

## **Conserve Water With Unique Garden Beds**

### **Rain Gardens**

Rain gardens are an attractive way to reduce your water usage and clean storm water. They are shallow, depressed gardens designed to collect rain water and allow it time to filter through the ground. This also results in less water entering our storm water systems and more water refilling the underground water table that keeps small streams flowing during the dry summer months. Rain gardens are low maintenance and their native plants provide food for song birds and butterflies!

### **Rain Gardens**

*Rain Gardens for Nashville was created through a water quality partnership between the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County's Department of Water and Sewerage Services and the Nashville District of the US Army Corp of Engineers. All information contained in this posting was provided by Metro Water Services Storm water NPDES Department ([www.nashville.gov/stormwater](http://www.nashville.gov/stormwater)).*

### **Raised Garden Beds**

A raised bed has several benefits. One we would like to focus on is water conservation. The soil that is in a raised garden remains loose because it isn't packed from being walked on. Loose soil will absorb and retain water more efficiently. Raised garden kits can be purchased at your local gardening center or you build one yourself! Click the link below to learn more!

### **Raised Garden Beds**

### **Wicking Beds**

A wicking bed is also a raised garden bed, except a wicking bed has a water reserve at the bottom filled with sand. The soil would sit on top of the water reserve, wicking (drawing up) the water from the reserve. The roots on your plants will reach the reserve at the bottom of your raised garden. There will also be less water evaporation off the topsoil.

### **Wicking Beds**