

American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA)

Professional Programs

**Introductory Course
Certified Associate Program
Accredited Professional Program
Design and Construction Workshop
Inspection Specialist Program
Rainwater Harvesting Master Program**

Introduction to Rainwater Harvesting

ARCSA's Initial Course "Introduction to Rainwater Harvesting" is designed to educate professionals, regulators, decision makers, business and home owners, and other individuals interested in the process of planning and constructing an effective, safe rainwater collection system that meets the needs of the client.

This one-day, 6 -7 hour course provides an overview of rainwater harvesting and its uses and applicability to conserving rainfall as a natural resource. Participants will be introduced to the concepts and techniques for harvesting rain passively in rain gardens, green roofs and proper landscape design, as well as the use of more complex active systems using a catchment container. Course content covers the design and installation of catchment systems from the roof to the faucet, with discussion on optional uses—both outdoors and indoors, potable and non-potable—of this precious resource.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$75 per person

Registration: www.arcsa.org

Required CEUs: None. Participation does not count toward ARCSA's professional certification programs; however, other professional organizations may consider the workshop for CEU credits.

ARCOSA's Certified Associate (CA) Program

ARCOSA's "Certified Associate" (CA) Program recognizes those individuals in the rainwater harvesting industry in a support roll who have taken the time and effort to understand the importance, complexity, process and the health implications involved in rainwater harvesting and use. The Program is also open to the public and any industry professional in sales or related businesses to the rainwater harvesting industry that are pursuing a greater understanding of rainwater harvesting. The workshop is required for those seeking ARCOSA CA designation.

This 6-8 hour workshop covers water issues, supply and demand calculations, tank sizing, material and location options, conveyance and delivery of water to its intended use and use options. Also water quality concerns for intended uses are covered along with national codes, and restrictions. Courses sponsored by BRAE will receive 6 CEUs towards AIA annual requirements.

Prerequisite: None to take the workshop. To receive the CA recognition the following are required:

1. ARCOSA Membership
2. Completion of the one day (6-8 hour) CA Workshop
3. Application and Testing Fee
4. Completion of and a 70% passing score on the 50 question CA test

Workshop Cost: \$200 per person

Application and Testing Fee for CA : \$75 per person

Registration: www.arcsa.org

Required CEUs: To continue receiving this designation CA's must maintain ARCOSA Membership and submit 2 CEUs annually with a \$25 administration fee.

Accredited Professional (AP) Program

ARCOSA's "Accredited Professional" (AP) Program is designed to recognize professionals in the industry who have achieved an advanced level of competence in designing and installing rainwater harvesting systems. Individuals who do not have the experience required to be an "Accredited Professional" will be assigned the title "Accredited Associate" until they submit information on five (5) systems they have designed and/or installed before being upgraded to "ACCREDITED Professional". Out of the 5 systems one can be a rainbarrel, one can be the ARCOSA D&C Workshop, and at least one system has to have a pump. A rain garden does count as one system provided the roof area, soil type, and garden size is submitted along with appropriate calculations for determining the size. Three (3) systems must meet the ARCOSA/ASPE/ANSI 63-2013 Standard; it is up to the applicant to state how the system meets the Standard. ARCOSA's Accredited Professional Workshop is open to the public and any industry professional pursuing greater understanding of rainwater harvesting. The workshop is required for those seeking ARCOSA AP designation.

This two-day course provides an in-depth review of rainwater harvesting design and installation; outdoor and in-home rainwater use; sanitation for potable uses; rules, regulations, guidelines and restrictions; business management; project planning; site and installation safety; and system construction and maintenance.

Prerequisite: None to take the workshop. To receive the AP recognition the following are required:

1. ARCOSA Membership
2. Completion of the two-day AP Workshop
3. Participation in the design and/or construction of five (5) rainwater harvesting systems
4. Application and Testing Fee
5. Completion of and a 70% passing score on the 100 question AP test

Workshop Cost: \$395 per person

Application and Testing Fee for AP: \$150 per person

Registration: www.arcsa.org

Required CEUs: To continue receiving this designation an AP must maintain ARCOSA Membership and submit 4 CEUs annually with a \$25 administration fee.

