

Taller grass means deeper roots.



adding food waste to a compost bin



visit our new TN native plant blog and database at http://tynnativeplants.wordpress.com/

#### THINGS YOU CAN DO RIGHT NOW:

- Let your grass grow taller
- Compost your yard waste
- Learn about your plants

For more information contact your local Extension office or stormwater program or the statewide office at tnyards@gmail.com



ENSIO

INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

TENNESSEE State University

Connerative Extension

disconnected downspout with rain barrel



a rain garden at work

#### STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES:

- Disconnect your downspouts
- Use a rain barrel
- Install a rain garden

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

# Healthy landscaping that protects our natural resources





# The Nine Principles

Protect our resources... For generations to come...

# 1 Right Plant, Right Place

Plants selected to suit a specific site require less water, pesticides, and pruning.

# 2 Manage Soils & Mulch

Appropriate mulch management helps retain soil moisture, prevent erosion, and increase root growth.

# 3 Recycle

Compost grass clippings, leaves and yard trimmings. Avoid piling along roads or in ditches.



Efficient watering is key to a healthy landscape and the conservation of a precious resource.







#### **Tennessee Smart Yards** is a

University of Tennessee-led program that guides and assists Tennessee residents and neighborhood associations with practices they can use in their yards and common areas to create healthier living spaces and communities.

#### Nine foundational principles

of sustainability serve as the cornerstone for the program and are being incorporated into an everbroadening selection of popular and practical workshops taught by UT/TSU Extension and local professionals.

**Our hands-on courses** aim to help homeowners achieve a landscape that reflects their values, desires, and needs, while ensuring the protection of Tennessee's invaluable natural resources.

### **5** Use Fertilizer Appropriately

Follow soil test recommendations for fertilizer application.

# 6 Manage Yard Pests

Overuse of pesticides can harm good insects, people, pets, and the environment.



#### 7 Reduce 7 Stormwater & Pollutants

Water running off your yard can carry pollutants like soil, fertilizer, and pesticides that harm water quality.



Plants in your yard that provide food, water, and shelter can conserve Tennessee's diverse wildlife.

### 9 Protect Water's Edge

Careful management of waterfront property is critical to the health of Tennessee's waterways.



