



FOR RELEASE: July 2, 2014
MEDIA CONTACT: Heather Lauer, (614) 644-2160
CITIZEN CONTACT: Amber Kent, (614) 644-2160

**Ohio EPA Awards \$10,000 Environmental Education Grant to
Franklin County Organization**

A rain garden of native plants will provide an outdoor classroom at Worthington Libraries' Northwest Library location thanks to a \$10,000 Ohio Environmental Education Fund grant. Eleven grants were awarded statewide for \$304,136.

The grant will help a partnership between the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, Ohio State University Extension Master Gardeners and Worthington Libraries develop a rain garden and native plant demonstration project area and outdoor learning environment. The rain garden will feature more than 40 varieties of native plants, water features, native rocks and boulders and a bird habitat area.

The space will host adult and children's education programs about science and nature, rain garden clinics and specialized programs by partnering organizations. Worthington Libraries will provide more than \$30,000 in matching funds including design costs and maintenance.

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund is administered by Ohio EPA. Eligible grant recipients include environmental groups, public and private schools, colleges and universities, trade or professional organizations, businesses and state and local governments. For additional information, contact the [Ohio Environmental Education Fund](#) on the web or at (614) 644-2873.

-30-

www.epa.ohio.gov

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency was created in 1972 to consolidate efforts to protect and improve air quality, water quality and waste management in Ohio. Since then, air pollutants dropped by as much as 90 percent; large rivers meeting standards improved from 21 percent to 89 percent; and hundreds of polluting, open dumps were replaced with engineered landfills and an increased emphasis on waste reduction and recycling.