

Henry Clay wins \$500 grant for rain gardens

Henry Clay High School has won a \$500 grant from the Bluegrass Rain Garden Alliance to help build demonstration rain gardens on campus. The site, adjacent to Fontaine Road, was chosen because of its visibility and geological characteristics that will make it a perfect fit for water-loving, indigenous plants, said biology teacher Tresine Logsdon.

“The rain garden will serve as our ‘water’ school improvement project in our effort to complete the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program in May 2009,” she said. “The rain garden will also be used as an educational resource for our biology and Earth/space classes during our ecology units.”

Rain gardens can improve water quality and help prevent flooding by capturing rainwater from downspouts or parking lots to allow it time to soak into the ground instead of running off into the storm-water system and nearby creeks.

At Henry Clay, the design should be completed by December, and the garden built by March in cooperation with the Go Green Club (open to all students) and Liberal Arts Academy biology students.

Plans are also in the works for a rain garden at Tates Creek Middle School this spring.

- More details: www.fcps.net/news/press-releases/2008-09/hc-rain-garden