

Media Release

Environment Protection Authority



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Funds to spring Adelaide rain gardens into life

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has announced that applications are now open for the [Rain Garden 500](#) grants program in the Adelaide region.

Groups that are eligible to apply for this grant include local government and community organisations, schools, sports and church groups in Adelaide and the metropolitan areas.

EPA Operations Director Science, Assessment and Planning Peter Dolan said that anyone representing their community, can also apply for funding.

“Any group or individual who is interested in building a rain garden in a community space can apply for a grant through the Rain Garden 500 program, or work with their local council to install them in their street,” Mr Dolan said.

A rain garden is constructed to specifically capture stormwater from roads, carparks, driveways and other hard surfaces.

“Beneath the surface of the rain garden is a special porous soil layer overlaying a drainage layer where the stormwater is detained through the design of vegetation, slowly filtering through the soil layer to the drainage at the base,” Mr Dolan said.

“Stormwater flows are diverted and pollutants are removed through the process of settlement or sedimentation.”

Rain Garden 500 is part of a South Australian EPA Catchment to Coast project, funded through the Australian Government National Landcare Programme.

This is a three-year grant program funded until June 2018.

Further information on guidelines and how to apply for a *Rain Garden 500* grant, is available on the [EPA website](#).

Applications for the current round of funding will close at 5pm on Thursday 30 June, 2016.

Photo caption:

Rain Garden 500 funding led to the development of this community garden in Randolph Ave, Unley.

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