**The Plant Dane Native Plant Program Celebrates 20 Years with its Native Plant Sale and Rain Garden Coaching Sessions**

Dane County and the Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (MAMSWaP) are now accepting plant orders for their 20th annual Plant Dane Native Plant Sale. Starting a native garden, no matter how small, can a beautiful focal point to your landscape that is not only fun to plant, but fun to observe through the seasons. Native plants have a lot of hidden benefits too; they provide food and habitat for local wildlife and help rainwater soak into the ground through their deep root systems protecting our lakes, rivers and stream from polluted stormwater runoff. The Plant Dane Native Plant Program gives local groups, municipalities and residents in Dane County an opportunity to order native plants for a fraction of the normal retail cost. Consider converting some of your turf grass or pavement into a native garden, downspout garden or rain garden this spring and have a Ripple Effect on our waters!

Customers can choose from more than 50 native plant species and pre-selected garden kits including: pollinator, downspout, and rain garden kits. Donations to purchase native plants for specific community and school projects can also be made through the Plant Dane order system. Plants are only $11.50/4-pack with a minimum order of 16 plants. Plant orders will be accepted through March 19th (or while supplies last up to 35,000 plants sold). Order early! For more information or to place an order visit [www.ripple-effects.com/plant-dane](http://www.ripple-effects.com/plant-dane).

Dane County is also hosting a “**Dig Into Rain Gardens-1:1 Coaching Sessions with the Experts**” training to help residents looking to incorporate a rain or downspout garden into their landscape. Participants will meet individually with a rain garden expert to look at their specific site using an online mapping application, determine drainage patterns and select an optimal location for a rain garden. Experts will also assist participants with sizing, plant selection and provide resources on site preparation and installation. Thirty-minute coaching sessions are $20 and will be offered on Saturday, March 2 from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Participants from MAMSWaP communities are also be eligible for up to a $50 reimbursement for native plants ordered through Plant Dane. Reserve a spot today- <https://ripple-effects.com/Event/Detail/1777> .