Rain Garden Site Constraints and Considerations

**Septic Setbacks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Rain Garden Uphill of Septic</th>
<th>Rain Garden Downhill or Next to Septic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distance from the edge of primary, reserve, and neighboring drainfields</td>
<td>30 ft.</td>
<td>30 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance from septic tank</td>
<td>10 ft.</td>
<td>10 ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Well Setbacks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Well Setback to Rain Garden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distance from private well</td>
<td>50 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance from public well</td>
<td>100 ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Rain garden outlet and overflows need to be directed away from septic systems and wells.
- Tanks and tank risers must be watertight for the 10 foot setback to be trouble-free.
- Questions? Please contact Kitsap Public Health District at (360) 337-5235.

**How do I manage the water leaving my rain garden?**

- The quality, amount, and speed of the water leaving the rain garden site must be at least the same as it was before work was completed on the site.
- Stormwater flows into and out of the rain garden need to coincide with the natural or otherwise legally existing locations.
- Questions? Contact Kitsap County Surface and Stormwater Management Program at (360) 337-5777, or call the Kitsap County Department of Community Development, Development Engineering Division at (360) 337-5777.
What do I do on steep slopes and geologically hazardous areas?
• Consult with a geotechnical engineer if you wish to construct rain gardens on slopes greater than 15% or construct within geologically hazardous areas.
• To determine if the property is in a geologically hazardous area, visit the parcel hazards locator search on Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management’s interactive map at http://kcwppub3.co.kitsap.wa.us/Hazards/
• Questions? Contact Kitsap County Department of Community Development, Environmental Division at (360) 337-5777.

Are there plat requirements or conditions?
• Some Recorded Plats require all secondary drains (roof, foundation and curtain) to discharge to the primary developed drainage system. These requirements can be found on the face of the Recorded Plant or within the Plat Covenants. www.kitsapgov.com and go to records search/quick links.
• To meet this requirement, the rain garden must be sized appropriately and constructed with an overflow that connects back in to the primary drainage system.
• Pay special attention to the site drainage through infiltration and setbacks from neighboring septic drainfields, so as not to affect adjacent properties.
• Questions? Contact the Kitsap County Department of Community Development at (360) 337-5777 Development Engineering Division.

Where can I get more information on Low Impact Development?

For more information about LID in Kitsap County visit http://www.kitsaphba.org/LID/, which links to the Kitsap Home Builder’s Association. Also See Tables 1A, 1B, and 1C on the Kitsap Public Health website at www.kitsappublichealth.org/environment/files/policies/ordinanc.pdf.

What about water from my neighbor’s property?
• Be nice to your neighbors.
  Route water from other properties through the rain garden separately from water coming from the site.
• Be mindful of setbacks from neighboring septic drain fields.