

The Conway Daily Sun COMMUNITY

Mountain Garden Club dedicates rain garden at Children Unlimited today

CONWAY — The new rain garden will be dedicated at Children Unlimited, located at 182 West Main Street in Conway, on today at 1 p.m. The project is the culmination of three years of work by Mountain Garden Club members in addition to grants, sponsorships, donations, and assistance from many local individuals and organizations. Light refreshments will be served, and the public is invited.

A community improvement project of the Mountain Garden Club, the rain garden was the idea of member John Bruni and was designed and implemented by member and master gardener Ralph Lutjen. Materials and assistance were donated and provided by Alvin J. Coleman and Son, Clean Air-Cool Planet, Friends of Children Unlimited, McSherry's Garden Center, The Pequawket Foundation, Rock N Waters, and Russ Lanoie of Rural Home Technology.

The location at Children Unlimited was selected after much research for several reasons. Rain gardens are sited in low-lying landscape areas which receive considerable rain water runoff from roofs, sidewalks, driveways, and other hard surfaces, and are planted with carefully chosen deep-rooted native plants, shrubs, and grasses. The rush of water is held and absorbed naturally by the garden, allowing the plants to thrive while conserving water and reducing the need for irrigation. In addition, the environmental impact of rainwater entering nearby rivers and streams is reduced as pollutants are filtered by the plants.

The rain garden at Children Unlimited was created not only as an educational tool for the students there but as an example for area homeowners, businesses, and municipalities who may consider creating a garden. MGC club member DD Warren created



The public is invited to the Mountain Garden Club dedication of its rain garden at Children unlimited today at 1 p.m.

a beautiful sign at the new rain garden that illustrates the basic design principles.

The Mountain Garden Club is dedicated to promoting horticultural education, civic beautification, and conservation through volunteerism and friend-

ship in the Mount Washington Valley. Membership is open to all residents in the Mount Washington Valley. For more information regarding the club, its programs, and activities, visit www.mountaingardenclub.org.