

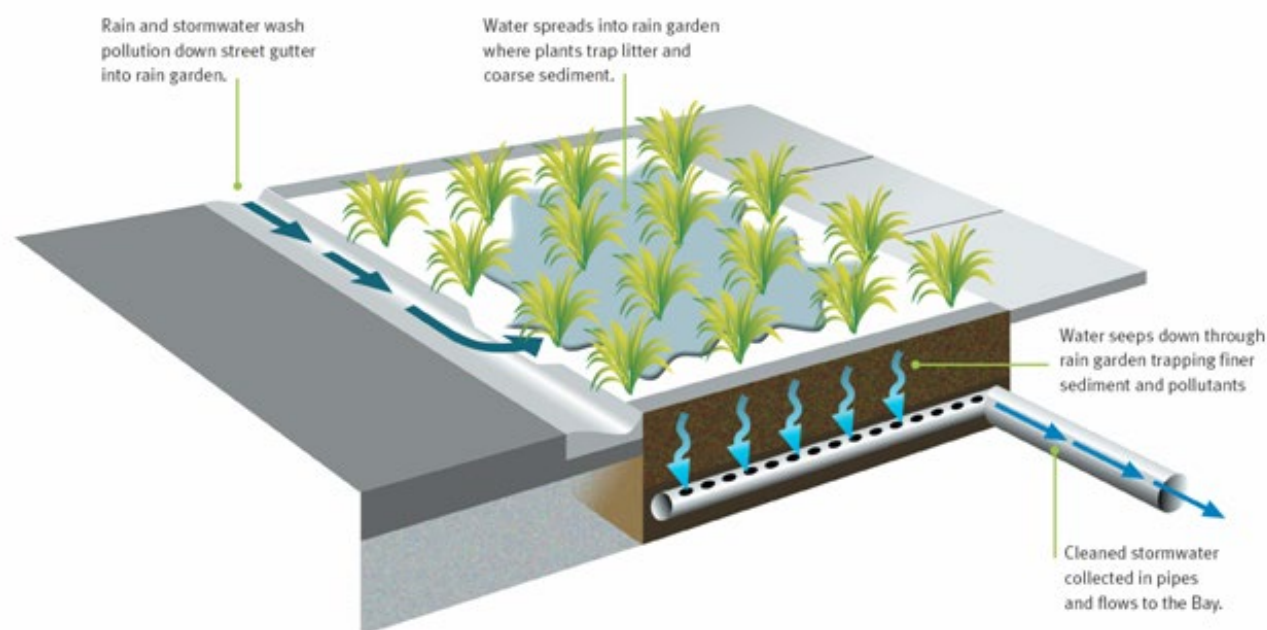
# Improving Water Quality in the Port Augusta region

## A Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) Approach to stormwater

The SMP adopts a Water Sensitive Urban Design approach to improve stormwater quality and integrate water management into Port Augusta's urban landscape.

WSUD focuses on:

- Managing stormwater, groundwater, wastewater and drinking water in a coordinated way
- Storing, treating and reusing stormwater where possible
- Using vegetation—including native and drought-tolerant species—to filter runoff and enhance biodiversity
- Designing streetscapes and public spaces that capture and treat stormwater while improving shade, cooling and amenity
- Encouraging water-efficient landscaping and household water-saving measures
- This approach supports healthier waterways, greener neighbourhoods and improved resilience to climate change.



## Improving water quality

Improving water quality and reducing runoff volumes are important goals of the draft SMP.

The SMP recommends a range of measures that will help to improve the quality and reduce the volume of urban stormwater that is discharged to Spencer Gulf, through:

- Gross Pollutant Traps that physically prevent pollutants entering waterways
- Raingardens which use vegetation and filtration to treat stormwater
- Rainwater tanks that help to reduce the volume of stormwater runoff that is discharged to receiving waterways, and make stormwater available for beneficial uses
- Detention and water-sensitive open space upgrades. Strategically placed detention basins help slow and temporarily store runoff, allowing water to settle and sediments to drop out before entering downstream systems.

## Improving our open space and streetscapes

Stormwater treatments used in the SMP can enhance the look and function of Port Augusta's open spaces.

- Detention basins, when designed sensitively, can become attractive community reserves that support nature play, native habitat and shaded recreational areas.
- Raingardens and vegetated swales can be integrated into streetscapes and carparks, improving the appearance of neighbourhoods while helping capture pollutants.
- Increased vegetation helps reduce the urban heat island effect, providing cooler and more comfortable public spaces.

These improvements create greener, cooler and more inviting places for residents and visitors while delivering water quality and stormwater management benefits.



## How can residents and the community help manage stormwater runoff?

Local residents and businesses can play a major role in improving stormwater quality.

You can help by:

- Installing and maintaining rainwater tanks to reduce runoff from roofs
- Keeping gutters, grates and kerbs free of leaves and rubbish so pollutants do not enter the stormwater system
- Using gardens to capture runoff, where appropriate, to reduce flows to the Gulf
- Avoiding washing chemicals, oils and waste onto driveways or the street
- Helping care for local reserves, waterways and coastal areas by removing litter and supporting native vegetation