



## Winners of the 2013 Rain Garden Contest

The 2013 Rain Garden contest was created to highlight some of the best examples of rain gardens in Allegheny County. All of the gardens help to manage our region's stormwater, and their success can be tracked on [www.raingardenalliance.org](http://www.raingardenalliance.org). Our panel of judges visited all of the nominated sites and selected the following as winners.

### Community Category: Borough of Millvale



This 2 year old rain garden was installed by G-Tech, Seeds, and the Borough of Millvale to manage stormwater on a borough owned parking lot that had no stormwater retention. It was designed using a two-cell system to capture runoff from different sections of the parking lot. It also incorporated the existing drain to direct runoff into the garden, showing an integration of gray and green solutions to stormwater runoff. The garden has

excellent interpretive signage that could serve as a template for other rain gardens. This garden has a nice selection of native plants and is well maintained. This is a very healthy garden.

The Borough of Millvale will receive a \$50 gift card to The Urban Gardener, donated by The Urban Gardener (<http://www.urbangardenerpgh.com>), and a rain barrel donated by Stormworks (<https://www.swpgh.com>).

### **Homeowner Category: Folajtar Garden**



The Folajtar home actually has two rain gardens. These gardens, which were created in 2012 by Stormworks and George Girty Landscaping, are located in the front of the house, but receive water that is piped from the back of the house. The gardens include a good selection of native plants, including annuals, which extend the bloom season of the garden. The gardens are well maintained and fit nicely within the existing landscape. These gardens are functional as well as pretty.





The Folajters will receive a membership to Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, donated by Phipps (<http://phipps.conservatory.org>) and a rain barrel donated by Stormworks (<https://www.swpgh.com>).