Performance Evaluation of Rainwater Harvesting Systems

Three rainwater harvesting systems were monitored, and using data collected, computer simulations were carried out to predict water conservation and stormwater management benefits. Monitoring sites included a commercial printing building, a high-rise residential building, and a public school, each of which housed underground cisterns to collect rainwater used for irrigation and toilet flushing.

Results were used to refine rainwater harvesting guidelines, create training and educational manuals, and create an open access costing tool.

Water Conservation
Systems supplied 59-79% of non-potable water in buildings

Guidelines Revision
Guidelines covering design and installation, as well as, inspection and maintenance

Water Quality Evaluation
Water quality suitable for non-potable use and visually comparable to municipal water

Education
Promoting broader use and more efective maintenance of rain-water harvest systems

Tool Development
Simple and easy to use tool to help design and cost out rainwater harvesting systems

Ryerson University Ryerson Urban Water

Toronto and Region Conservation for The Living City

Sustainable Technologies EVALUATION PROGRAM

For more information, click here.