



More Information

Before you begin planning:

Review the rainwater harvesting fact sheets, *Rain Barrels and Cisterns*, *Rain Gardens*, *Landscaping For Stormwater Management*, and *Pervious Paving*, downloadable from our Detain the Rain webpage:



Factors to consider when choosing your rainwater capture system:

Local Regulations

Contact your local jurisdiction for guidelines on how to comply with any local requirements for installation.

Site Conditions

A variety of factors, including slopes, soil types, high groundwater and slope stability, may limit or prevent the use of certain systems. Please consult with an appropriate professional, such as an engineer, to determine what kind of rainwater capture system is appropriate for your property.

Mosquito Prevention

When implemented correctly, rainwater capture systems do not allow mosquitoes to breed. Ensure that water infiltrates into the ground within five days, and that stored water is sealed off to prevent mosquito access. For more information contact the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District.



Having clean and healthy waterways is important to our daily lives. The Clean Water Program fosters an appreciation of the local environment, inspiring people to do their part to prevent water pollution during everyday activities.

cleanwaterprogram.org

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Clean Water Program Alameda County



The Program's website provides contact information for local jurisdictions, and fact sheets on rain barrels and cisterns, rain gardens, pervious paving, and managing stormwater in landscaping.

cleanwaterprogram.org

Related Information

ReScape

Use the ReScape Professional Directory to find professionals who qualified to design landscapes that use rainwater collection features.
www.rescapeca.org

The Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District

Mosquito breeding prevention tips.
www.mosquitoes.org
(510) 783-7744



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PROGRAM

Protecting Alameda County Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay

Member Agencies

Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Union City; the County of Alameda; the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; and the Zone 7 Water Agency.



Detain the Rain



Your yard can make a difference for the Bay.




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PROGRAM

Protecting Alameda County Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay

Enhance Your Property and Protect Our Creeks and the Bay

Rainwater capture features installed on your property can help reduce flooding and deeply recharge your soil with water. The landscape designs featured below retain water during a storm, then slowly release the water over a period of time. They conserve water and reduce flooding, stormwater pollution and erosion, which protects our local creeks and the Bay.



Trees filter pollutants and reduce runoff by absorbing and storing rainfall—up to 1,000 gallons annually, depending on the size and type of tree.

Rain barrels or cisterns prevent high flows and erosion by capturing roof runoff that can be used for irrigation later or safely and slowly released into the landscape.

Pervious surfaces—such as gravel, turf block, interlocking pavers, pervious asphalt and pervious concrete—can replace traditional, impervious asphalt and concrete. These allow water to infiltrate to an appropriate, underlying drainage layer, reducing local flooding due to rainwater runoff.

Disconnected downspouts direct roof runoff away from the foundations toward a landscaped area where plants and soils can absorb flows and filter pollutants.

Raingardens are landscaped areas that recharge the soil and reduce runoff by absorbing and filtering rainwater.

Some of these features require technical guidance. For steep slopes and erodible soils please consult with an appropriate professional such as a landscape architect or engineer.