

## Rooftop Disconnections

Rooftop disconnections allow stormwater from rooftops or other impervious areas to be captured or diverted to a pervious surface. The most common examples include rain barrels or cisterns that capture stormwater from roofs for later use. Rain barrels are small, inexpensive, and best suited for small scale residential sites; cisterns are larger and can be installed above or below the ground depending on site conditions. Typical site locations are next to residential or commercial buildings. Rooftop drains can also be routed to infiltration areas (rain gardens, infiltration trenches, etc.) for percolation into the soil/groundwater.

### Advantages

- Inexpensive and easy to install
- Requires little maintenance
- Captures stormwater than can later be used for irrigation purposes
- Reduces stormwater runoff and related impacts from hydromodification

### Limitations

- Does not provide water quality treatment
- Limited storage capacity
- Installation of pumps and valves may be required to use stored water
- Insufficient maintenance can create a favorable environment for mosquito breeding and algae production



Standard above ground rain barrel

Photo Credit: hayneedle.com



Standard below ground cistern

Photo Credit: tank-depot.com