Involving local residents in rainwater management

FEEDBACKS (2019)

Rain Barrel Programs

Collect and use rainwater from the roof by using a rain barrel connected to the gutter

+ A simple and unexpensive device
+ A good educational tool for raising awareness

⚠ This program can often be a victim of its own success. Make sure to define hot-spot districts in order to adapt the distribution of barrels

⚠ Do not neglect the technical and educational aspects: you may teach local residents how to make and install a rain barrel themselves

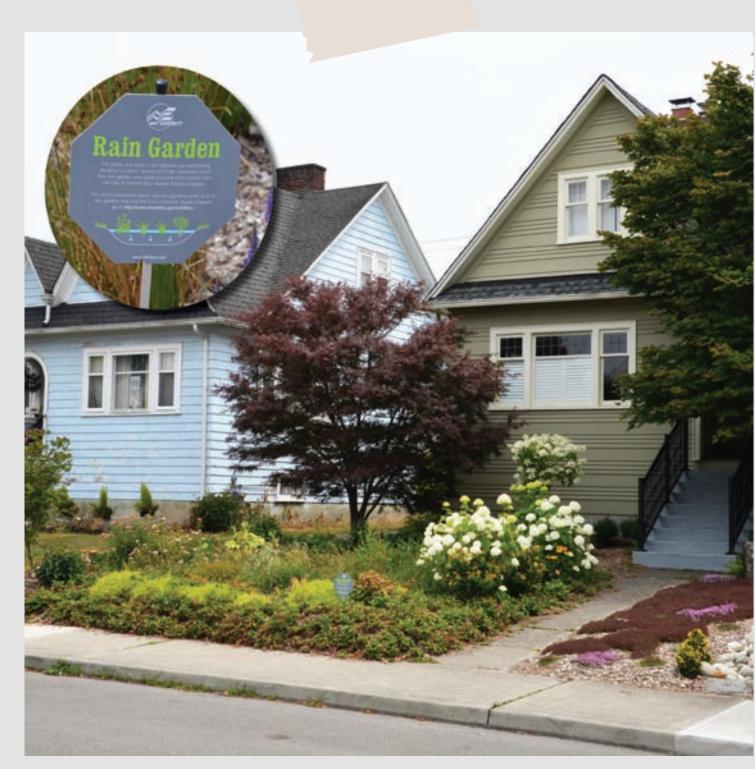⚠ Provide an after-sales service for repair and replacement

Port Campbell, Victoria (Australia)

Rain Garden Programs

Create a rain garden at home to manage rainwater plot by plot

+ It fosters exchanges between local residents
+ It improves the living environment and the image of the neighborhood

⚠ Set up pilot rain gardens first

⚠ Allow a sufficient budget to ensure the sustainability of the program over time (social events, monitoring and contracting)
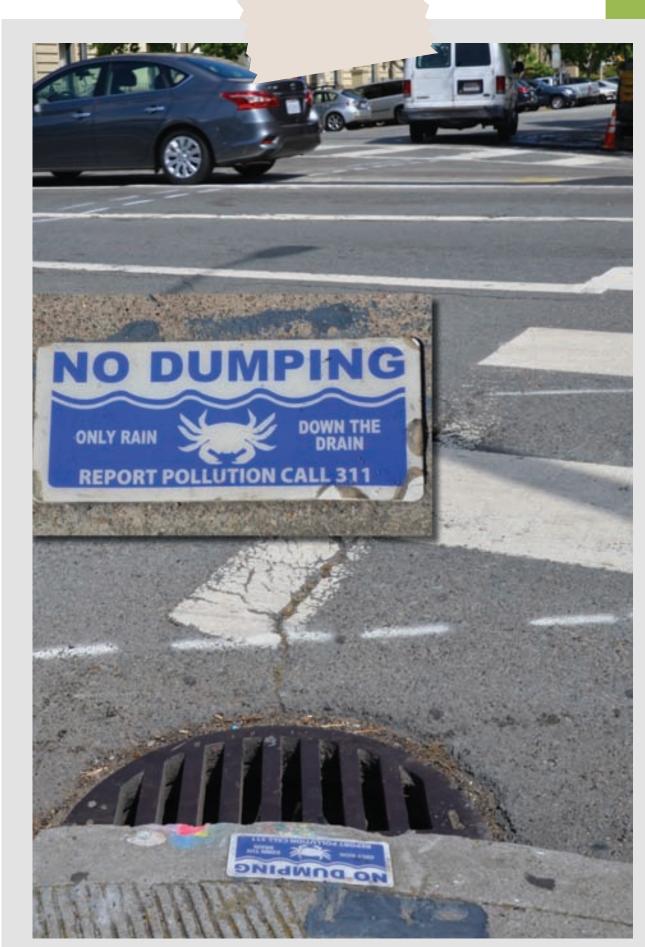

Everett, Washington (USA)

Adopt a Drain Programs

Carry out awareness campaigns on water pollution through messages in the form of stencils or plates near drains in public spaces

+ An efficient device to raise awareness and responsibility-sharing
+ It makes it possible to address all passers-by, residents as well as tourists
+ An excellent feedback: these actions are popular and encouraged by local residents and shopkeepers

⚠ Set up partnerships with local associations

⚠ Prioritize actions in key tourist and/or symbolic sectors

⚠ Complete this awareness campaign with other media (websites, leaflets, posters)

NO DUMPING
ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN
REPORT POLLUTION CALL 311

San Francisco, Californie (USA)

Green Stormwater Infrastructure Programs

Set up a range of measures for integrated urban rainwater management:

• In local residents' homes: rain barrels, rain gardens, devices to make soils more permeable, green roofs, disconnection from the sewage network
• In public spaces: creating a network of rain gardens and green water meadows connected to natural areas, raising awareness around nature in the city and water management

+ It improves the living environment by bringing more nature in towns and by making soils more permeable
+ It reduces the risk of flooding and improves water quality

⚠ Develop partnerships with universities, associations, public institutions, schools, and other communities

⚠ Build your program on scientific bases through partnerships with university laboratories (pollution monitoring, changes in biodiversity, etc.)

⚠ Make sure you have the needed human and financial resources

Seattle, Washington (USA)

Cerema

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