



Water protection NGO and green landscaper partner to hold workshop - Stormwater Management Basics for Landscapers

Toronto, Canada - February 2, 2009 RiverSides and Green Gardeners Community Collaborative Inc. are pleased to announce a workshop for green landscapers and those who are interested in greening their services. **Join us on February 19, 2009 at Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd (Room 200) from 1 to 4.30pm.**

The landscape industry is rapidly evolving as larger ecological concerns become more pressing and the regulatory environment shifts. New certifications are becoming available for organic landscapers, and key indicators and ratings systems like LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) are setting the bar for meeting and exceeding regulatory requirements. A key component of all certification/rating systems includes onsite management of water - pollution and run-off prevention, site stewardship and ecological practices that contribute to improved urban water conditions.

At the workshop, landscape contractors will learn how to add value for clients through rain and water saving programs. Case studies and demonstrations will introduce cutting edge developments in on-site management of stormwater, including rain and bog gardens, rain barrels, rainwater harvesting and other solutions. This is especially relevant in light of the City of Toronto's 2007 downspout disconnection by-law which requires all Toronto's residents to disconnect their downspouts from the sewer system. Homeowners in the combined sewer area of Toronto will be responsible for managing stormwater on their properties using rain barrels and/or other landscape solutions. Following the presentations, there will be an opportunity to ask questions, share experiences and network with the other participants.

About RiverSides www.riversides.ca

RiverSides is a Toronto-based non-profit organization dedicated to urban watershed protection through reduction of stormwater pollution. RiverSides works with community groups, businesses and municipalities to provide the knowledge and tools people need to take action. RiverSides hosts education workshops, an educational website and community walking tours.

About Green Gardeners Community Collaborative www.greengardeners.ca

Green Gardeners Community Collaborative is a social enterprise that designs and delivers customized green gardening and landscaping solutions to homeowners, commercial and community clients. Green Gardeners has pioneered a low pollution landscaping/gardening service and works with homeowners to reduce their footprint with their garden installation and maintenance projects.

For more information or to register: RiverSides - 416 868 1983, info@riversides.org