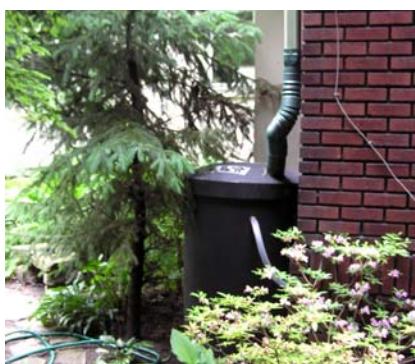




Other Stormwater Management Options



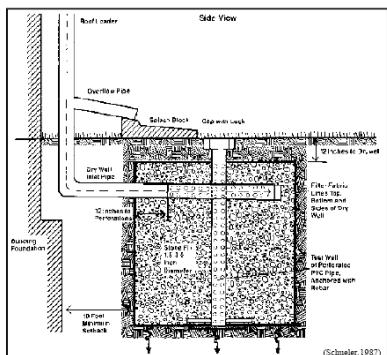
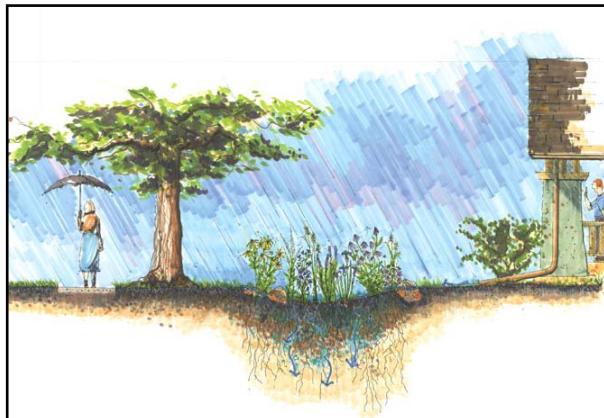
With the disconnection of your roof drains from the sanitary sewer system, you may want to consider other options for managing stormwater. If you have a limited lawn and garden area, it may make sense to direct rainfall from your roof to a rain barrel, rain garden or drywell. The Town of South Hadley, through its Stormwater Management Incentives Program, can provide technical assistance to help determine what option(s) may work best for you. Also, financial assistance may be available for construction. For more information, see the program website at: http://southhadleyma.virtualtownhall.net/Pages/SouthHadleyMA_DPW/control/water or call (413) 538-5040.



Rain Barrel — Rain barrels offer a good way to conserve water, and reduce water bills during the growing season. A rain barrel collects rainwater from the roof and stores it for later use. The spigot at the bottom of the barrel can be used to fill a watering can or attached to a hose to irrigate lawns and gardens. Rainbarrels come with a secure childproof lid and an overflow outlet for large rain events.

Rain Garden — A rain garden can be a simple depression in the ground planted with water-loving perennials and shrubs. Rain gardens should be located strategically to capture runoff from impervious surfaces such as roofs. During a storm, a rain garden may fill with a few inches of water that then filters into the ground and gets absorbed by the plants. In addition to providing stormwater management benefits, rain gardens also create wildlife habitat, attracting butterflies and birds. For more information, see:

<http://www.sustainability.uconn.edu/pdf/raingardenbroch.pdf>



Dry Well — A drywell is a gravel-filled excavation that is sized to manage specific rainfall events. Void space between the gravel provides underground storage for stormwater running off of impervious surfaces such as roofs. This stormwater can then gradually soak into the ground. Drywells should be located away from building foundations and soils must be well-drained to ensure quick infiltration of stormwater into the soils. For more information, see: http://www.mapc.org/regional_planning/LID/PDFs/trenchesdrywells.pdf

Images above courtesy of: Nine Mile Run.org, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Stormwater Manual.