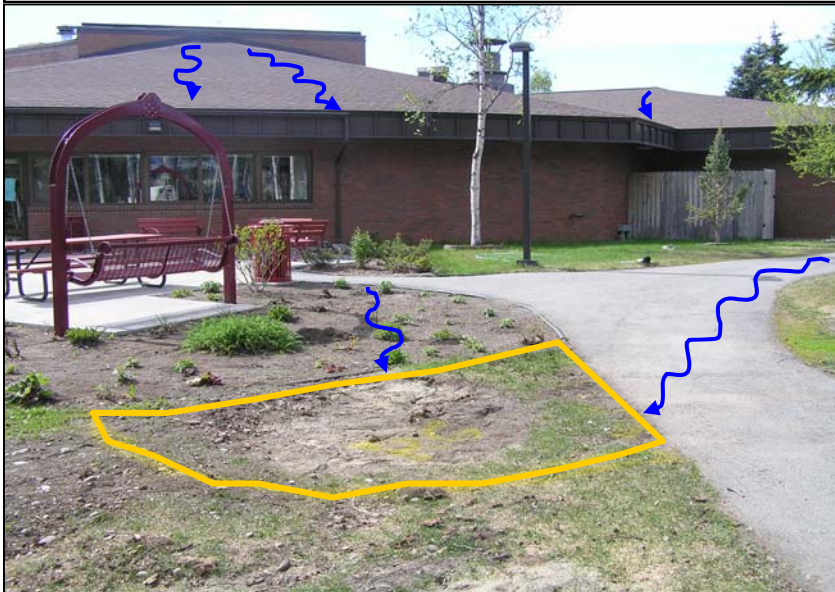


Anchorage Senior Center Rain Garden



Marcey Vreeland, of the Anchorage Senior Center Garden Program, collaborated with the Municipality of Anchorage Rain Garden Program to design, construct, and co-fund a rain garden at the Senior Center. The driving issue to be tackled by the rain garden was a vast wet area down slope of the building and back garden area. The new rain garden, outlined in yellow below, is situated so that it intercepts and infiltrates runoff from a large portion of the roof and walkways around the center. The garden captures and contains the runoff before it can get down to the low area and cause problems. Runoff patterns are indicated by squiggly blue arrows in the picture below.

Rain Garden site in back of the Senior Center



Constructed: July 2010

Size: 100sqft

Location: 1300 East 19th Ave

Signs to the Senior Center at Ingra and 20th

Approximate Cost: \$1,100

Engineered Soil Mix: \$710

Mulch: \$270

Plants: \$85

Mortar Mix: \$35

Recycled Concrete: Donated



Marcey Vreeland, Senior Center Garden Program, and Kari Sherman,
Rain Garden Program Coordinator.



Rain Garden

How deep should I dig? - You should excavate to about 3ft. This will give you enough depth to accommodate a 24-30in engineered soil layer, 3in of mulch and 6-10in of ponding depth. This is how deep 3 feet looks. A lot of soil can fit in that hole! We put in 7 cubic yards of engineered soil which is equal to 1.5 dump-truck loads.



When should I STOP filling my hole with soil? - 13 inches below the overflow point. In this case 6-10in of ponding depth plus 3in of mulch equals a total of 13in. This is what 13 inches looks like. The rain garden does not have to have vertical side slopes, a gentle grassed grade may be preferred to minimize erosion.

