



RAINWATER RECHARGE

Are you ready for the rainy season? Summer days are coming to a close and it's time to prepare not only our families but our homes for the rain to come. Each year Contra Costa County experiences 8 inches of rain beginning in October through the new year. With the drought still in effect, it's important to maximize all rainfall this season

Rain Collection System

Rain collection systems are a great way to ensure your home is utilizing all the free water! A rain collection system is a technique used to collect and store rainwater for human use. These systems can range from a simple barrel to an elaborate structure around your home that catches and purifies rain. Cool right! Rain collection systems can range from as little as \$100 and as much as a few thousand. Find the system that fits your budget and home with this helpful guide here <https://www.homeadvisor.com/cost/plumbing/rainwater-collection-system/#barrel>.

Benefits of Rainwater Harvesting

Rainwater harvesting is one of the most sustainable water management practices you can take to reduce water use and maximize rain during a drought. You can begin rainwater harvesting by setting up a rain collection system at your home. This can be as simple as placing a barrel at a gutter downspout to collect rainwater or an intricate system that utilizes the pipes beneath your home. Not only is it a great practice but repurposing rainwater can reduce storm water runoff. This prevents runoff from washing pesticides, fertilizers, and metals into our storm drain systems. Learn more about the impact storm water runoff has on our local water bodies at baykeeper.org.

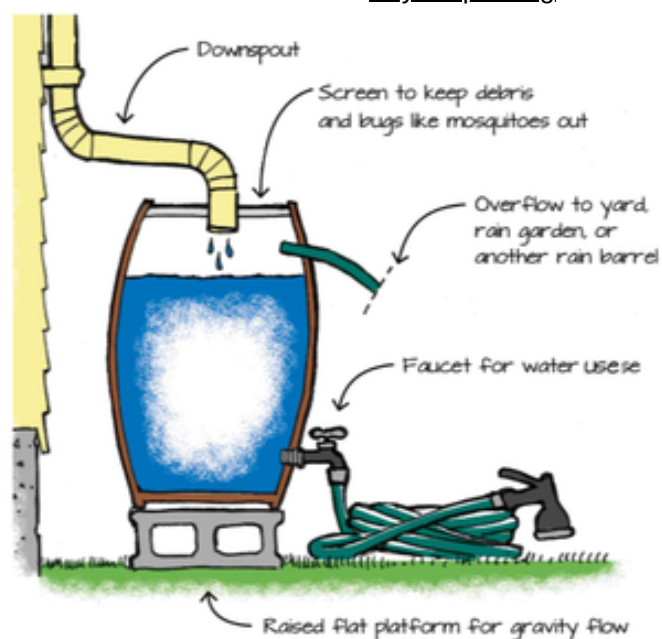
Rain Garden

Rainwater Harvesting also provides free and natural water for landscape irrigation and plants. A rain garden distributes rainwater collected from your roof to a low area in your garden allowing it time to soak into the soil. The soil beneath your garden absorbs, stores, and distributes the water for your plants reducing the need to run your sprinklers.

Additional Resources

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0y0BmEFUcs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s1ZfGalko4>



Rain collection systems are a great way to save money in your home, help prevent stormwater runoff, and provide help to your garden this winter. To learn more about rainwater harvesting visit our website www.cccleanwater.org for more information and additional resources.