

# HOW-TO BUILD A BIOSWALE

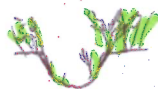
## STEP 1:

Look for a good spot.

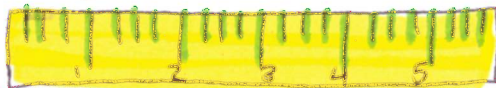
A bioswale should be at least 10 ft away from your house or other infrastructures.



10 ft



Keep your eye out for pre-existing natural low spot. You should be able to spot out a natural 1% grade slope from your driveway or roof leading to your yard.



## STEP 2:

Brainstorm how big (or small) you'd like your bioswale to be.

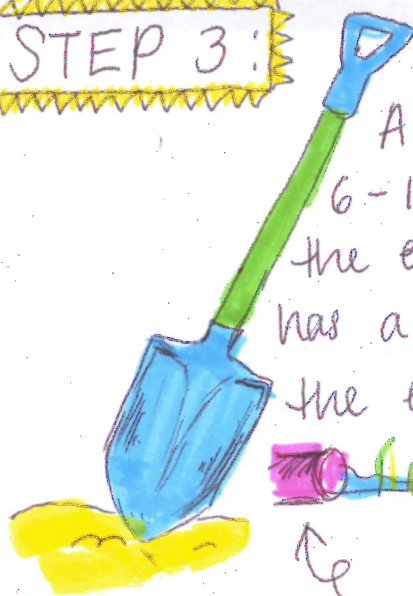
You can even calculate the perfect size for your bioswale w/ information of the size of your driveway, your roof or your bioswales distance from your house.



[greenlearningstation.org/home\\_rain\\_garden.aspx](http://greenlearningstation.org/home_rain_garden.aspx)

## STEP 3:

Begin to dig!



A bioswale is usually about 6-12 inches deep. Make sure the edges of your bioswale has a nice gradual slope from the edges into the center.



make sure that your downspout is facing the bioswale. You can dig a small ditch that guides water from the downspout straight to your bioswale!



## STEP 4:

Plant native plants into your bioswale! Look for native sedges and grasses to place in the bioswale.

## RESOURCES:

[www.raingardens.org](http://www.raingardens.org)

[extension.oregonstate.edu/woodriver/sites/default/files/bioswale\\_brochure\\_oct12.pdf](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/woodriver/sites/default/files/bioswale_brochure_oct12.pdf)

[www.knecc.edu/sites/default/files/sustainability/bioswale\\_pub.pdf](http://www.knecc.edu/sites/default/files/sustainability/bioswale_pub.pdf)

[greenlearningstation.org](http://greenlearningstation.org)