

## Rainwater Catchment



Rain water from your roof can supply a significant amount of the water you use. If your roof is plumbed into a storage tank, you can get 600 gallons of water from every inch of rain per 1000 square feet of roof. Water use and storage in this way does not require a permit from any agency.

## Grey Water Systems

Grey water systems are now legal in California. You can add a lot to your garden productivity using your bath and laundry water. The plumbing is often quick and easy.

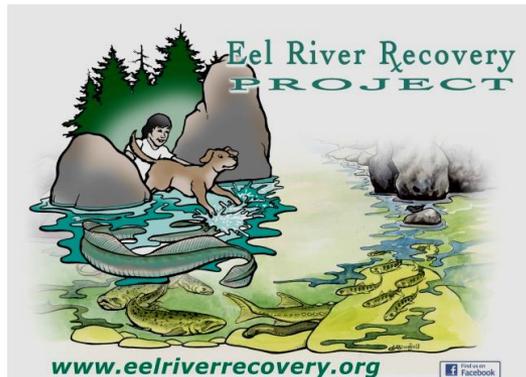


## Why Conserve Water?

Water is a finite resource. Only 2% of the world's water is fresh, clean water needed for human life. We need to treat it like it is precious. Water has been very abundant on the North Coast, but it is becoming more scarce and valuable. **You need a water budget** for security and economy. Diverting more water than you need wastes resources. Installing storage and conserving water can insure that you have water when you need it. If we all conserve, the Eel River can improve in health, which is important for community health and our quality of life.

## Learn More & Take Action

The Eel River Recovery Project has been working with Eel River watershed residents to implement water conservation and to reduce pollution associated with growing cannabis. Brochures, documents, and even videos can help you become a more sustainable farmer. Get more information at: [www.EelRiverRecovery.org](http://www.EelRiverRecovery.org)



## Water Security: Storage & Conservation Strategies



- **Rainwater Catchment**
- **Making a Water Budget**
- **Storing Water in the Ground**
- **Redundancy = Security**



For more information call 223-7200 or see [www.EelRiverRecovery.org](http://www.EelRiverRecovery.org)

## Water Meters



The first step to achieving water security is installing a water meter. You should have one for your house and another for your garden so that you know your domestic and irrigation water use. Make sure that you purchase a system with a leak indicator to prevent unneeded loss and water waste.

## Living Soils = Less Water Use



Plants co-evolved with soil organisms and living soils. For example, fungal mycorrhizae in a good home-made compost intertwine with plant roots and supply nutrients and water. You can cut your garden water needs and the amount of storage you need! Recycle your organic waste, save money, and grow better medicine.

## Redundancy for Security



Whenever multiple tanks are installed for water storage, each tank should be equipped with its own shut off valve. This prevents catastrophic loss of water, if one valve in the system is left open.

## Storing Water in the Landscape



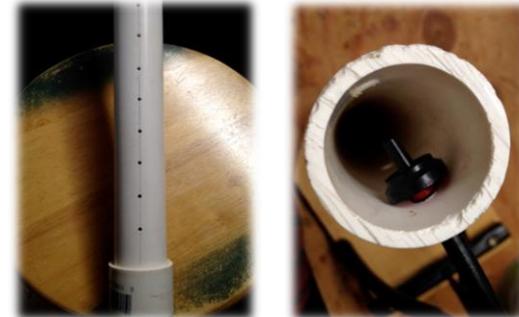
Recontouring your land and excavating a bioswale that is filled with organic matter can create an area of high soil moisture ideal for an orchard or for farming. This is also called permaculture. A geologist should be consulted before doing any large scale bioswale project to prevent mass wasting.

## Float Valve to Avoid Waste

Every water tank should have a float valve to shut off the intake and prevent overflow and waste. Water spilled below your tank can saturate soils and increase risk of slope failure. Leave as much water at its source as possible for Nature and your downstream neighbors.



## Deep Irrigation



Top watering your plants can often be very inefficient, especially if the soil dries out and becomes hydrophobic. Instead, you should deep water for maximum delivery to the root zone. Insert PVC pipe into the soil at the zone of root depth with small perforations to let water out. Feed water at the top with drip system as shown at right.