

The Rain Garden at the Greenland Central School

What is a rain garden?

A rain garden is a depressed area in the landscape that collects rainwater from a roof, driveway, parking lot, or road and allows it to soak into the ground. Planted with native grasses and flowering perennials, rain gardens can be a cost-effective and beautiful way to reduce runoff. Rain gardens can filter pollutants and provide food and shelter for butterflies, songbirds, and other wildlife. This garden is filled with plants native to the area.

Why is it here?

Runoff from impervious surfaces, including roads, parking lots, and building roofs can carry fine soils, nutrients, and pollutants. The runoff can warm, which has negative effects on fish and other animals who depend on our brooks and rivers. This rain garden absorbs pollution and keeps unnaturally warm water from flowing into the Winnicut River and, eventually to Great Bay

Who created it?

The Greenland Central School graciously agreed to host this rain garden. The New Hampshire Rivers Council, with a grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, support from its membership, design by Geosyntec, and assistance from North Point Outdoors came together with area volunteers to design and build it with native plantings that bloom nearly the entire year.

This rain garden went to work the day it was installed

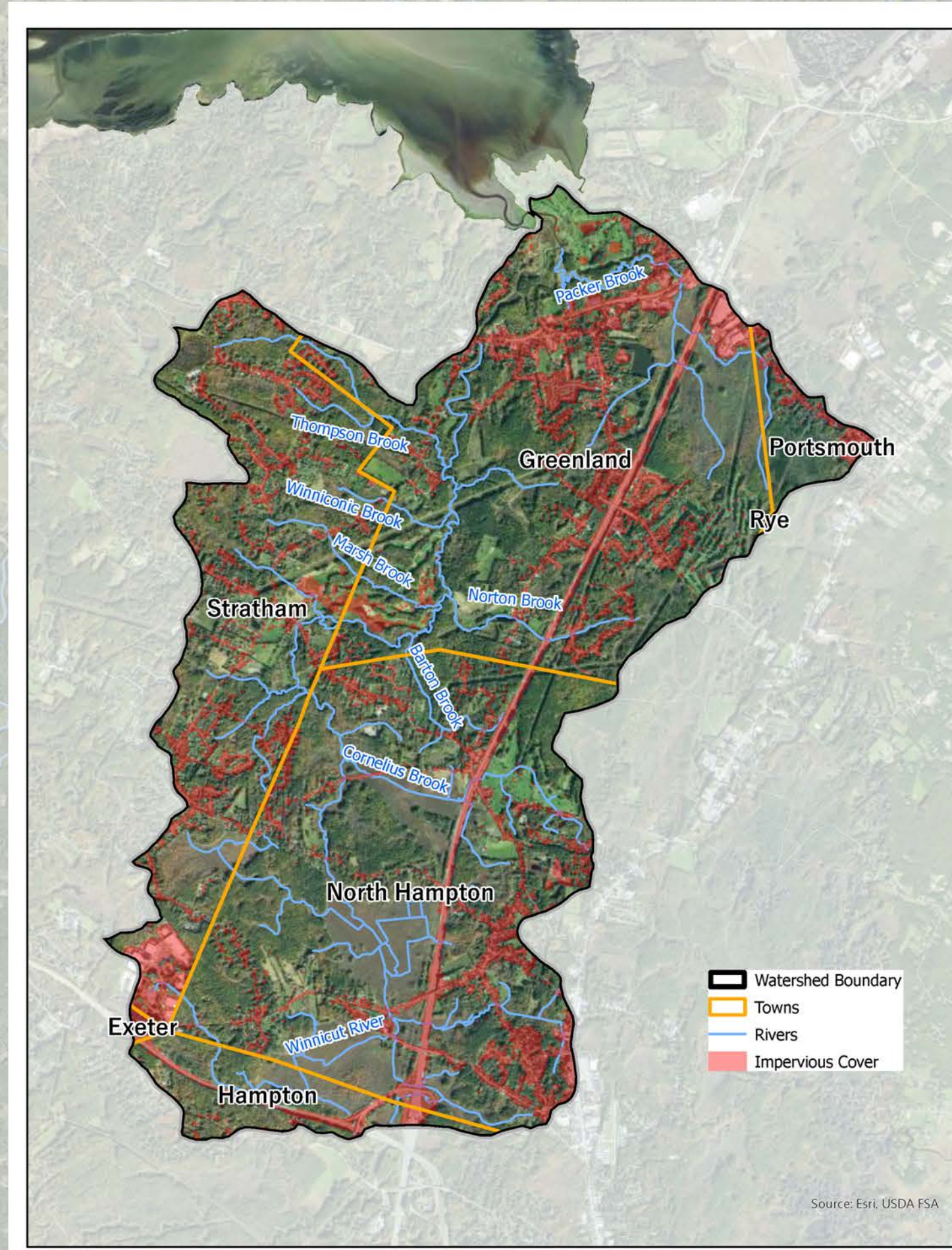
From its first day in August 2023, this little rain garden began doing big things. It absorbed water flowing from pavement, where it was absorbed quickly and did not runoff into storm grates draining into the Winnicut River. Since then, it has stood strong against heavy rains and snow melt. Each year, the plants grow and absorb and filter runoff.

Should I have one?

Rain gardens are a wonderful way for you to absorb runoff to brooks and rivers near your home. Depending on the plantings, they can provide food for pollinators and color year 'round, beautifying your home while filtering runoff.

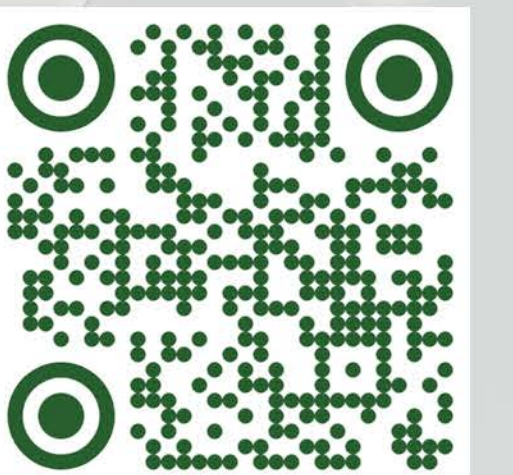
Visit [NHRivers.org](https://www.nhrivers.org) or

snap the code to learn more about the Winnicut River watershed, the restoration and management plan, and how rain gardens can help keep the Winnicut healthy.



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