

What's the problem?

Paving over your garden contributes to flooding, increases local temperatures and reduces valuable wildlife habitat.

Traditional hard surfaces collect water and channel it into drains and streams. These are becoming overloaded, especially during short bursts of heavy rain, increasing the risk of flooding.

Points to Consider?

Paving your front garden by more than 5 square metres may need planning permission, if you use impermeable surfacing.

So, before paving over your garden to make room for a car parking space or creating somewhere to sit to enjoy your garden think about what will happen to the rainwater that collects on the surface.

The answer is that as much water as possible needs to be allowed to drain naturally into the ground.

How Can We Prevent The Problems?

- 💧 Try to limit hard surfacing. Lay hard surfaces such as paving only on the areas needed for parking.
- 💧 Use surfaces that allow water to soak thorough to the ground below such as gravel or leave open joints in paving blocks or flags.
- 💧 Lay hard surfaces in such a way that the water that falls onto them runs off onto lawns or flower beds rather than into drains.
- 💧 Never allow water to flow out of your driveway onto the pavement or road. This can be a danger to pedestrians especially in winter and is not allowed under the Highways Act.
- 💧 If using gravel. make sure that you take precautions to avoid the gravel spilling out onto the road and footway as it causes a slipping and skidding hazard to others.

Further information from:

Environment Agency

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/suds
www.environment-agency.gov.uk/ppg

DCLG Planning Portal

www.planningportal.gov.uk/house

Interpave

www.paving.org

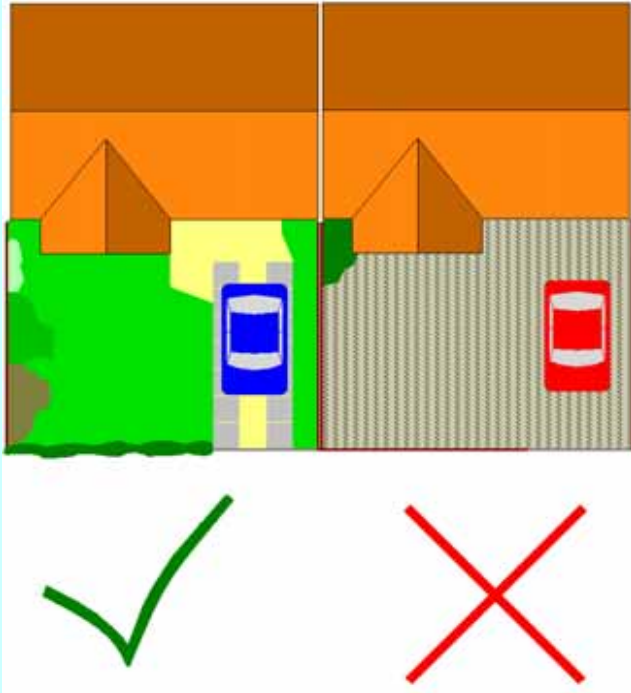
Royal Horticultural Society

www.rhs.org.uk



Thank You

For helping to manage rain water in Leeds.



Wherever possible, avoid converting your garden into a sealed patio or driveway. Try laying hard surfaces only on the areas needed and provide plenty of areas for the water to naturally soak away such as gravelled areas, lawns and flower beds.

Do not allow water to flow out onto the footway or road which adds to the water flowing into the road drains or freezes on the footway in winter.

If you are installing a driveway or parking space at your home for the first time please refer to the information leaflet below available from www.leeds.gov.uk or by telephoning:

0113 222 4407



YOUR FRONT GARDEN

Save It, Don't Pave it!



Advice For Constructing Drives, Patio's and Parking Spaces



Flood Risk Management Group