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NATIVE PLANTS *Continued from Page 33*

like a filter marsh next to a golf course. The plants act as living filters pulling out excess sediment, pollutants, fertilizers, pesticides, oils, chemicals, heavy metals and nutrients and preventing further excess leaching and runoff.

A working rain garden has a definite raised border and shallow bowl. Plants tolerant to wet and waterlogged soil conditions are planted in the bowl. Soil dug out to form the basin becomes the soil for creating the rain garden's berm. This berm defines the outer edges of the rain garden space and is planted with plants preferring well-drained and dry conditions.

In addition, a rain garden has a planned inlet and overflow pathway. An area of the berm is left low enough for just a couple of inches of water to overflow and discharge into other parts of your lawn. This slightly elevated border or drain is especially important and often gets overlooked. Also, keep your rain garden 10 feet or more from any home or building's foundation.

The perimeter border creating the rain garden should be flat on top and allow you to plant

See **NATIVE PLANTS** *continued on Page 37*

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