

Rain Water Collection

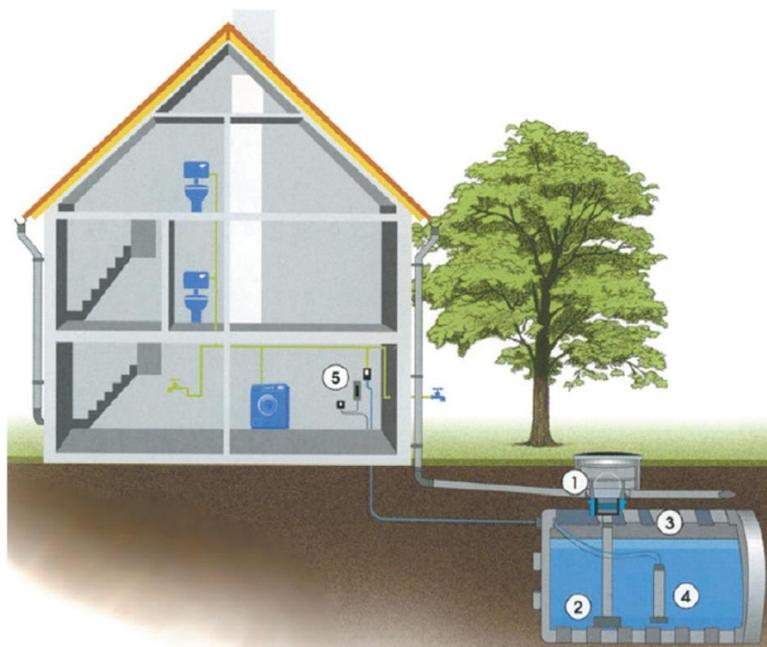


Image Courtesy of Freerain

What is it?

Our rainwater harvesting system provides us with water to flush our toilet. This is one of the biggest uses of water in the average home, accounting for approximately one-third of all water consumption.

Why is it important?

A system like this could reduce the water consumption in an average house by more than 50,000 liters each year – enough to fill 11 baths each week - just by providing water for flushing toilets. We also reduce the volume of water that flows into the drainage system when it rains, helping to reduce the risk of flooding.

How does it work?

Rain falling on our roof flows through the downpipe to a filter (1). It passes through an inlet (2) into a large reinforced recycled polyethylene tank (3) that has been installed behind the house under the ground. Clear water is then fed by a pump (4) to the toilet cistern when the management system (5) senses that the toilet has been flushed.

Water in the tank can also be used in the garden and could be used in our washing machine without further treatment.

At a glance

Annual Savings

Around £50 (metered)

37,000 litres

Costs from around £3,000

Our tank at Oak Tree House Tank has a capacity of 3,500 liters, is 2.3m long and 1.7m in diameter, and consumes around 15 Watts of electricity per flush



Rainwater tank being submerged at Oak Tree House

Step 4 – Rain water collection