



What you can do to manage rainwater sustainably:

Looking to resurface your driveway or patio?

- ◆ Consider permeable paving options

Starting a landscaping project?

- ◆ Consider a rain garden

Have a large garden and a big water bill in the summer?

- ◆ A cistern could help reduce your water costs

Planning a new building?

- ◆ Consider a green roof

Rainwater Rewards

Large roofs, parking areas, and other hard areas can have a significant impact on stormwater. Opportunities may exist to manage rainwater from these areas to help reduce this impact.

Rainwater Rewards have been designed to encourage property owners to consider rainwater management methods when undertaking other improvements.

Significant credits are available for properties like yours. Property owners can apply for up to 50% off their annual stormwater utility bill for effectively managing rainwater.

If you have already installed rainwater management methods, you may be eligible for a credit.

Applying for Rainwater Rewards

Doing work on your property?

Find out if a rainwater management method can be incorporated.

- ◆ Visit victoria.ca/stormwater to learn more and to use the Rainwater Management Planning Tool.
- ◆ Talk to a professional.
- ◆ Check with your property insurance provider to determine if installation of a rainwater management method will affect your policy.

Ready to Move Forward?

- ◆ Work with your professional and the stormwater specialist to develop a plan that will qualify for the Rainwater Rewards program.
- ◆ Submit the site plan to City Hall for pre-approval.
- ◆ Once approval is received, work can start.
- ◆ The stormwater specialist will help coordinate any required inspections.
- ◆ Once work is complete and final approval has been granted, the credit will be applied to your account.

Thank you for helping us steward the rain that falls in Victoria each year!

Stormwater Specialist:

250.361.0443 or stormwater@victoria.ca

Rainwater Rewards

For Your Apartment, Condominium, Institution or Business



Learn:

- ◆ About the benefits of rainwater management: rain gardens, cisterns, permeable paving and more.
- ◆ How to manage rainwater more sustainably on your property.
- ◆ How to apply for Rainwater Rewards:
 - Credits: on-going reductions of between 2.5% and 50% off your annual stormwater utility bill.



Why manage rainwater?

Rainwater management is about reintroducing the natural water cycle into our urban environment.

We can slow and clean the run-off from our properties by helping the rain soak into our soil, just like it does in natural landscapes.

Managing our rainwater more sustainably will assist in reducing flooding. It will also clean the stormwater, helping to clean and preserve our waterways and beaches.

Consider these approved rainwater management methods.

Cisterns

Cisterns or holding tanks collect rainwater for later use. They can be elevated, placed at ground level or buried underground. This non-potable water can be used for irrigation or to flush toilets.



Sizing: At least 25% of your roof must be treated

Approximate Cost: \$1,000 per 1,000 litres of storage

Credit: Up to 25%, depending on the area treated

Ease of Installation: Moderate

What it does: Collection and use of rainwater

Infiltration Chambers

Infiltration chambers are underground tanks or pipes with small holes that are designed to slowly release water through the ground and into the water table over time.



Sizing: At least 25% of your hard surfaces must be treated

Approximate Cost: From \$2,000 per 1,000 litres of storage

Credit: Up to 40%, depending on area treated

Ease of Installation: Moderate/Difficult

What it does: Slows, cleans and absorbs stormwater

Rain Gardens

A rain garden is a shallow depression that uses soil and plants to manage run-off from roofs, roads and driveways. You can improve the look of your property and help slow and clean runoff by incorporating rain gardens into your landscape.



Sizing: At least 25% of your hard surfaces must be treated

Approximate Cost: From \$200 per m² (\$19 per sq. ft.)

Credit: Up to 40%, depending on area treated

Ease of Installation: Moderate

What it does: Slows, cleans and absorbs stormwater

Bioswales

Bioswales are sloped channels that function like rain gardens. They also convey water across a site.



Sizing: At least 25% of your hard surfaces must be treated.

Approximate Cost: \$200 per m² (\$19 per sq. ft.)

Credit: Up to 40%, depending on area treated

Ease of Installation: Difficult

What it does: Slows, cleans, redirects and absorbs stormwater

Permeable Paving

Permeable paving can be used instead of asphalt or concrete for patios, sidewalks, driveways, or parking areas. It can improve water quality by slowing runoff and filtering out pollutants that would otherwise enter our local waterways.



Sizing: At least 25% of your hard surfaces must be treated

Approximate Cost: From \$200 per m² (\$19 per sq. ft.)

Credit: Up to 40%, depending on area treated

Ease of Installation: Moderate/Difficult

What it does: Slows, cleans and absorbs stormwater

Green Roofs

A green roof is a specially designed garden planted on your roof's waterproof membrane. Green roofs can clean and slow rainwater, while also absorbing some of the flow before it enters the stormwater system.



Sizing: At least 25% of your roof must be treated.

Approximate Cost: \$600 per m² (\$56 per sq. ft.)

Credit: Up to 30%, depending on area treated

Ease of Installation: Difficult

What it does: Slows, cleans, redirects and absorbs stormwater



Education

Educating employees and the public can help to increase awareness of rainwater management practices and the importance of managing rainwater more sustainably.

Institutions and businesses that participate in the Rainwater Rewards program are eligible for an education credit. Permanent signage must be installed to educate staff and visitors about the rainwater management method. Schools that integrate rainwater management into their on-going curriculum may also apply for credits.

Details: Education can include permanent signage or display boards.

Credit: Up to 10%

What it does: Raises awareness about sustainable rainwater management

Working with a Professional

All rainwater management methods for apartments, condominiums, institutions and businesses must be done by a professional. They will take you through the steps of planning, installing and maintaining a rainwater management method.

If you are interested in applying for the Rainwater Rewards program, your professional must follow the Rainwater Management Standards located on our website victoria.ca/stormwater.