

# RUTGERS

THE STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW JERSEY

## *Welcome and Overview of R.G.S. and R.G.S.T. Certification Program*



**RUTGERS**  
New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station



## History of Stormwater Management in Your Backyard

- **Introduced in a presentation in the Virgin Islands at Nonpoint Source Pollution Conference**
- **Started as an advanced Master Gardener's course in Union County, New Jersey**
- **A tool to address nonpoint source pollution**
  - **In-class Lectures**
  - **In-kind Service (Hands On Experience)**
- **Four lectures (two hours each)**
  - 1. Stormwater Runoff – Processes and Impacts**
  - 2. The Basics of Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)**
  - 3. Design and Construction of BMPs**
  - 4. Monitoring and Maintenance of BMPs**

**Current SWMIYB Program**

- **Lecture time has been adapted to program needs. For example, a three-hour lecture is given to the Environmental Stewards while a one-hour lecture is often given to local garden clubs.**
- **Program may or may not include building an actual rain garden.**
- **Pre- and post-testing is typically done to assess short-term outcomes (increases in knowledge and awareness).**
- **Follow-up surveys are almost never done to assess medium-term outcomes (change in behavior).**
- **Extensive website has been created to support program.**

# Rain Garden Specialist Certification & Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer Certification



# Rain Garden Specialist Certification & Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer Certification

- Training

Rain Garden Specialist (R.G.S.)	Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer (R.G.S.T.)
Full day of Technical Training	Full day of Technical Training
Half day of Hands-on Training	Half day of Hands-on Training
	Half day of Outreach Training

## Rain Garden Specialist Certification & Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer Certification

- Certification process

Rain Garden Specialist (R.G.S.)	Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer (R.G.S.T.)
Full day of Technical Training	Full day of Technical Training
Half day of Hands-on Training	Half day of Hands-on Training
80% or higher on R.G.S. Exam	Half day of Outreach Training
	80% or higher on R.G.S.T. Exam

- Upon successful completion of the training and scoring 80% or higher on the exam, the participant will obtain a certificate indicating R.G.S. or R.G.S.T. status via mail.
- Certification is authorized by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station – Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

# Rain Garden Specialist Certification & Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer Certification

- Requirements

Rain Garden Specialist (R.G.S.)	Rain Garden Specialist and Trainer (R.G.S.T.)
<p><b>Required:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of follow-up surveys</li> <li>• Take refresher course every 2 years</li> </ul>	<p><b>Required:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of follow-up surveys</li> <li>• Take refresher course every 2 years</li> </ul>
<p><b>Optional:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced training by Rutgers Cooperative Extension</li> <li>• Creation of an R.G.S. association with oversight by Rutgers Cooperative Extension</li> </ul>	<p><b>Optional:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced training by Rutgers Cooperative Extension</li> <li>• Creation of an R.G.S.T. association with oversight by Rutgers Cooperative Extension</li> <li>• Creation of an R.G.S.T. Speaker’s Bureau with oversight by Rutgers Cooperative Extension</li> </ul>