

### Keep our communities green

Join our Green Space Wales campaign and help manage rainwater run-off to reduce flooding and pollution

#### Tips for the home and garden

The climate is changing with more frequent heavy rainfall falling on an increasingly developed urban landscape of roads, car parks, buildings and paved front gardens. With reduced green areas for drainage, rainfall is increasingly channelled into public sewers, sometimes overloading them and causing sewer flooding and pollution incidents.

Around the world, planners and engineers are coming up with imaginative ideas to cut down the risk of flooding resulting from the run-off produced by sudden, heavy storms, but it's a problem we need to address now before more of us see the effects of flooding and pollution.

Whilst Welsh Water is committed to doing its part, we need everyone, all water users – householders, builders, planners and politicians – to do theirs if we're going to manage what nature throws at us in the years ahead.

So why not consider the following practical examples of things you can do to help:

- Are you considering paving or altering your driveway or patio? Why not use porous paving or gravel, so that instead of rainwater running off, it soaks through to the ground underneath.



Dŵr Cymru  
Welsh Water



- Do you collect rainwater in water butts that you can then use in the garden? Please log on to [www.dwrcymru.com](http://www.dwrcymru.com) to find out more about our buy one, get one half price water butt offer.
- Have you ever considered harvesting rainwater to reduce your mains water usage, such as using it for flushing toilets?
- If you are building an extension to your house or a complete new build, design the layout so that it allows your rainwater drainpipes to run straight into your garden to water your plants directly or to soakaways where ground conditions are suitable.
- Why not consider disconnecting your existing drainpipes from the sewer system where appropriate to water your plants directly?
- Add highly water absorbent plants to your flower beds and create water gardens.

To learn more about how to manage rainwater run-off please visit the "Green Space Wales" section of Welsh Water's website [www.dwrcymru.com](http://www.dwrcymru.com) - where you'll find an interactive house providing links to additional information and advice.