



Green City, Clean Waters

www.phillywatersheds.org



GREEN HOMES

Downspout Planter

Maintenance and Monitoring

For questions, contact:

Tiffany Ledesma Groll

questions@phillywatersheds.org

267.625.0589

Downspout Planter: Maintenance and Monitoring

GENERAL MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

1. Water vegetation immediately after planting and then weekly if it does not rain for the first six to eight weeks.
2. Water vegetation during extended droughts otherwise the downspout planter should not require any watering. A good rule of thumb is if plants appear to be wilting then water as you would any garden or planter.
3. Keep the overflow free and clear of debris, checking it periodically after rain storms.
4. Keep the downspout connection (diverter) connected to and directed into planter.

MONITORING

1. Check the downspout planter after rainstorms to make sure that the water soaks into the soil or evaporates within 24 hours. If water is not draining, ensure that your underdrain valve is open sufficiently.
2. Recheck downspout connection into the downspout planter to ensure that nothing is dislodged following an intense storm.
3. Inspect plants to evaluate health and replace if necessary.
4. Cut back or remove dead vegetation in fall and remove all dead organic material from the downspout planter. Keep soil and debris off of the top of the stone mulch so floatable material does not clog the overflow device.
5. Check to ensure your roof gutters that lead to the downspout are free of leaves and other debris.
6. Check all plumbing connections and the overall box for any potential leaking. Caulk connections or replace parts if leaking persists.