



rainwater harvesting systems



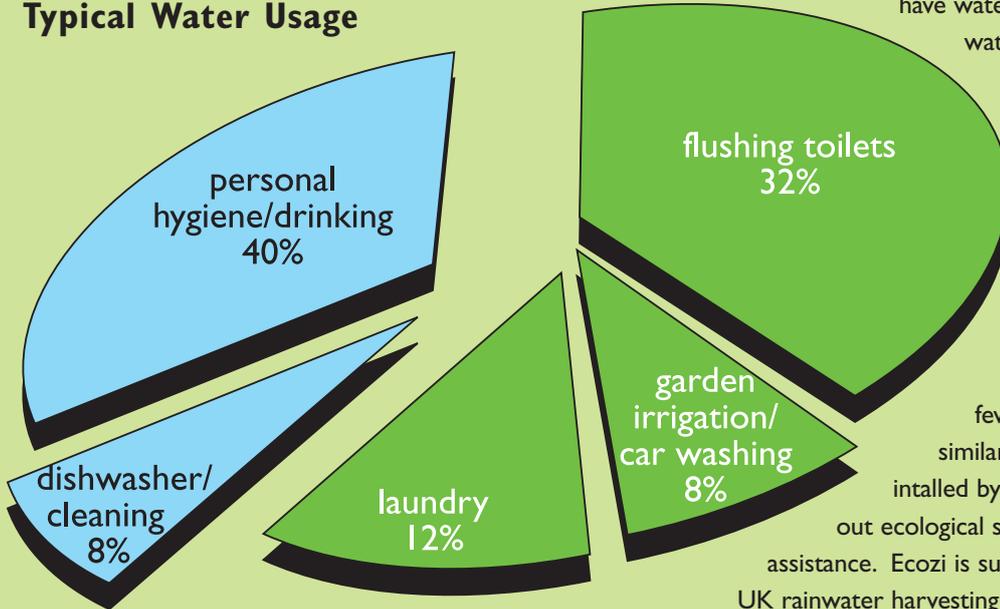
making the most of natural resources

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Rainwater Harvesting Systems

Ecozi distributes ASP-UWO rainwater harvesting systems, designed and built in Germany. In Germany all buildings have water meters and the cost of drinking water is relatively high when compared to the UK and around 50,000 buildings a year install rainwater harvesting systems. ASP-UWO were first to market in Germany and have been producing rainwater harvesting systems since 1988. Until recently rainwater harvesting in the UK has been reserved for just a few hundred homes a year and a similar number of commercial buildings, intalled by pioneering owners who searched out ecological solutions with limited help and assistance. Ecozi is supporting the market growth in the UK rainwater harvesting market with UWO solutions for residential and commercial buildings.

Typical Water Usage

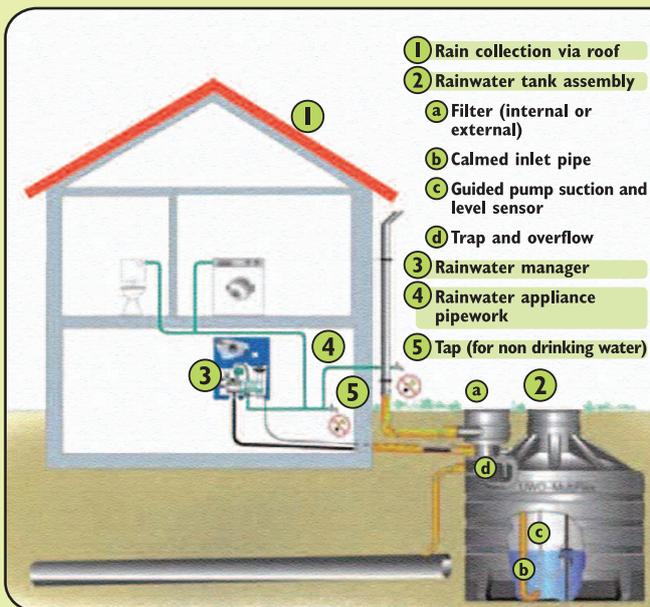


- drinking water
- replaceable by rainwater

Future Outlook

Rainwater harvesting is a simple process of a water collection and distribution system to reduce the demand for non-potable water and the impact on the environment. At the same time helping home owners and commercial property owners to make financial savings on rising water prices. Charges for potable water by volume and similarly, disposal of surface and dirty water in the UK is going to continue to increase annually above inflation. Water companies in England and Wales are now permitted to install compulsory meters according to their own policies. Rainwater harvesting can, in some cases, assist in alleviating urban flooding by the reduced deluge of storm water which is held in the tank. It would be prudent to take rainwater harvesting options into consideration now for all new buildings or major refurbishment works.

Private House Rainwater System



System Overview

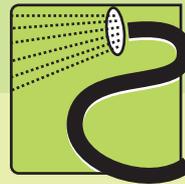
Rainwater harvesting, also referred to as water recycling, is the collection and storage of rain from roofs for future use. Water is collected from the roof via guttering, filtered and stored (usually in underground storage tanks) ready to use on non-potable water applications. A pumping and control unit manages the distribution of the water to the appliances and if the rainwater in the tank empties the supply automatically switches to mains supply until the next rainfall.

