



Rainwater Harvesting

Presentation to the City of Parksville Council

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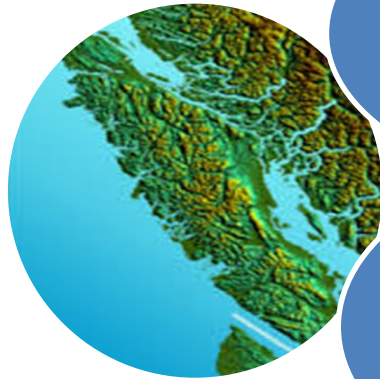
Why rainwater harvesting?

Eastern Vancouver Island gets limited rain in the summer months, but lots of rain in the winter.

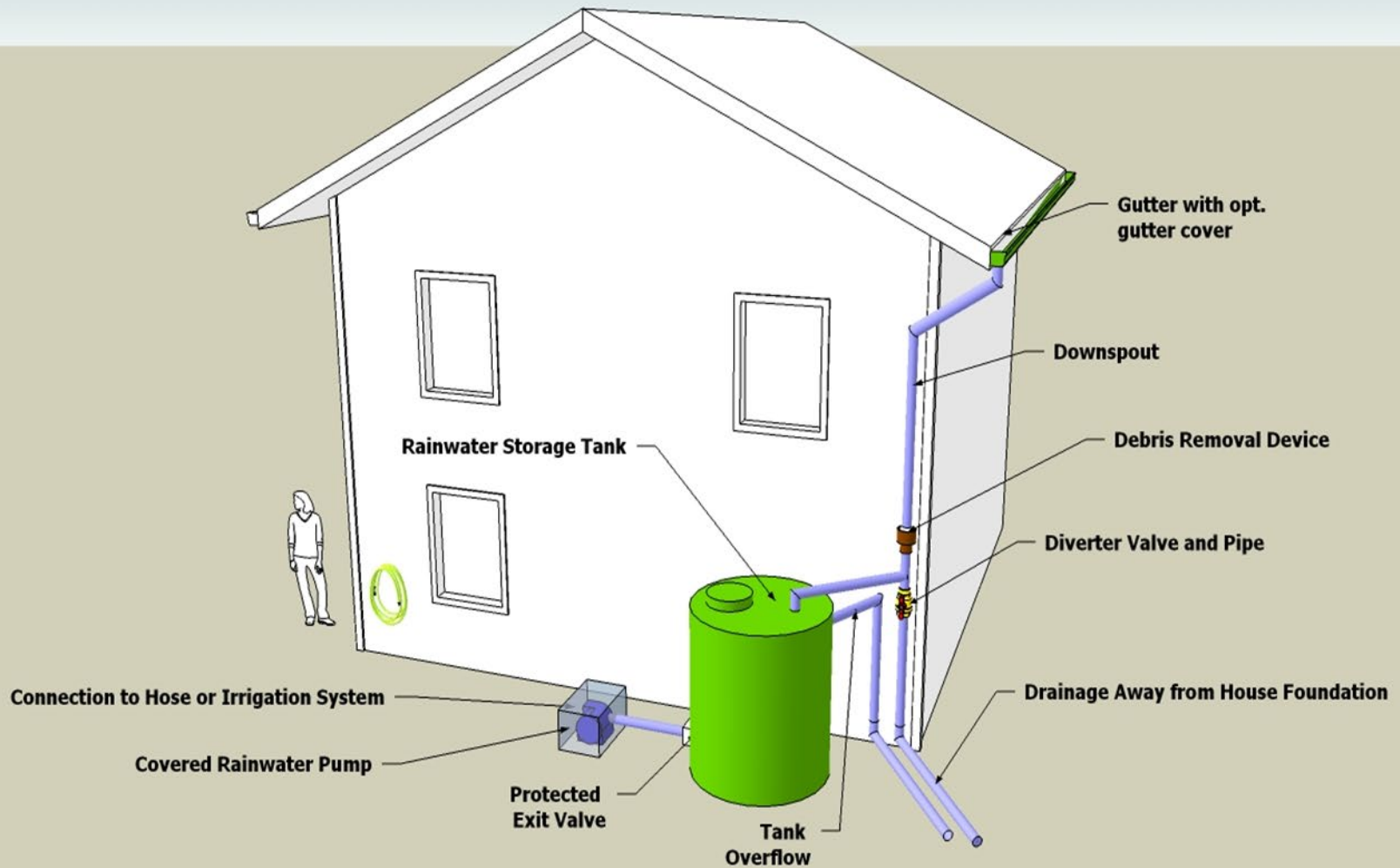
Not a lack of rain, but a lack of storage and timing.

Drier summers mean more stress on our municipal water system, local rivers & aquifers

Rain is free and storing it makes you resilient to drought!



What is rainwater harvesting?



The benefits...

Exempt from City water restrictions when using rainwater for outdoor watering.

Decreases peak water demand on the municipal water system.

You save money on your water bill.

Protect groundwater and river water when it is most stressed.



More benefits...

Rainwater is an ambient temperature and chlorine-free...plants love it.

Slows stormwater run-off.



Storage

Rain Barrel	Cistern
- Usually around 55 gallons (208 litres)	- 1000 gallons and up
- Smaller footprint (2 foot diameter) means it can fit on smaller lots	- Larger footprint (5 foot + diameter, 6-7 feet tall) means you need space to install it
- Relatively inexpensive (\$80- \$120)	- More costly (\$0.75 to \$1 per gallon)
- Won't last through the summer	- Lots of storage means you can harvest more and it will last longer



RDN Rebate for Cisterns

- Minimum 1000 imp. gallons
- CSA/NSF approved
- Tank installation best practices checklist
- \$750 rebate
- Offered region-wide



Other areas rebate / discount rain barrels

- Richmond Rain Barrel program
 - City offers discounted rain barrels for residents at \$30.
 - Residents purchase at the Recycle Depot.



- CRD Rainwater Rewards Program
 - Region offers rebate of 10 cents per litre up to 1000 litres.
 - Minimum 350 litres to qualify for the rebate.



Summary



- Rainwater harvesting makes sense.
- It really comes down to storage... the more you can store the better!
- Different ways to help promote among residents.

Questions?

Thank you!

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