

# Anatomy of a RAIN yard

Canopy trees are also known as shade trees; they are large trees with thick canopy or foliage covering. Examples around Hampton include oak trees, birch trees, and loblolly pine trees.

A mature canopy tree can capture and retain upwards of **330 gallons of water** in a rain event!

Trees play a significant role in stormwater runoff reduction. Rain is intercepted and held by leaves and branches, and what is not intercepted is slowed so it has a better chance to infiltrate into the soil.

Rain barrels capture water coming off a house's roof through its gutter system. This collected water is prevented from becoming stormwater runoff, and can be used for non-drinking purposes such as watering the garden. A smaller, secondary rain barrel can be connected for additional storage.

A 55 gallon rain barrel can collect nearly **7,700 gallons of stormwater** per year.

Rain gardens collect water from a roof, driveway, or other surface to reduce runoff while supporting attractive native plants

Permeable pavers allow more rain water to absorb directly into the ground, without compromising a safe surface for vehicles.

Understory trees are smaller and shorter than canopy trees and include a number of ornamental trees such as flowering dogwood, serviceberry, and sweetbay magnolia.

While understory trees perform in similar ways as canopy trees, they work especially well in tandem: rain slowed by the large leaves and branches of canopy trees are further slowed by understory trees, and their more delicate flowers and foliage are protected.

