As part of the NOAA B-wet grant, the Housatonic Valley Association partnered up with WCSU to design two pollinator rain gardens to help improve storm water runoff management. The gardens include various native plants found in the area, which are well suited or better adapted to the surrounding environment, and they provide food and sanctuary for our pollinators (birds, bees, and butterflies).

Supported by: NOAA B-wet

Design: Housatonic Valley Association
Written by: Maria E. Silva, UA
FOW Outreach Coordinator
MS Integrative Biological Diversity
Western Connecticut State University
Native Plants Across Both Gardens Include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Quantity Started With</th>
<th>Current Situation (2024)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Black Eyed Susan</td>
<td><em>Rudbeckia hirta</em></td>
<td>5 (1Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Bee Balm</td>
<td><em>Monarda didyma</em></td>
<td>3 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Narrow-leaf Moutain Mint</td>
<td><em>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</em></td>
<td>4 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Blazing Star</td>
<td><em>Liatris spicata</em></td>
<td>4 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Purple Cone Flower</td>
<td><em>Echinacea purpurea</em></td>
<td>4 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Blue Wood Phlox</td>
<td><em>Phlox divaricata</em></td>
<td>3 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Showy Goldenrod</td>
<td><em>Solidago speciosa</em></td>
<td>3 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Smooth Aster</td>
<td><em>Symphyotrichum laeve</em></td>
<td>3 (2Qt.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Common Milkweed</td>
<td><em>Asclepias syriaca</em></td>
<td>3 (1 Gallon)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Grey Dogwoods</td>
<td><em>Cornus racemosa</em></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Prairie willows</td>
<td><em>Salix humilis</em></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Wetland roses</td>
<td><em>Rosa palustris</em></td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Photographs:

Black Eyed Susan

![Black Eyed Susan](gardengoodsdirect.com)

Mixed Bee Balm

![Mixed Bee Balm](gurneys.com)
Narrow-leaved Mountain Mint

Blazing Star

Purple Cone Flower

Blue Wood Phlox

Showy Goldenrod

Smooth Aster
Common Milkweed

Grey Dogwood

gardenia.net
gardenia.net

Prairie willows

Wetland (swamp) roses

greatplainsnursery.com
wildflower.org
Timelapse of Rain Garden:

Location of the gardens represented by the red circles: