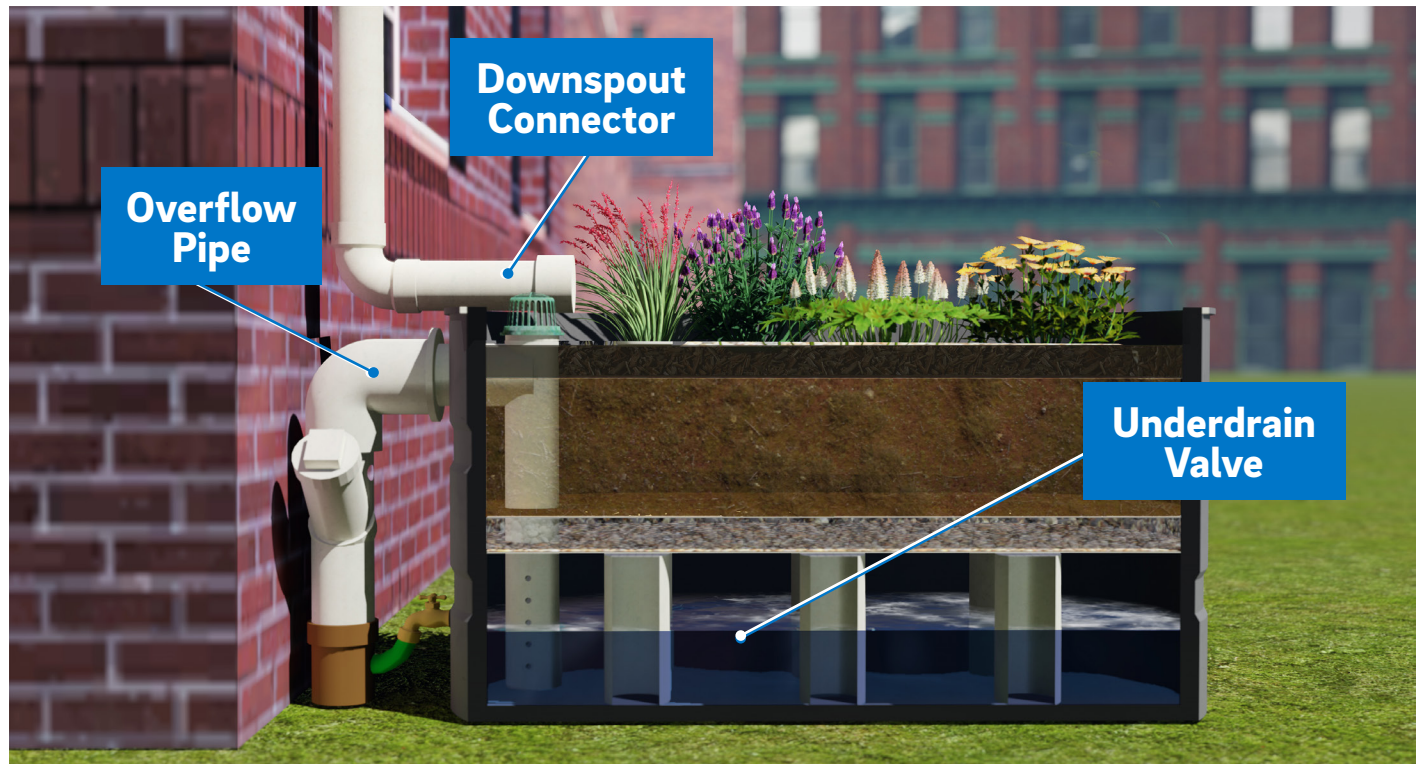


FOR PARTICIPANTS



MAINTENANCE GUIDE:

Metal Downspout Planter



- Water vegetation immediately after planting and weekly during initial establishment if it does not rain.
- If plants appear to be wilting, water 2-3 times per week until they return to good health.
- Keep the overflow cap (atrium grate) free and clear of debris such as dead leaves or trash. Check it after storms. Keep soil and debris off of the top of the stone mulch so floatable material does not clog the overflow device.
- Remove weeds as needed.
- Check drainage of planter after rainstorms to make sure that the planter drains and/or water evaporates within 24 hours. If water is not draining, ensure that the underdrain valve is open sufficiently. The underdrain valve is located at the rear side of the planter near the bottom. The underdrain valve should be left in a position so there is approximately 1/8" opening - this should allow the planter to drain slowly over time.
- Check the downspout connection (diverter or downspout elbow) to the planter to ensure it has not been disconnected.
- Inspect plants to evaluate health and replace if necessary.
- Cut back or remove dead vegetation in fall.
- Check to ensure that roof gutters leading to the downspout are free of leaves and other debris.
- Check to ensure that downspout leading to the planter is properly connected to roof gutter.
- In wintertime, check to make sure that overflow is clear of debris and snow. Periodically inspect planter to ensure ice is not accumulating.

For more information, frequently asked questions and price points, go to www.pwdraincheck.org

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My planter is full of water and is not draining:

- First, check the outlet and make sure the spigot is turned on allowing water to drain from the underdrain.
- If the planter is not draining or is draining too slow, the underdrain valve can be adjusted using the removable handle that was supplied separately during the installation to increase the flow rate.
- If temperatures are below freezing, ice may be present in the underdrain. Wait for it to thaw and re-check.



The soil in my downspout planter is getting washed away or is settling:

- Settling and scouring are issues that commonly occur after heavy rain storms. To replace or add soil to your planter, use a 5 gallon bucket to make a soil mix containing 60% sand, 10% topsoil, and 30% compost.
- If soil is getting washed away where the downspout is connected to the planter, add large gravel or river rock to the area to help slow down the water.

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