

GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction

Meeting the increasing costs and demands of our natural water resources, BRAE is committed to providing an alternative water source: *rainwater*.

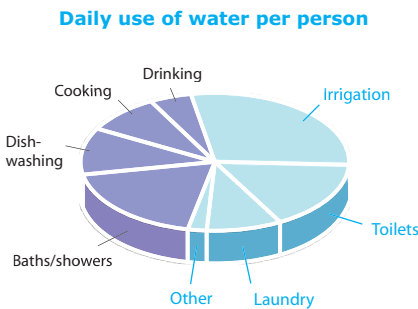
Rainwater utilization is the process of collecting and using rainwater as an alternative or supplemental water supply for non-potable (Not for Drinking) and potable applications to include:

- Irrigating Landscapes
- Home Water Supply
- Commercial Process Water
- Flushing Toilets
- Laundry Systems
- Fire Suppression Systems
- Washing Vehicles
- Custodial Services
- Chiller Make-up Supply

Rainwater Systems

The collection and use of rainwater is not new. Dating back, extensive rainwater harvesting strategies existed in ancient cities where residential water supplies were maintained with individual cisterns. For centuries populations throughout the world have relied on techniques of rainwater collection to supply water for households, landscapes, livestock and agricultural demands. This is still true for populations today.

Rainwater systems represent a valuable alternative water source for meeting current and future demands. Simply using rainwater for flushing toilets, washing cars, irrigating lawns and watering gardens can reduce potable water consumption by 65% in America's homes and buildings.



Rainwater can be substituted for more than **65%** of household water usage.

This means 65% more water is available to serve additional water needs. This means monthly savings on water bills and lower storm sewer charges. This means communities save money spent pumping and treating water before and after use, delaying expenditures for additional water sources and treatment facilities. This means more water for wildlife and recreation. This means ensured reliability of your water supply during periods of high demands and drought. This means saving money, water and the environment.

Who Benefits?

- School Systems
- Homeowners
- Municipalities
- Property Managers
- Developers

Rain System Advantages

- 1 Reduce operating costs
- 2 Irrigate landscapes with higher quality water
- 3 Save drinking water
- 4 Manage stormwater on-site
- 5 Decrease the need for water softners, soaps, and detergents
- 6 Reduce liabilities with retention ponds
- 7 Save Energy
- 8 Defer, reduce or avoid capital costs of water supply and waste water facilities expansion
- 9 Save on water treatment programs
- 10 Withdraw less water from rivers, streams, underground aquifers, and reservoirs

Water is a limited resource and though we cannot increase the Earth's supply of water, we can manage what supplies we have more effectively.

© 2004 Blue Ridge Atlantic, Inc.

