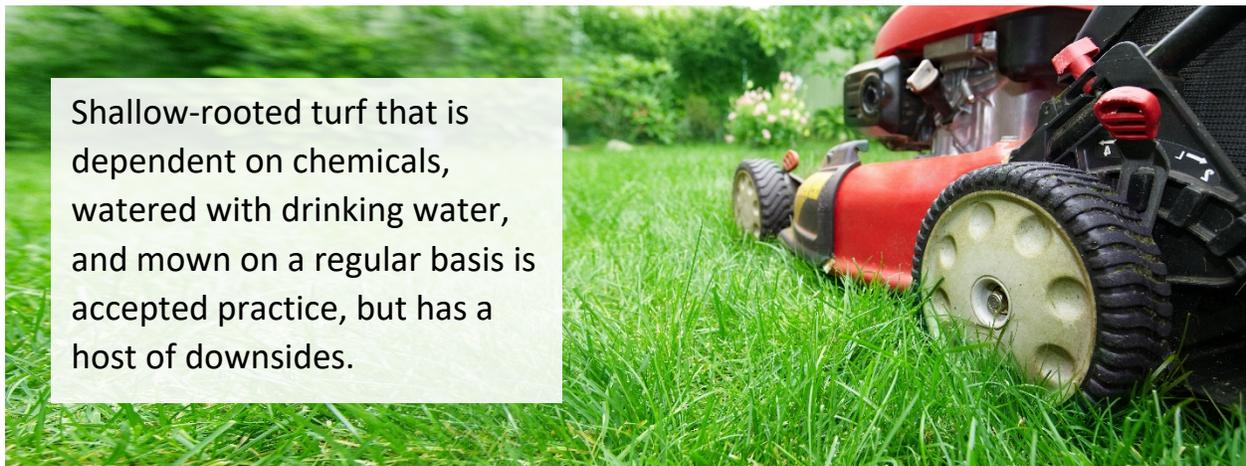


**Rainwater for Resilience (RW4R)
Community Hub Program
Expressions of Interest Being Accepted NOW**

**When it comes to resilience, the
typical lawn isn't very impressive.
But what is?**



Shallow-rooted turf that is dependent on chemicals, watered with drinking water, and mown on a regular basis is accepted practice, but has a host of downsides.

Whether the future is wetter or drier, colder or warmer, our landscaping choices can be adjusted to contribute in a significant way to the resilience of our cities.

From deep-rooted and native plants that don't need extra water or chemicals, to rain gardens that attenuate flooding and drought--with an eye on low-maintenance techniques, we can re-imagine our towns and cities to have landscapes that provide numerous ecological goods and services.

Supporting pollinators, cooling and cleansing runoff, improving air quality, providing habitat and habitat corridors, and greening for human well-being--these are just some of the additional benefits our landscapes can deliver.

The Community Hub program is geared to demonstrating resilient landscaping options and educating residents about them, while improving the public gathering places where the hubs are built.

ELIGIBILITY

The program was originally envisaged to be built on the grounds of Community Associations (Calgary) and Community Leagues (Edmonton), but any high-visibility public gathering space with a building is eligible, as long as practices that you might do at home can be demonstrated. The biggest disqualifier is a building where roof runoff is diverted directly into the storm sewer, rather than discharging onto the ground. The main building doesn't have to be used for the rain garden demo, it could be an outbuilding. Other than that, bring us your ideas! Yes, we can piggy-back on a project already in planning.

PROGRAM

Ten demonstration sites in each of Calgary and Edmonton will be built in 2020. There are six demonstration elements, including rain gardens, native perennials and shrubs, ornamental grasses, groundcovers, and alternative turfs. Program elements are described in greater detail on page 3. All of the elements must be installed on each site, but not necessarily in the same configuration or proportion. There must be a building or other type of hard-surfaced area to contribute concentrated flow to the rain gardens. Plant identification and interpretive signage will be installed, and a follow-up workshop for residents will provide guidance on opportunities for implementation at home.

FUNDING

Design and site preparation, plants, soil, mulch, signage, and planting oversight for the planting event will be provided. The community is responsible to gain community buy-in for the project, to provide volunteers and hospitality/refreshments for a planting event, and subsequently water and maintain the site and provide any other care needed. The ALIDP will prepare and deliver a follow-up workshop in select communities. Selected communities will be asked to provide meeting space and refreshments for a workshop, by mutual agreement. The value of funding is estimated to be \$27,800 per site.

