



The South West Water Green Garden

RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show
Site number: hc/424

The Garden

The garden is inspired by the sustainable management and recyclability of rainwater. It sets out to promote the principles of 'Downstream Thinking', an initiative by South West Water that encourages the management of rainwater in our gardens and urban spaces to help reduce the risk of flooding.

The garden has a bold sense of fluidity to its layout and structure. The flow geometry in the design is intended to create a strong visual reference to water. It is a restful and contemplative space that encourages you to relax, pause and reflect on the importance of water as a precious, recyclable resource.

Practical methods of managing rainwater come in the form of a brick path bedded on a layer of free-draining sand. This leads to a circular terrace at the back of the garden. Large format limestone pavers make up the surface of the circular terrace, each slab being separated by a fillet of free-draining gravel. The permeable hard surfaces in the garden help manage the flow of surface rainwater, allowing it to naturally permeate into the ground, filtering out pollutants and reducing the risk of flooding.

Steps that lead up to a cantilevered bench act as informal seating from which a large bowl of water can be viewed. The still reflective surface of the water feature acts as a focal point.

Either side of the main path is a rain garden planted with flood tolerant species of plants. This particular feature manages the flow of surface water run-off from a nearby building. It also provides planting pockets that help slow the flow of water from the adjacent brick path.

Other areas of the garden are planted with plants more suited to drier areas, helping to create a rich and diverse community of plant species within the garden.

After the show

Once the show is over elements of the garden will be dismantled and rebuilt at South West Water's headquarters in Exeter. Here they will become a part of a wider sustainable rainwater management demonstration project that will manage the flow of surface rainwater from their main building and car park.

Plant list

Agastache rugosa 'Alabaster'
Allium sphaericephalum
Angelica archangelica
Artemisia lactiflora
Aruncus 'Woldemar meier'
Astilbe 'Purpurlanze'
Blechnum spicant
Blechnum penna marina
Campanula 'Sarastro'
Centaurea montana
Carex muskingumensis
Datisca cannabina
Epimedium grandiflorum
Erigeron 'Darkest of All'
Eryngium giganteum
Euphorbia sequeiriana ssp. nicensis
Filipendula camtschatica
Filipendula rubra 'Venusta'

Hesperis matronalis
Lobelia x gerardii 'Verdariensis'
Lobelia siphilitica
Lobelia tupa
Melica altissima 'Alba'
Molinia arund. 'Karl Foerster'
Molinia arund. 'Skyracer'
Penstemon strictus
Persicaria amplex. 'Blackfield'
Persicaria amplex. 'Orangefields'
Rodgersia podophylla 'Braunlaub'
Sanguisorba 'Blackthorn'
Sanguisorba tenuifolia alba
Selenium wallichianum
Seseli libanotis
Sporobolus heterolepis
Thalictrum aquilegifolium 'Thundercloud'
Thalictrum 'Elin'
Tradescantia 'Concord Grape'
Veronicastrum 'Erica'
Veronicastrum virginicum 'Cupid'



Seseli libanotis



Datisca cannabina



Thalictrum 'Elin'



Lobelia siphilitica



Sanguisorba 'Blackthorn'



Penstemon strictus



Persicaria amplex. 'Blackfield'



Carex muskingumensis



Veronicastrum 'Erica'



Betula nigra

Plant list correct at time of publication - late changes & substitutions likely

The Sponsor



We are part of Pennon Group plc. We provide reliable, efficient and high-quality drinking water and wastewater services throughout Cornwall and Devon and in parts of Dorset and Somerset.

Our extensive programme of environmental improvement has resulted in some of the finest bathing waters in Europe, scenery and clean rivers with stunning wildlife.

We believe that by investing in the future of our region, we are not only improving the quality of life for today's residents and visitors but are also taking responsibility for future generations.

Downstream Thinking

We know how devastating sewer flooding is and we are committed to reducing the risk of it happening in our region in future.

Working with communities and our partners, we are looking at innovative and sustainable ways to manage the amount of surface water that enters our sewer network.

Surface water comes from the rainwater from roofs, roads and other hard (or 'impermeable') surfaces. The impact of climate change, coupled with an increase in impermeable surfaces, increases the amount of surface water, putting our sewer network under pressure.

Reducing surface water will help to reduce the risk of sewer flooding to homes and businesses, and protect our environment from pollution.

Everyone has a part to play.

At South West Water, we call this programme Downstream Thinking.

For more information about Downstream Thinking & sustainable urban drainage visit:

www.southwestwater.co.uk/downstreamthinking



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www.southwestwater.co.uk

The Designer

Growing up in rural Devon Tom Simpson has always had a great passion for gardens and the natural landscape. With a background in film and television, Tom decided to pursue his passion for gardens and retrained as a garden designer.

Tom runs his own garden design company from his studio in South London. He is currently working on a number of projects in London and his home county of Devon.

Attending the London College of Garden Design, Tom graduated with distinction in 2016 and was awarded the External Judges Award, a special commendation for excellence. Following on from his success at LCGD, Tom was shortlisted for the Society of Garden Designers Student Awards in 2016.

This is Tom's debut at an RHS show.



www.tomsimpsondesign.com

 [tomhsimpson](https://www.instagram.com/tomhsimpson)

Contributors & Suppliers

Main contractor-

Rosebank Landscaping

Plants-

Orchard Dene Nurseries
Hotus Loci

Other Suppliers-

London Stone
Vande Moortel
Urbis Design

Special thanks

South West Water
Vande Moortel
Chirs Marchant at Orchard Dene Nurseries
Alan Hyde at South West Water for agreeing to meet me all those months ago
Cameron Wilson, Matt Keightley and Ron Wislon for all their help, support and advice

My very special thanks

Eliza Fabbri for her patience and support throughout