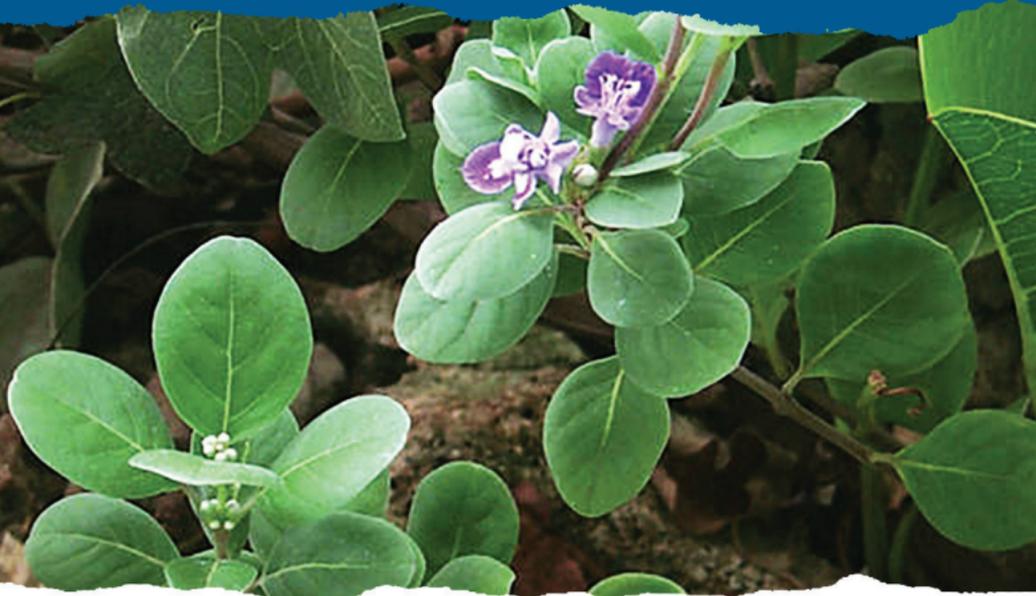


GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ILLEGAL DRAIN CONNECTIONS



Be an Everyday Clean Water Hero!

Be AWARE, take ACTION, report ACTIVITIES that adversely affect streams, drainage channels and the ocean.

BE AWARE:

Any unlicensed private storm drainage connected to the city-owned storm drain system is illegal. Consider disconnecting with Green Infrastructure. These are simple and effective ways to stop, slow, or spread the flow of storm water on your property. By reducing the volume of water runoff, you can also decrease the amount of pollutants washed into our streams and ocean as well as increase ground water recharge.

TAKE ACTION:

- Disconnect and redirect your connection to a discharge location where the water can soak into the ground.
- Rain gardens are a planted area within a natural or manmade depression in the ground where rain water runoff can collect and soak into the soil.
- Planter boxes are an elevated container of plants that collects and filters rain water.
- Grass is an excellent filter for runoff from roofs and other impermeable areas.
- If discharge to a vegetated area is not feasible, direct the discharge to a gravel area.
- If neither a vegetated area nor a graveled area is available at a convenient location for redirecting the downspout, consider installation of a rain barrel to collect the roof runoff for later irrigation use.
- Permeable hardscapes are alternatives to traditional pavements like concrete and asphalt. Concrete grass block pavers are a readily available example.
- Other tips and guides can be found here <https://bit.ly/GI-tips>



EASY GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Title/ Description	Cost	Installation Difficulty	Regular Maintenance
<p>Downspout Disconnection</p>  <p>Some downspouts may be connected directly to the storm drainage system. By detaching the downspouts you can help reduce the volume of water that reaches the streams.</p>	\$	Easy	Easy
<p>Downspout Outlet Protection</p>  <p>Downspout outlet protection is a structure at the base of the downspout that reduces the initial impact of the runoff before it hits the ground.</p>	\$	Easy-Medium	Easy
<p>Ground Covers</p>  <p>Ground covers are temporary or permanent means of protecting and stabilizing the soil to prevent soil erosion.</p>	\$\$	Easy	Easy-Moderate
<p>Permeable Hardscape</p>  <p>Permeable hardscapes allow water to soak into the ground while also reducing the amount of runoff leaving your property.</p>	\$\$-\$\$\$	Medium-Complex	Moderate-High
<p>Rain Gardens</p>  <p>Rain gardens are depressed planted areas where rain water can collect and soak into the soil.</p>	\$\$	Easy-Medium	Easy
<p>Planter Boxes</p>  <p>Planter boxes are elevated containers with plants that collect and filter rain water. Disconnected downspouts can be redirected to planter boxes to help irrigate the plants.</p>	\$\$	Easy-Medium	Easy
<p>Rain Barrel</p>  <p>A rain barrel is a catchment system that collects runoff from your roof for reuse to water your lawns and other plants.</p>	\$\$	Complex	Easy-Moderate
<p>Native Plants</p> <p>Native rather than non-native plants should be used as ground cover, rain gardens and in planter boxes because they are best suited for the local weather conditions.</p>	\$-\$\$	Easy-Medium	Easy-Moderate

Laws and Ordinances

The Federal Clean Water Act gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority of implement water pollution control programs. Local statues and ordinances address compliance and enforcement of the EPA's mandates.

The Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 14-12-23(a) Environmental Quality Control — Violation states, "It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii.

Discharging pollutants to the storm drain system is against the law. Violations can result in fines of up to \$25,000 per violation, per day.