raingarden

On a rainy day runoff from roofs, driveways and streets rushes into stormwater pipes carrying litter,sediment, oils and heavy metals directly into our waterways and harbours destroying important ecosystems.

This design is a response to these stormwater issues. Our intention has been to design a representation of a contemporary outdoor living space that incorporates a raingarden.

The garden is activated when it rains; water brings this space to life.

A raingarden is a sustainable and economical way of dealing with stormwater as nature intended. The soil and plants absorb water and filter out pollutants. The garden slows down and lowers the peak flow before it enters the main stormwater system.

The central wall represents a water tank. Wall tanks are a wonderful way of incorporating water storage into a small garden, without compromising aesthetics. A water tank helps to slow the peak flow and collects water for use in the garden during dry periods.

Water is collected off the roof and is directed into the wall tank.
On a rainy day when the tank is full, the overflow from this tank becomes a water feature and pours into channels that direct water into the planted areas. The water is then filtered through specific soil layers in the garden to remove pollutants.
Raingardens are designed so water pools in the planted areas and rains away within 24 hrs.

The planting in this raingarden is a combination of native and exotic plants that can tolerate both temporary ponding and dry conditions. These plants have been selected for their foliage colour and textures to compliment the clean lines and contemporary style of this garden.

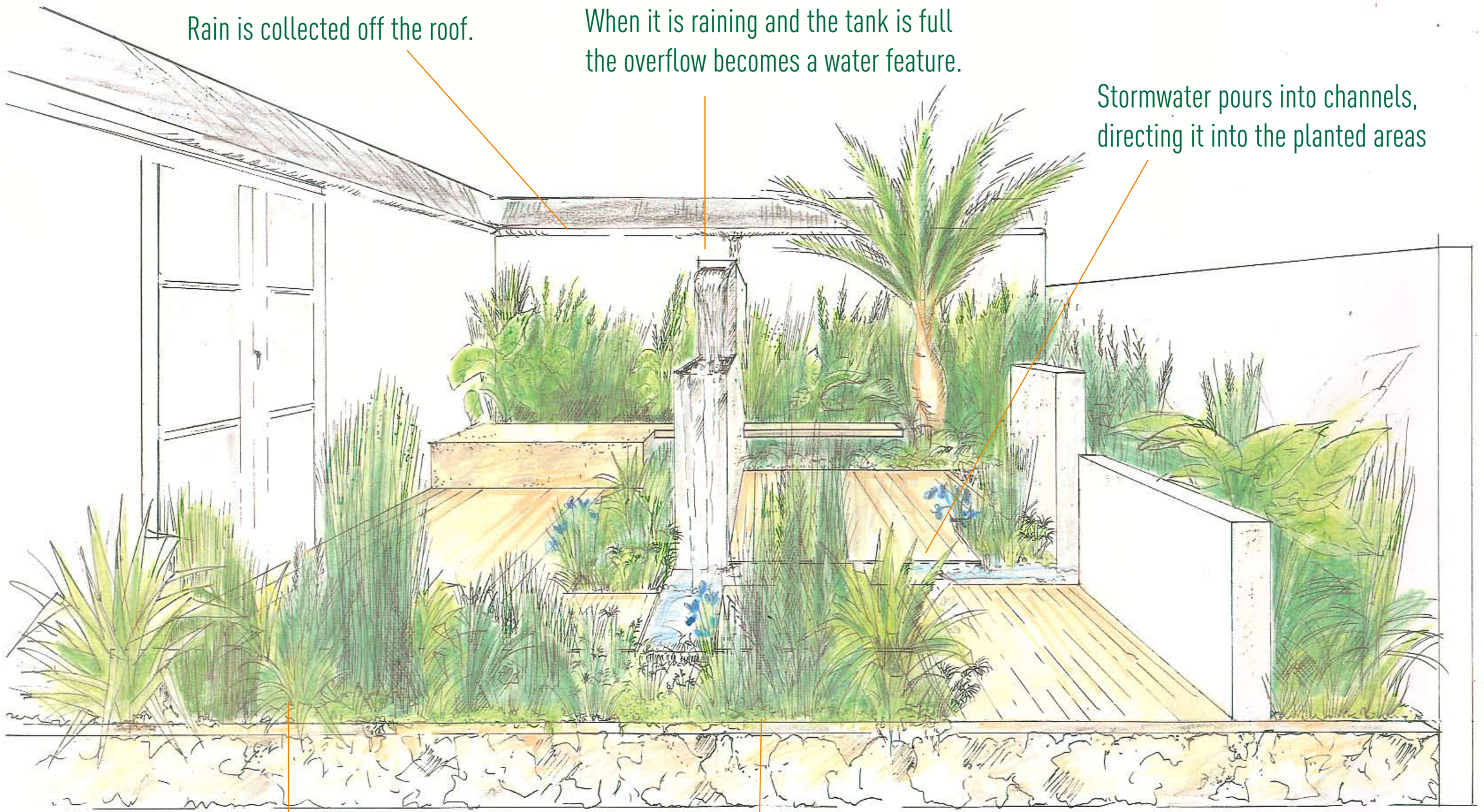
The three areas of decking are permeable, helping to reduce runoff. Locally grown timber represents a sustainable and attractive solution for hard surfaces within a garden. Locally sourced stone has also been used for its sustainable value.

We want to create public awareness and encourage people to take responsibility for their local environment by incorporating simple stormwater solutions into their gardens.

Rain is collected off the roof.

Water tank wall collects stormwater
for use in garden during dry periods.
When it is raining and the tank is full
the overflow becomes a water feature.

Stormwater pours into channels,
directing it into the planted areas



Dense planting helps absorb water
and pollutants. The plants used are
tolerant of both wet and dry conditions.

Stormwater is filtered through
a freedraining soil mixture which
helps to remove pollutants

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