



Thinking Beyond Pipes and Pumps: Look to the Sky—Rainwater as the Source

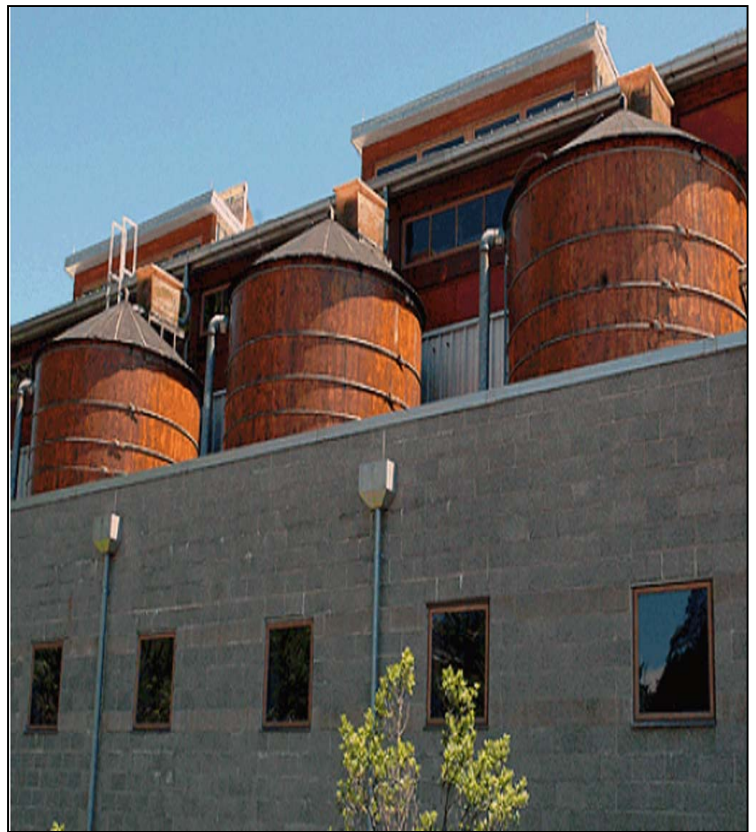
An excerpt from the EPA Rainwater Harvesting Handbook

Philip Merrill Building, Annapolis, MD

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's headquarters is a LEED® Version 1 Platinum certified building.

Rainwater from the roof is collected in three exposed cisterns located above the entrance. Roof runoff passes through roof washers before entering the cisterns; following the cisterns the water is treated with a sand filter, chlorination, static mixer, and carbon filter prior to reuse. The building uses composting toilets, so the reused water is used for bathroom and mop sinks, gear washing, irrigation, fire suppression, and laundry.

The building's design allows for a 90% reduction in potable water use with 73% of the water used within the building supplied by the cistern collection system.



Sources:

Kloss, Christopher. *Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure Municipal Handbook Rainwater Harvesting Policies*. EPA (2008). <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/gi_munichandbook_harvesting.pdf>