Domestic Solutions

UWO rainwater harvesting systems come pre-assembled and are easily installed by self builders or plumbers or groundwork contractors. Maintenance is low and the benefits are free water to provide approximately half of an average household's requirements. The tank size is dependent on the roof area and the annual rainfall. Usually only one of two tanks sizes are required for private homes. Rainwater harvesting supplies water for toilet flushing, washing machines, garden irrigation and vehicular washing. In the event of low rainfall the control unit automatically switches to mains water backup and after the next rainfall reverts to rainwater collected in the tank. When building a new home or a major extension, installation and disturbance costs are low providing the best financial return. Domestic systems can be shared between two households and used over four storeys.

Benefits

- Less environmental impact by reducing waste water
- Water savings of up to 50% when used for non drinking water applications
- Beats hosepipe bans for all year round garden watering
- Can assist planning applications in contentious locations or conditions
- Detergents are more effective for clothes washing when used with rainwater (soft water)
- Easier vehicular cleaning with soft rainwater by avoiding calcium stains



Commercial Solutions

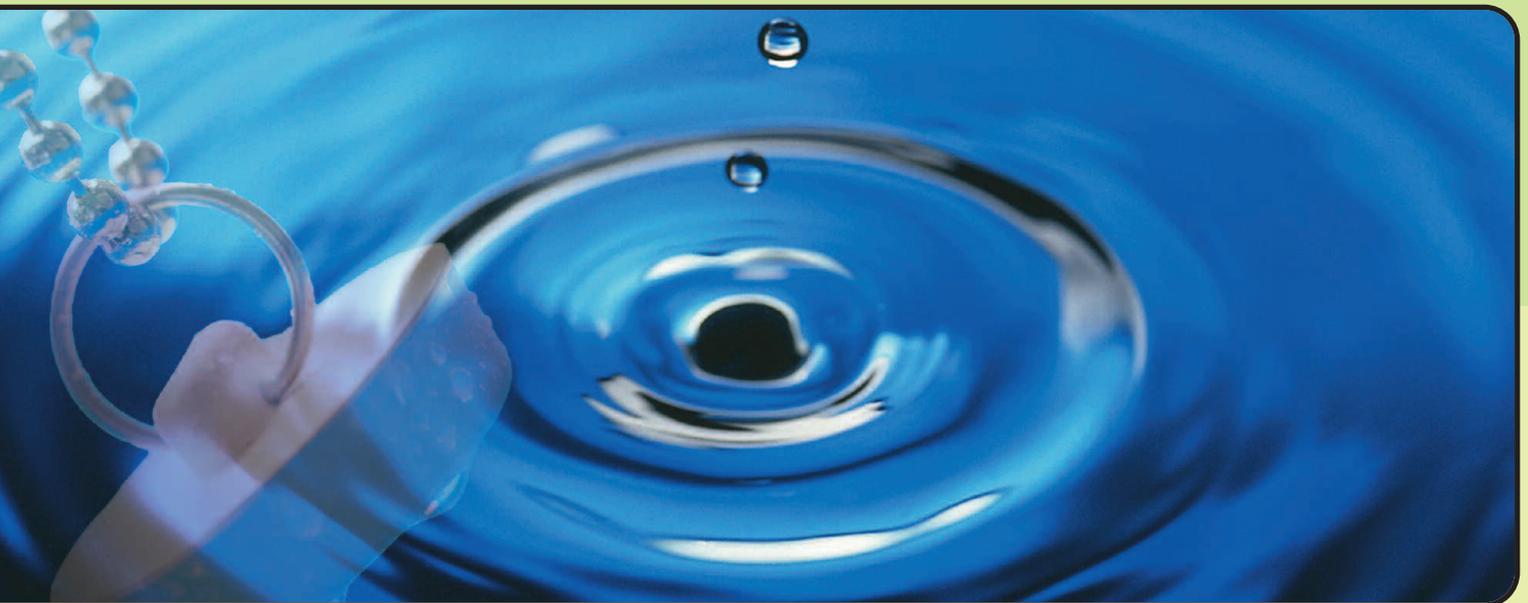
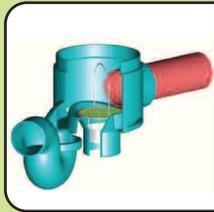
Commercial premises have a greater demand for non-potable water, particularly for cleaning and toilet facilities therefore offering the greatest financial savings. The larger roofs are able to collect significant amounts of rainwater which can lead to savings of up to 80% of the potable water used. More detailed analysis of the rainfall and consumption are required for commercial applications to correctly size the larger tanks. The pump and control unit for commercial applications are usually supplied with redundant heavy duty components and a much larger internal holding tank. Automatic switching to mains water during periods of low rainfall is standard. Building management services are also incorporated into bespoke commercial systems. Commercial rainwater harvesting systems are commonly used in new-build schools, public buildings, offices, industrial developments, supermarkets, nurseries and garden centres.

Benefits

- Less environmental impact by reducing waste water
- Savings on water costs of up to 80%
- Can assist with contentious planning applications
- Qualification for enhanced capital allowance scheme
- Good quality soft water for easier cleaning of vehicles and buildings
- Provides validation and promotion opportunity for 'eco' or 'green' businesses

Rainwater Harvesting Systems and Component Supply

Ecozi can supply complete systems pre-assembled for simple on-site installations and minimal service connections. Alternatively individual components such as filter technology or pumping and control units can be supplied to systems integrators or other suppliers adding value of their own. UWO have been producing premium rainwater harvesting systems since 1988. UWO products are designed to achieve maximum performance with low maintenance and safety in mind.



Whether you want to reduce water costs, help to create a more sustainable environment or construct sustainable buildings contact ecozi for advice on how rainwater harvesting could help meet your needs.

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