

**THE NATURE TRUST RAIN GARDEN FUND
2009 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION**

Background

The Nature Trust of British Columbia is a leader in protecting BC's natural diversity of plants and animals through the acquisition and conservation of critical habitats and other areas of ecological significance. The Nature Trust and our partners have invested \$56 million to secure over 61,000 hectares (150,000 acres) of critical habitat throughout BC.

Although we have protected some of our province's most significant riparian and aquatic habitats from being developed, these areas are nonetheless at increasing risk of degradation caused by flash floods of stormwater runoff piped in from development elsewhere in their watersheds. In the long run, we cannot protect our conservation properties and remaining urban fish bearing streams without addressing these stormwater management issues.

The Nature Trust has therefore established an endowment fund to support community rain garden projects. This project addresses the environmental and economic advantages of getting stormwater back into the ground, as well as the desirability of raising citizen awareness and supporting local initiatives. Thanks to our donors, the Rain Garden Fund currently stands at \$100,000, and will generate up to \$8,000 for a project or projects in 2009.

Eligible applicants and projects

In 2009, the Fund's third year of operation, streamkeeper and other stewardship groups in the Englishman River area (where the Nature Trust plays a significant conservation role) are eligible to apply for grants. It is desirable, but not required, that the applicant group enlist the cooperation of one other volunteer community group such as a local church, public school parent advisory council, neighbourhood association or co-op housing residents' council.

Proposed rain gardens must be located on either (a) public property such as ditches, boulevards, medians, traffic circles, rights-of-way, community centres, schools, etc. or (b) property owned by private non-profit organizations such as co-op housing developments, service clubs, churches, etc.

Selection

The selection process will include input from The Nature Trust, the Pacific Salmon Foundation, the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation and all short-listed applicants. This will be accomplished through project site visits by adjudicators and short-listed applicants as well as an application review and scoring process.

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|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Application deadline: | March 6, 2009 |
| Selection no later than | March 21, 2009 |
| Funds released | As soon as available |
| Project completion by: | June 1, 2010 |

1. **Applicant Organization** (must be an Englishman River area stewardship group for project year 2009)

Organization name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ Postal code: _____

Website address: _____

Contact person: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Alternative contact: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of members available to volunteer for this project: _____

What is your organization's experience with installation and/or maintenance of similar projects? (eg restoration or habitat plantings, rain gardens, infiltration zones, retention ponds)

2. **Cooperating Organization** (desirable but not required) (eg service club, church group, co-op housing council)

Organization name: _____

Contact person: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

What is the role of the Cooperating Organization in the project? (eg garden maintenance)

3. **Municipal Engineering Dept.**

Your project must have at least verbal permission from your local Engineering or Public Works Dept. Please indicate your contact person there.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

4. **Affected Property Owners** (if applicable)

Address(es) of adjoining property(ies): _____

If your project is on or immediately adjacent to one or more private properties (eg you propose to drain a church parking lot into a rain garden, or to landscape a ditch on municipal property fronting 3

5. **Location of Project**

Name and location of creek, river, or other body of water in whose immediate watershed the proposed rain garden is located (*eg Cougar Creek, North Delta*)

Name of larger watershed (if any) in which the proposed rain garden is located (*must be Englishman River Watershed or an adjacent watershed*)

6. **Project Description**

Describe your proposed rain garden and how it would benefit your watershed(s).

Size of proposed rain garden (*square feet or meters*) _____

Size or estimated size of impervious area draining into rain garden, if known _____

Does runoff presently stand or flow in your proposed rain garden location? Yes ___ No ___

If so, when? (*eg all year, all winter, only after heavy rain events*) _____

7. **Emergency Overflow**

Describe how excess runoff not absorbed by the rain garden will be safely conveyed into the existing stormwater system, to avoid risk of flooding.

8. **Pre- and Post-Project Monitoring**

Your project will require functional monitoring, especially during extreme rain events. Any erosion or excessive sedimentation will need remediation to keep the garden functioning well. (Remediation may include, for example: adding rocks, logs and/or plants to prevent erosion; clearing debris that is blocking drainage; removing trapped sediments from the rain garden bottom and incorporating them into soils on the rain garden banks.)

Who will be responsible for this task in the short term (2 years), and who in the long term (indefinitely)?

9. **Garden Maintenance**

Your project will require at least once-monthly garden maintenance, including garbage pick-up, weeding, trimming, and perhaps some limited hand watering in summer until plants are established.

Who will be responsible for these tasks in the short term (2 years), and who in the long term (indefinitely)?

10. **Project Visibility and Educational Value**

Describe your proposed rain garden's location in terms of its visibility and/or other educational value to pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, students, users of public facilities, etc.

11. **Project Cost Estimates**

Plants (Total cost): _____

| <i>Name (Latin or common)</i> | <i>Quantity</i> | <i>Unit price incl taxes</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|
|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|

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| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Use additional sheet if necessary.

Materials (Total cost): _____

Please plan for maximum use of existing on-site soils, rocks, woody debris, etc, before estimating the need for and cost of additional materials from off site.

| <i>Material</i> | <i>Quantity</i> | <i>Unit price incl taxes</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------|

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Compost, soil | _____ | _____ | _____ |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Gravel, drain rock | _____ | _____ | _____ |
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|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Large dimension rock | _____ | _____ | _____ |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|

| | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Other | _____ | _____ | _____ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|

Tool purchase or rental (Total cost): _____

Please describe any special tools required. Volunteers are expected to provide their own gardening equipment such as gloves, shovels, trowels, pruning shears.

12. **Amount you are requesting from TNT Rain Garden Fund:** _____

13. **Other funding sources**

Please list any other grants or funds for the project that have been or may be made available to you.

Responsibilities of Grant Recipients

1. Upon completion of your rain garden, a one page summary of the project as well as photographs must be submitted to The Nature Trust along with permission to include such material on The Nature Trust website and in any Nature Trust publication such as the newsletter or annual review.
2. The Nature Trust Rain Garden Fund should be recognized in any signage that will appear at your rain garden site or any material that is written about the project.
3. The community group or project sponsor is solely responsible for obtaining the approval from the local government, Ministry of Transportation, or utility for all project activities involving public rights-of-way or public land prior to work starting on the ground.
4. The community group or project sponsor is solely responsible for obtaining the approval of any private landowners whose property is involved in this project.
5. The Nature Trust of British Columbia is not responsible for any injuries, damages or other compensation claims that may arise as a result of this project.

Submitted by: _____
Signature

Date: _____

Print name: _____