



**IPSWICH RIVER
WATERSHED
ASSOCIATION**

The Voice of the River

Greenscapes at Riverbend

Greenscapes are beautiful landscapes that protect our water and save you time and money. IRWA's headquarters, Riverbend, hosts a series of Greenscapes demonstration projects that show how we can all live better using less water, and reduce pollution and replenish groundwater too. Projects include a native plant garden, green roof, rainbarrel, permeable paving, and rain gardens. Visitors are welcome; come see for yourself what you can do to be water-wise!



Native Plant Garden

At Riverbend's driveway entrance, IRWA created a native plant garden with native and drought tolerant perennial flowers, shrubs, and ornamental grasses that require little or no watering. The purpose of the garden is to illustrate how to have a beautiful landscape that uses little water and no chemicals. The gardens feature native perennials and shrubs including Sedum Autumn Joy, Purple Dome Aster, Gayfeather (Liatris), Purple Coneflower, Moonbeam Coreopsis, Virginia Sweetspire, Fothergilla, Northern Bayberry and Winterberry.

Ipswich River Watershed Association serves as the voice of the Ipswich River. Through outreach, education, monitoring, and advocacy, we seek to connect the people, communities and ecosystems integral to a healthy watershed.

Rain Gardens

The two rain gardens at Riverbend display native flowers and allow rain to soak into the ground rather than running off and polluting the river. This rain garden collects, absorbs, and filters runoff from the front roof, driveway, and parking lot. It is planted with hardy native and low-maintenance plants that tolerate both wet and dry conditions, such as Blue Flag Iris, Cardinal Flower, Columbine, Coneflower, Daylily, Dogwood, Ostrich Fern, Purple Dome Aster, Turtlehead, and Winterberry Holly.



Rain Barrel

We use the rainwater we collect to water our lawn and gardens. Rain barrels reduce polluted runoff from rainstorms.



Permeable Paving

This parking area uses permeable concrete pavers that let rain pass through to the ground below, protecting the site's natural drainage features.



Green Roof

Our green roof features mosses and sedums, which require very little water or fertilizer and can survive temperature extremes.

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Hours. The gardens, trail, canoe dock and property are open to visitors for canoeing, kayaking, walking, birding, observing nature and simply getting a breath of fresh air from sunrise to sunset. Dogs are welcome if you clean up after them.

Get Involved. If you can help with maintaining gardens, please let us know. We need your help!