

RAIN CHECK

A downpour in Washington State may feel cleansing, but it also helps to send millions of pounds of toxins into Puget Sound, the second largest estuary in the United States. The culprits: everyday chemicals, which mix with stormwater before depositing in the Sound—bad news for endangered species like the orca whale, the most PCB-contaminated marine animal on earth. Stewardship Partners, a Seattle-based nonprofit, is spearheading a movement that calls on local residents to install rain gardens in their yards. The gardens look like any other, but include well-draining soil and hardy foliage that can filter out unwanted contaminants. To learn more, visit stewardshippartners.org. 🐚