APPLYING

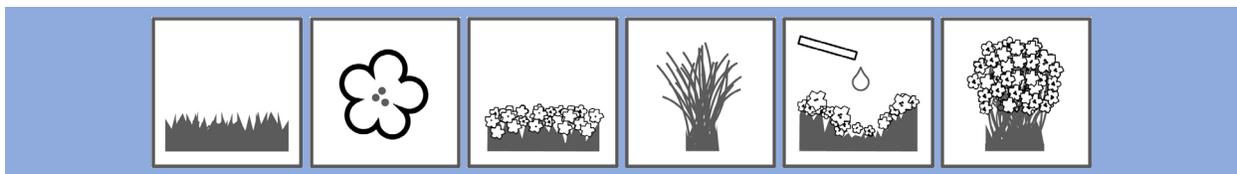
Submit an Expression of Interest using the form on the following pages. November 1, 2019 is the suggested timeframe. Earlier applications will be favoured, but we will continue until spots are filled. Neat, legible handwriting is acceptable, or use the [fillable pdf version](#).

CONTACT

Please address any questions or comments to:

Leta van Duin, B.Sc.
Executive Director
Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership
leta@alidp.org

This program is a project of the Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership, funded by the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program of Alberta Environment and Parks. The Alberta Low Impact Development Partnership is a membership-based non-profit Society, dedicated to a vision of landscapes and land development in harmony. Visit us at <https://alidp.org>.



Rainwater for Resilience (RW4R)

Community Hub Development Expression of Interest

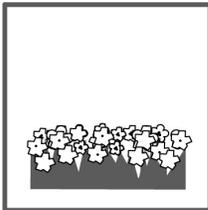
THE SIX PROGRAM ELEMENTS



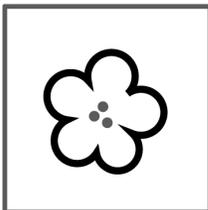
Rain gardens are planting beds that are depressed by 10 cm to capture runoff from a hard surface, usually a roof. They reduce overland flooding while supporting a wider range of plants than xeriscaping typically allows, while breaking down contaminants and making use of nutrients, which can lead to harmful algal blooms.



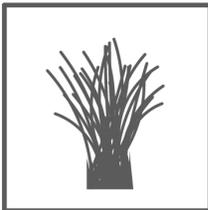
Alternative turfs are grasses that are more drought tolerant, require less or no mowing, and are often more tolerant of shade than conventional grasses. Reducing the size of your lawn and using more suitable species that don't need watering reduces demand on costly and finite potable water.



Groundcovers are plants that are good at spreading out or knitting together to form a carpet that can mimic the quiet look of a lawn, or just lay low to let other taller showstoppers in your garden have centre stage. They are good at keeping weeds out and looking great without watering or herbicides. They often flower.



Native flowering perennials support the needs of local pollinators and are a cheerful dose of nature. They are adapted to local moisture levels, climate and soil conditions, needing little in the way of maintenance but an annual haircut. For the most part, they don't need added fertilizer or staking, pruning, and deadheading.



Ornamental grasses are all the rage these days, and there are some natives worth knowing and considering for your garden. Even though a good part of Alberta is a grassland, can *you* name any local species? Like their flowering counterparts, grasses need little more than an annual haircut.



Native shrubs can be integrated into planting beds or be used on their own as hedges, screens, focal points, and more. They provide shelter and food for local creatures. Like their perennial counterparts, they are low maintenance and are often among the first to green up in the spring, adding architectural presence.

Rainwater for Resilience (RW4R)

