

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

STORMWATER

As we continue to develop the land, there is less natural area to absorb rainwater, and filter out pollutants. Polluted stormwater flows into our canals, our waterways, our rivers, and our oceans!

RESULTS: No swimming!

No shellfishing!

Dying fish & sea mammals!



Together we can improve our coastal waters – small changes by each of us will result in huge improvements to our coastal environment!

DO YOU WANT A SMART YARD?



If interested contact:

Sherry Ratliffe - Town of Oak Island

910-201-8083

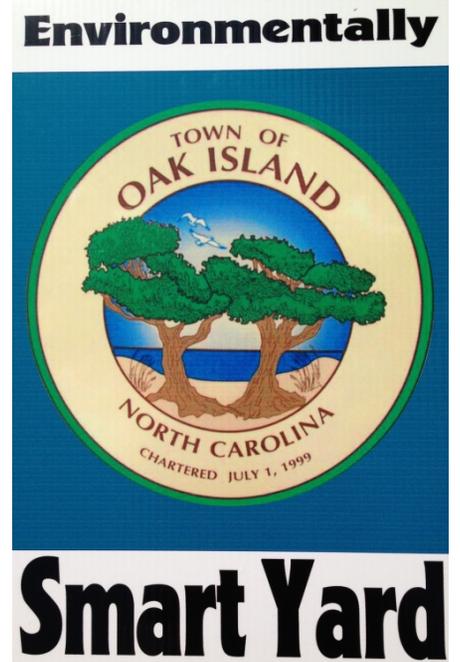
sratliffe@ci.oak-island.nc.us

For general information contact:

www.nccoast.org

NC Dept. of Natural Resources

NC Cooperative Extension



BECAUSE WE CARE
ABOUT OUR
COASTAL WATERS!



WHAT WE CAN DO

1-RAIN GARDENS

A Rain Garden is a small, lower area of your yard that captures rain during storms, preventing it from rushing toward open waters. The plants and soil in the Rain Garden slowly absorb the water over several hours or up to a few days.

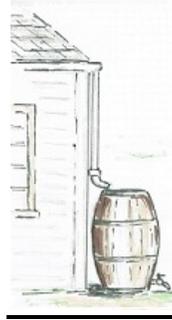
- Capture, reduce, and filter storm runoff
- Reduce pollutants
- Reduce chance of flooding
- Natural water treatment
- Create a habitat for birds and butterflies
- Improve and enhance your landscape



2-RAIN BARRELS

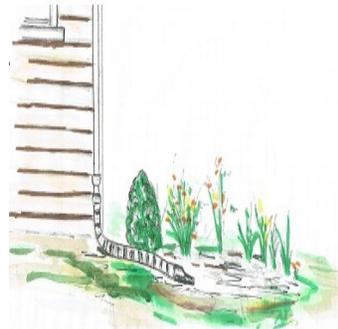
A rain barrel is a container that collects and stores rainwater from your roof.

Rain barrels are placed under roof gutter downspouts and typically hold about 50 gallons of rainwater. They reduce storm water runoff and are a free source of water for use in your yard & gardens.



3-REROUTING DOWNSPOUTS

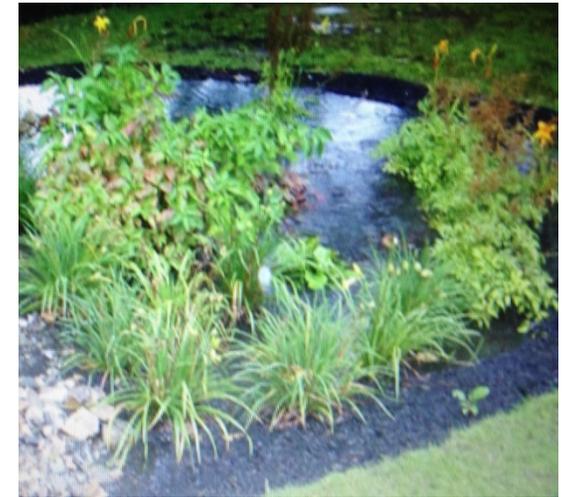
Downspouts, driveways or other hard surfaces increase polluted runoff by an average of 50%. Redirecting rainwater to areas where it can soak into the ground helps you and helps the ENVIRONMENT! Lower water bills--Increased property values!



4- BENEFICIAL PLANTING

Having BUFFER ZONES around the boundary of your yard acts as a filter between polluted storm water and our natural waterways. Using hardy, native plants & trees will give you a beautiful habitat, with minimum work & expense. NO fertilizers, NO pesticides, NO watering!

Trees increase property value, provide shade, & allow stormwater to filter & clean out the pollutants! There are many beautiful plants native to our coastal area that, once established, thrive on their own!



SMART YARDS
a SMART CHOICE
for everyone