



Carpenter Hill Elementary School, Buda, TX. 106,000 gallons of rainwater storage; photo by HarveyJack, wh₂O.

RAINWATER HARVESTING FACTS

- The worldwide demand for clean water exceeds the supply, and the gap is growing. Harvested rainwater can help fill the gap.
- Harvested rain reduces stormwater runoff.
- Rainwater from a well-designed, installed and maintained system delivers potable water that exceeds the EPA drinking water standards.
- Decentralized rainwater harvesting relieves aging centralized water infrastructure by decreasing demand.
- Rainwater's low mineral content can reduce appliance and fixture maintenance costs.
- Rainwater is superior to chlorinated water for horticulture.
- Rainwater is a valuable industrial resource.
- One inch of rain collected from a 1,000-sq. ft. roof is over 600 gallons.
- Annual rainfall of 10 inches falling on a 10,000-sq-ft. roof yields over 60,000 gallons. Thirty inches per year yields over 180,000 gallons.



Residential garden, Atlanta, GA. 3,150 gallons of rainwater with battery-powered pump supplies 1,800-sq. ft. garden. www.therainsaver.com; submitted by Steve Williams.



50-gallon rain barrel, US made, recycled plastic, screened, opaque, locking lid, linkable. www.RainWaterSolutions.com; submitted by Mike Ruck.



Austin, TX. Elegant fence is also an aqueduct, carrying rainwater overhead to cistern. www.loop-d.net, submitted by Christy Seals.



ARCSA HISTORY

The American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association was founded in 1994 by a small group of visionaries who recognized the great potential of reviving the ancient practice of rainwater harvesting. The 2003 ARCSA conference in Seattle was the first of now-annual gatherings that foster common interests, develop standards and codes, discuss regulations, facilitate legislation, evaluate obstacles, and present opportunities to advance this worthy cause.



ARCSA
AMERICAN RAINWATER CATCHMENT
SYSTEMS ASSOCIATION



Bullitt Center, Seattle, WA. The greenest commercial building in the world, with a 56,000-gallon cistern designed for potable use. www.bullittcenter.org; credit Miller Hull Partnership.



The mission of the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association is to promote sustainable rainwater harvesting practices to help solve potable, non-potable, stormwater and energy challenges throughout the world. Join us to help educate decision makers, regulators, tradesmen, students, corporate leaders and homeowners about the benefits of fully utilizing this untapped resource.



School, Makali, Sierra Leone. 20,000-liter rainwater storage for 90-inch annual rainfall. www.RainBank.info; submitted by Ken Blair.

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Brochure cost donated by ARCSA Board & E.D. - JH-8/14

There are many ways to help



ARCSEA is primarily funded through individual and business memberships, business sponsorships and fees generated from delivering educational courses, webinars and printed materials. ARCSEA's capacity to fulfill its mission is only limited by the funds its members can raise. You can help ARCSEA deliver rainwater-harvesting solutions for the world's growing water problems.



Above, left: Career and Technology Academy, Charleston (SC) County Schools, showing vortex pre-filter. www.rainwaterresources.com; submitted by Denis Rochat.

Left: Mityana, Uganda. 1,000-liter ferrocement tank used solely for hand washing; www.friendlywater.net; submitted by Richard Kayambadde.

How can you help?

- **Unrestricted Donations** efficiently and immediately expand ARCSEA's capacity.
- **Monthly Sustainers** facilitate longer-range budgetary and strategic planning.
- **Bequests and Legacy Endowments** provide personal, lasting gifts.
- **Grants** are often targeted contributions that can deliver measurable results.
- **In-kind Donations** can be diverse, such as creating a technical webinar for ARCSEA's growing educational library.
- **Corporate Gifts** publicly identify your business with ARCSEA's mission.
- **Targeted Donations** can pinpoint funding of our manual or other efforts.
- **Volunteers** are the enthusiastic advocates that make it all happen.

New Orleans, LA. 1,000-gallon pillow installed under home in horizontal, wasted space; www.rainwaterpillow.com; submitted by Jim Harrington.



Left: Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science, University of California, Davis; 180,000 gallons rainwater storage; waterstorage tanksinc.com; photo by Harveyjack, wh2o. Right: Tucson, Arizona; 200-gallon rain barrel with rain chain; oasisrainwaterharvesting.com; submitted by Rick Weisberg.



San Francisco, CA. LEED Platinum home where rainwater gravity-feeds 100% landscaping (excluding synthetic turf). www.urbanfarmerstore.com; submitted by Jeff Parker.

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES

- First national rainwater-harvesting manual
- First national rainwater-harvesting design and installation standard - ARCSEA/ASPE/ANSI Standard 63
- Only national rainwater-harvesting accreditation program
- 1,500+ rainwater-harvesting workshops provided
- Members on all continents except Antarctica
- ARCSEA leads in development of national rainwater-harvesting standards and codes
- Memoranda of Understanding with International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, International Code Council, International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance, Irrigation Association, Canadian Association for Rainwater Management, Plumbing Manufacturers International, Florida Green Building Coalition, University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program, Texas Rainwater Catchment Systems Association, Cabell Brand Center and Santa Fe Community College

