Let’s get started

1. Decide on the length and angle of your extension.
   • Keep it at a 2% slope to ensure water flows through it.
   • Rain water should be directed at least 5 feet from the foundation of the building.

2. Mark approximately 12 inches from the ground to the downspout.
   • This height should work for up to a 6 foot extension.
   • Mark the downspout higher for longer extensions.

3. Using a hacksaw, cut the downspout at the mark.

You’ll need the following:

- Gloves
- Downspout extension
- Tape measure
- Hacksaw
- Elbow
- Needle-nose pliers
- Bracket or strapping
- Pavers, stones or gravel (optional)
4. **Attach the elbow over downspout.**
   - Use needle-nose pliers to crimp the ends of the cut downspout and slide it inside the elbow.
   - Attach the elbow to the downspout with screws, or for added stability, consider securing the elbow to the building with a bracket or strapping.

5. **Do the same steps as above to attach the extension to the newly installed elbow.**
   - If additional stability is needed for the extension, consider a support like a cinder block or large stone.

6. **To prevent erosion, place pavers, large stones or gravel where the extension directs water into the garden.**

**MAKE IT COUNT!**

- After installing your downspout extension, learn about the environmental benefits diverting water provides.
- Go to www.treemapla.org to plot your downspout extension on the map.