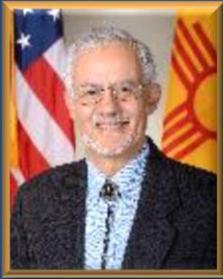


COMMUNITY MATTERS
ED MORENO, COMMISSIONER
SANTA FE COUNTY
MAY 2018



Ed Moreno
Commissioner District 5

Greetings, District Five Constituents.

By now, the decision on the Pilot Flying J truck stop is widely known. I want to thank everyone who wrote, phoned or attended public meetings to give input. Throughout the process, I believe we engaged together in meaningful dialog and I especially want to thank the Santa Fe County staff that worked on this project, hearing officer, members of the Planning Commission, and especially the residents of Rancho Viejo and the Turquoise Trail communities, for their participation in this process, and examining various aspects of the Sustainable Land Development Code and how it applied to this particular project.

As I said at the May 8 Commission Hearing, the decision gives the Commission momentum as we further examine the code and consider future modifications and/or improvements.



I attended the Ribbon Cutting of the *first* celebration of the *first* rain garden on Santa Fe County property on Friday, May 4 at El Camino Real Trailhead.

This project was spearheaded by Santa Fe County Volunteer Coordinator, Carol Branch. Santa Fe County, Keep Santa Fe Beautiful, The MASTERS Program Charter High School, Santa Fe Watershed Association, The Rain Catcher, and the Sierra Club Foundation all helped pitch in to see this come to fruition.

"The rain garden is a great example of a successful collaboration between so many organizations and is the first of many rain gardens we hope to complete in the County," said Carol Branch.

Want to build a rain garden? Here is "how to" scoop from Steve Sandoval.

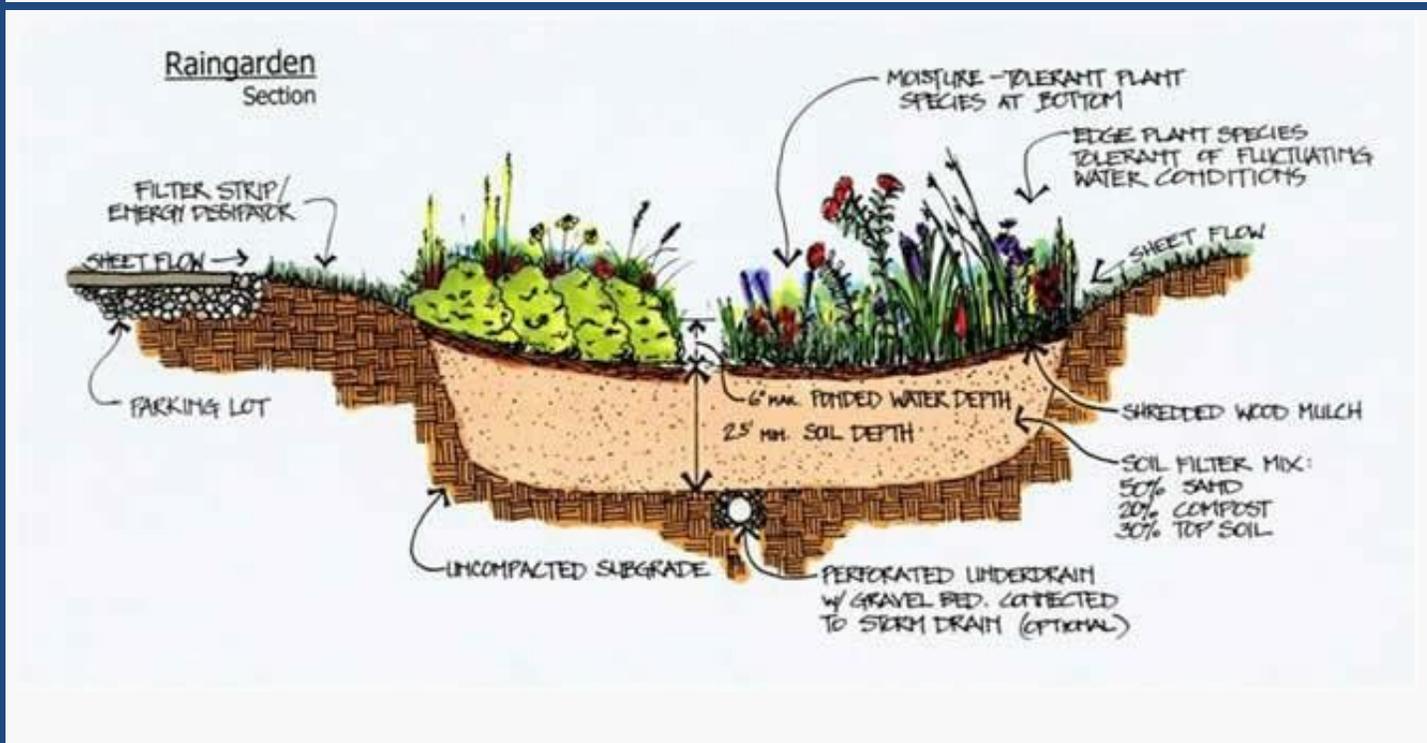
Do you want to build a rain garden in your backyard? Find a location with a gentle slope (for water to flow into the garden), about 10 feet from your house, and where rainwater will feed into it from downspouts, driveways or low points in the yard.

Use river rock about 1.5 inches in diameter – larger decorative rock also works well – to create stone swales that will help capture water for the garden.

The rain garden should only capture as much water as will sink into the soil in 25 hours after a storm depending on soil type. Test the soil by digging a hole about the size of a large coffee can and filling it with water. Time how long it takes for the water to drop half an inch. If the water level drops half an inch, roughly, in one hour, the rain garden should be able to handle 12 inches of water in a 24-hour period. Other factors to consider include how much water flows off the roof and through downspouts.

Choose plants appropriate to Santa Fe's high-desert climate and locate them in the rain garden to finish off your DIY project. Don't forget to place some larger, decorative rocks at the entrance to the rain garden and water the new garden once a week during dry spells. Public open space areas are prime candidates for future rain gardens.

For more information contact: Carol Branch cbranch@santafecountynm.gov, or 505-992-3053



BCC Summaries

Beginning in June, you will find the monthly BCC Summaries on my website. I will send a link once it is available.

The BCC Packet is available online by clicking the BCC meeting event on the Events calendar or visiting the BCC committee page www.santafecountynm.gov/committees/board_of_county_commissioners_bcc.

All approved Ordinances and Resolutions are available on the County website at www.santafecountynm.gov/ordinances_and_resolutions once they are approved and recorded.

All BCC meetings are broadcast live at www.santafecountynm.gov, on Comcast Ch. 28 and on Que Suave AM 810. To view recorded video of this BCC meeting, visit www.santafecountynm.gov/video_on_demand/.

Transcripts of the meeting will be available within 10 working days at www.santafecountynm.gov, once approved.

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