

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 26, 2017**

Contact:

Patty Toneff

Historic Woodlawn Cemetery

419-472-2186 or 419-466-7594

[patty.toneff@historic-woodlawn.com](mailto:patty.toneff@historic-woodlawn.com)

### **Rain Garden Workshops Offered For Homeowners, Professionals**

Toledo, OH: Homeowners, builders, landscape designers and others interested in learning about rain gardens are invited to attend a Free Rain Garden Workshop on September 30, 2017 at Woodlawn Cemetery and Arboretum, 1502 West Central Ave., Toledo, OH 43615.

Sponsored by the Toledo-Lucas County Rain Garden Initiative, TMACOG and Ohio EPA, the workshop will provide detailed information and hands-on training for homeowners and professionals. Participants will learn all the steps to creating a rain garden, including planning, design, implementation and maintenance. The workshop will cover sizing and designing, Best Management Practices for water quality and volume control; site selection and evaluation; rain garden sizing; design; construction, inspection and maintenance.

The Rain Garden Initiative is raising awareness to promote natural drainage for runoff water via the implementation of rain gardens. A rain garden is designed to collect runoff water into an area where vegetation was planted specifically for the purpose of absorbing water. The plants in the garden not only prevent erosion, but also help naturally absorb the water.

Since the completion of a master plan in 2011 Woodlawn Cemetery has been on a ten-year restoration plan. The stream (Willys ditch), that runs through Woodlawn is a large piece of the restoration, as well as continuing to provide habitat for the wildlife that use Woodlawn's, many habitats. Willys ditch is runoff from over 400 acres of the Toledo

area, and ultimately drains into Ottawa River. This workshop meets the shared missions of both the Rain Garden Initiative, TMACOG, Ohio EPA and Woodlawn Cemetery, and will demonstrate how together we can work together to protect our streams, and benefit wildlife.

Historic Woodlawn Cemetery and Arboretum is a National Historic Site. With more than 160 acres of scenic and rolling hills, Woodlawn, a private, non-profit cemetery, has over 40 acres of burial space available. A public mausoleum, crematory, cremation niches as well as traditional burial plots are open to people of all spiritual beliefs and ethnicities. Public programs, tours and field trips continue the rural cemetery origin to share the beauty, natural beauty, and architectural significance. Please call 419-472-2186 to register for the workshop. For more information on Woodlawn Cemetery and Arboretum visit [www.historic-woodlawn.com](http://www.historic-woodlawn.com) and follow the Rain Garden Initiative on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/raingardentoledo>.

#