Rain Garden Maintenance Schedule

January/February
- Monitor
- Snow/salt management
- Clear snow from inlet/outlet

March
- Inspect and correct
- Remove leaves
- Remove winter weeds
- Prune dead branches
- Cut back perennials and grasses

April
- Inspect and correct
- Apply compost and/or mulch
- Prune shrubs selectively (if needed)

May
- Inspect and correct
- Apply deer repellant (if needed)
- Prune shrubs selectively (if needed)

June
- Inspect and correct
- Apply deer repellant (if needed)
- Prune shrubs selectively (if needed)

July
- Inspect and correct
- Apply deer repellant (if needed)

August
- Inspect and correct
- Apply deer repellant (if needed)

September
- Inspect and correct

October
- Inspect and correct
- Remove excess leaves
- Cut back perennials (limited)

November
- Inspect and correct
- Remove excess leaves
- Apply mulch for winter protection
- Snow/salt management

December
- Monitor
- Snow/salt management
- Clear snow from inlet/outlet

Monitor = Check for problems, remove trash and debris
Snow/salt management = Avoid placing snow on rain garden. Limit use of salt/deicing agents in vicinity
Inspect and correct = Use inspection checklist. Additional inspections required after severe storms and during droughts
Prune shrubs selectively = Prune to enhance flowering and shape according to species recommendations (including timing)
Cut back perennials (limited) = To tidy garden only. Leave some stems and heads for habitat (cover and food).
Remove excess leaves = Dense leaf layers will inhibit infiltration. Some remaining leaves will insulate and protect winter roots

Retest soil pH levels every 2 to 3 years and readjust, if necessary

Whippany River Watershed Action Committee

© Copyright 2021 Garden Magic LLC