

INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER CODE OF PRACTICE FACT SHEET

4. Rainwater tanks

Rainwater from roofs can be easily captured in tanks. Rainwater tanks can be used to maximise the reuse of rainwater, reduce potable water use and reduce flows from storm events into local waterways.

The Deemed to Comply Tool will calculate the best tank size for your site based on using 90% of the roof for catchment.

Rainwater tanks should be connected to as many uses as possible. As a minimum requirement rainwater tanks should be connected to toilets and outdoor taps used for irrigation of landscaped areas and wash-down areas that are not used for food preparation or where hygiene is a concern.

Where raingardens are proposed, the overflow from any rainwater tank should be directed to a raingarden for further treatment.

Rainwater tanks can also be “passive irrigation tanks” or “leaky tanks”. This is where the water is captured in the tank which slowly trickles into the landscaped or grassed area. The tank passively waters the landscaped area, slowly emptying which allows more space for another rainfall event without compromising other connected uses such as toilets. Care must be taken to ensure that the “trickled” stormwater from the tanks is effectively managed and controlled so it does not impact on neighbours or cause erosion.

Where rainwater tanks are proposed to be located on an easement, permission may need to be obtained from the relevant authority.

Design criteria

1. Use a suitably sized tank for your catchment need.
2. At least 90% of the roof area needs to drain to any rainwater tank.
3. Maximise the reuse of captured rainwater in your site.
4. Rainwater tanks must have an overflow.

