

Rainwater use is an excellent environmentally friendly substitute to scheme water. Rainwater tanks continue to be a simple yet effective method to collect and store rainwater.



Harvesting and storing water in a tank is not only environmentally friendly, it also provides you with a personal supply of water for use during restrictions and helps to reduce your water bills. Rainwater from your roof can contribute to your yearly water needs and help conserve drinking water reserves, when you use rainwater for activities such as:

- watering your garden
- flushing your toilet
- washing your clothes
- washing your car

Living in an urban area increases the risk of pollution. Please consider this if you are thinking about drinking the rainwater.

Protecting the quality of water in your tank:

- Keep gutters and downpipes clear of leaves
- Remove overhanging branches and other potential bird perches
- Cover the inlet and overflow with mesh to prevent pest access
- Cover your tank to prevent light access which encourages bacteria and algae growth
- Allow the first downpour to rinse the roof and flush out the tank
- Prevent corrosion by ensuring the pipe-work is self-draining
- Maintain your leaf trap
- Service your tank every 10 years

Are rebates available?

Currently, there are no Western Australian State government rebates for rainwater tanks. Some local councils may offer sustainability rebates or offsets for the installation of sustainable products such as rainwater tanks.

Contact your local council for further information.

Please contact your local council prior to purchasing as council approval may be required to install a rainwater tank on your property.

Which tank is right for you?

- Consider the location. Where the rainwater tank will be placed will help determine the size and shape required.
- Decide which material is most suitable. The most common are plastic, stainless steel, galvanised steel, concrete and fibreglass.
- A full tank of water is useless if it is not distributed correctly. This may mean having it plumbed to your residence.
- Tanks are a considerable investment. Lifespan and warranty should be at least 20 years.

For further information, please contact your local council, or head to the Government of Western Australia Department of Water and Environment Regulation website:

<http://www.water.wa.gov.au/urban-water/water-recycling-efficiencies/waterwise-community-toolkit/rainwater>