Community Hub Development Expression of Interest

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

ACTIVITY	ALIDP ROLE	COMMUNITY ROLE
Community Selection FALL 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact community liaison person. Visit site if needed. Award by Christmas 2019. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a liaison person and/or project champion. Participate in site visit if needed. Provide info as requested.
Design and Approvals WINTER/SPRING 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design site in consultation with community liaison and reps. Up to 3 revisions. Jointly work to obtain any necessary approvals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify design needs and wants. Respond to ALIDP requests for information and feedback. Jointly work to obtain any necessary approvals. Anticipate 8 to 16 hours of interaction in this phase. Gain community buy-in.
Construction SUMMER 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare site (first day). Provide planting oversight and assistance (second day) including safety orientation and hand tools for volunteers. Provide literature, tent and signage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote volunteer construction event through newsletters, social media, etc. Provide refreshments and volunteers for a planting activity – approximately 300 plants (that’s optimistically 30 people for an hour, or 15 people for 2 hours, or 8 people for ½ a day), plus hand mulching – another 2 hours for 8 people or so.
Aftercare FALL 2020 ONWARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall of 2020 – debrief Summer 2021 – site inspection and recommendations 2022 and beyond – phone advice as needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water the site – several times in the first two weeks, about once per week for the rest of the summer. Monitor the site in year 2 for dry conditions and expect to water a few times per month. Weed the site – weeds in years 2 and 3 are the ‘hump’ years before the plants fill in. Mulch – top up mulch if needed in years 3 and beyond. Fall of year 1 (2020) – debrief. 2021 install replacement plants under warranty.
Education and Dissemination WINTER 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter 2021 – 2-hour workshops will be offered promoting the practices and providing advice to residents on their projects. Promote workshop, provide literature to communities. Develop, fabricate, and deliver plant ID and interpretive signage to the site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide facility and refreshments for a workshop, if requested. Promote workshop, distribute literature and/or make referrals to residents making inquiries (ongoing). Allow signage of the plants and an interpretive panel. Install the interpretive panel. Maintain the signage.

Rainwater for Resilience (RW4R) Community Hub Development Expression of Interest

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project is in (circle one): CALGARY EDMONTON
Projects in the greater metropolitan areas will be considered, but preference will be given inside city limits.

Name of Community _____

Name of Applicant Organization _____

Street Address of candidate site _____

Is this a new community? YES NO

Site Ownership _____

Is there a construction project currently in development? YES NO
The hub project can be piggy-backed on to another project in development. It does not need to stand alone, whether as part of a project for a new community or as part of a retrofit to an existing one.

Other grounds initiatives in the past 5 years YES NO N/A

Describe _____
For example, naturalization, community garden, playground equipment, tree planting

Do you have an active gardening group? YES NO

Do you have an active environmental group? YES NO
Active means meetings and/or activities at least 4 times per year

Is the community responsible for any grounds maintenance YES NO

Describe _____

GENERAL SITE CONSIDERATIONS

Please provide pdfs of these documents and materials, if available (checkbox):

Note: It is not necessary to provide all available documentation at the expression of interest stage, but whatever is available will help us understand your particular opportunity. Required photos at the EOI stage are highlighted.

- Satellite Screenshot of Site - **REQUIRED**
 - Real Property Report or other Site Plan
 - Grounds Master Plan
 - Grading/Contour Plan
 - Drainage Plan
 - Planting Plan (of recent or proposed projects)
-
- Compile a photo package showing site elements such as buildings, downspouts, existing trees, shrubs and planting beds, especially those in proximity to the building or other proposed rain garden contributing areas. (6 to 12 photos suggested, provided in one pdf, photos at least 4x6"). **REQUIRED**

STORMWATER

Note: It is not necessary to definitively know the answers to the stormwater questions at the expression of interest stage.

Are there existing drainage challenges on the site?	YES	NO
Are there existing drainage challenges in the community?	YES	NO
Has your community been targeted for a drainage improvement project	YES	NO

For example, dry pond retrofit, pipe upgrade

Describe _____

Type of building or hard surface supplying rain garden runoff _____
For example, main hall, rink changeroom, shed, parking lot, misc. outbuilding

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Why would your community like to take on this project? _____

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Primary Contact Name _____

Occupation _____

Community Role _____

Email _____ Phone Number _____

Secondary Contact Name _____

Occupation _____

Community Role _____

Email _____ Phone Number _____

Mailing Address for correspondence _____

Postal Code _____

Email for correspondence if other than the primary contact _____

DECLARATION OF THE PRIMARY CONTACT

- Project is anticipated to be ready for construction in 2020
- Community will promote the project through its media channels
- ALIDP holds copyright on all materials developed as a result of the project
- Community has read and agrees to the Roles and Responsibilities (see page 4 above)

SUBMIT YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Submit your Expression of Interest as a pdf, along with the required photos in a single document.

Additional supporting documents can be submitted as separate electronic files.

Submit your Expression of Interest to Leta van Duin at leta@alidp.org. If you wish to, include a delivery and/or read receipt in your email as a submission acknowledgement.

Thank you for your interest in the Community Hub program!

