



# SILVERTHORN PLANS



## CREATING A RAIN WATER HARVESTING SYSTEM (RWHS) Why Install a RWHS?

The RWH system was designed as an ecologically friendly way to capture rain water and reuse it. Any rainwater that falls on our roofs, driveways and patios is captured in a reservoir and stored to be later used in a variety of ways. This revolutionary design combines a recirculating, decorative water feature with a sub-surface rainwater harvest storage system. You enjoy the benefits of a decorative water feature and the rain exchange system filters the stored water to prevent stagnation and growth of unhealthy bacteria. It eliminates unsightly above ground storage tanks and by locating and storing the water underground you maintain the integrity and beauty of your home and landscape.

### Benefits of a RWH System?

As we become more environmentally aware, the world is realizing that a current challenge is to improve the planet's water quality. We are wasting a lot of good fresh water in the form of rainwater. This water can be utilized by individual families. The water can be used to irrigate lawns and flower beds. Rainwater is extremely rich in nutrients and thus reduces the need for fertilizer use. Wash vehicles, patio's and decks; flush toilets, do laundry, top off pools and hot tubs and so on. Also we are putting a huge burden on our city's storm/sewage water systems. By capturing this Rainwater we can save good water and lessen the pressure on our municipal facilities. In some countries around the world it is now becoming mandatory for new home builds to capture their rain water. Capturing rainwater as an alternative source of water creates true self-sustainability, drastically reducing the need for chemically-treated traditional water sources. Traditional ways of rainwater harvesting do not add beauty or value to your home. Maintenance is very low on these installations.

### How does it work?

Rain water is captured from roofs by the eaves trough downspouts and directed into a large reservoir filled with aquablox and encased by liner and underlay. The decorative water feature on top of the reservoir can be an individual's choice from patios, walkways, and even driveways to bubbling rocks, fountains or spitters. Permeable pavers allow any water that lands on them to filter down into the reservoir below. There are pumps placed in the reservoir that allow for pressurized water to be used for various functions and to run any water feature on top.

### How to start

Determine what type of water feature and what type of capturing unit would best fit your home. Calculating how much water you would like to store at any given time will help to determine the size of the reservoir required. Installation instructions and calculation charts are available. Call Silverthorn for more information and to see a RWH system set up and currently in use.

The most important aspect to consider when building a RWH System is where to place it. If you have chosen to build a water feature on top of the reservoir then where will you get the most enjoyment out of the water feature? Where will you be able to see it most and hear that wonderful calming sound? Can you see it from inside the home and therefore enjoy it even when it's too cool to sit outside? A great way to determine the best location is to use a garden hose or landscape marking paint. Outline the proposed area with the hose or spray the grass with the can. Then step back and look at it from your patio and from inside your home. Will this location afford you the most enjoyment of the feature? How much space do you have to work with?

Do you have access to hydro or can you get hydro to the area?

**Take the time to do some research.** Look at different designs and styles and see which ones suit your taste, budget and purpose.

Once you decide on size and location, then we can help you determine the products you will require.

**Getting your products:** Will you be picking them up or getting them delivered? Either way, it is important to come in or call us ahead of time to ensure we have the products in stock and/or a delivery spot available for you.

It is recommended to have a professional install your RWH system.