Before you begin planning your system:
Review the rainwater harvesting fact sheets, *Rain Barrels and Cisterns*, *Rain Gardens, Managing Stormwater in Landscaping,* and *Pervious Paving,* downloadable from our Detain the Rain webpage: www.cleanwaterprogram.org/residents/detain-the-rain.

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 capture 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.

cleanwater PROGRAM

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.

Learn more about preventing water pollution and the Clean Water Program at www.cleanwaterprogram.org.

More Information

Clean Water Progam Alameda County
www.cleanwaterprogram.org/residents/detain-the-rain

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

Related Information

Bay Friendly Gardening
Gardening and landscaping practices that foster healthy soils, conserve water and prevent pollution.
www.bayfriendly.org
(510) 891-6500

The Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District
Mosquito breeding prevention tips.
www.mosquitoes.org
(510) 783-7744

cleanwater 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 Zone 7 Water Agency.



Detain the Rain

Your yard can make a difference for the Bay.

cleanwater PROGRAM

Protecting Alameda County Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay

Enhance Your Property and Protect Our Creeks and the Bay

Rainwater capture systems installed on your property can help reduce flooding and protect the water quality of your local creeks and San Francisco Bay. Landscape designs featuring rainwater capture systems retain water during a storm then slowly release the water over a period of time. These systems conserve water *and* reduce flooding, stormwater pollution and erosion, while protecting our local creeks and the Bay.

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