Design and Construction Workshop

ARCSA's "Design and Construction" Workshop is a requirement for the Rainwater Harvesting Master designation or Inspection Specialist designation. Individuals seeking the "Accredited Professional" (AP) designation are also encouraged to attend, but it is not a requirement to be an AP. The workshop is open to all individuals interested in improving their design and construction skills.

The two- to three-day workshop will assist designers and construction workers in installing safe, effective, and efficient rainwater collection systems that meet the goals and needs of the client. Instruction is mostly in the field, with minimal classroom time.

The course outline includes:

- Design and site plans, bids, and contracts
- Calculating size, friction, and volume needed to achieve goals
- Constructing an effective above ground systems as a team—from the gutter through the tank and pump for the desired usage
- System components including downspouts, wet and dry systems, air-gap, back flow prevention, first flush, calming inlet, adding make-up water, connections, and pumps
- Systems constructed for outdoor and indoor non-potable uses

Prerequisite: None to take the workshop. However, it is recommended the AP workshop has been completed. This workshop will count as one system toward the five systems required for the AP recognition.

Workshop Cost: \$395 per person

No Testing

Registration: www.arcsa.org

No Required CEUs

Inspection Specialist (IS) Program

ARCOSA's "Inspection Specialist" Program is an advanced rainwater harvesting specialized course open to the public or any industry professional. This 5-6 hour workshop is designed to give attendees the tools needed to make rainwater harvesting system inspections. Participants will review parts of rainwater harvesting system, study how to develop an initial assessment of the system, fill out an inspection checklist while making the initial visual inspection of a system and making follow-up inspections. The workshop will additionally go over a checklist that evaluates a system from sizing, condition, and function from roof to end use. Students will learn how to review codes and work with system owners/managers to insure proper function and maintenance of a system.

Prerequisite: Completion of ARCOSA's Accredited Professional workshop and Design Construction Workshop is recommended as a pre-requisite to this course, as it provides in-depth instruction on the calculations, material and specific parts that will be inspected in this workshop. To receive the IS recognition the following are required:

1. ARCOSA Membership
2. Recognition as a current ARCOSA Accredited Professional or ARCOSA Rainwater Harvesting Master and have completed the ARCOSA Design Construction Workshop
3. Completion of the 5-6 hour IS Workshop
4. Application and Testing Fee
5. Completion of and a 70% passing score on the 50 question IS test

Workshop Cost: \$195 per person

Application and Testing Fee for IS: \$50 per person

Registration: www.arcsa.org

Required CEUs: To continue receiving this designation an IS must maintain ARCOSA membership and submit 2 CEUs annually with a \$25 administration fee. Retesting/Recertification required every 3 years.

Rainwater Harvesting Master (RWHM) Program

ARCOSA's "Rainwater Harvesting Master" (RWHM) Program is designed to recognize Accredited Professionals who continue to increase their knowledge and skills to a much higher degree and have proven they are leaders in the rainwater harvesting industry. This is the highest designation offered by ARCOSA.

Prerequisite: Current requirements for the "RWHM" designation are as follows:

1. ARCOSA Membership
2. ARCOSA current Accredited Professional (AP) designation
3. 42 hours of additional instruction/CEUs above the AP designation
4. Complete the Design and Construction Workshop
5. Completion and passing of the Design and Construction take-home problem (a blind committee will grade). The design must be submitted within 60 days of the Design and Construction Workshop or receiving the design problem.
6. Completion of and an 80% passing score on the closed book RWHM test.

Note: Applicants for RWHM designation must meet all requirements, except the five design/construction projects, before they take the RWHM test. Applicants will have up to five years after attending the Design/Construction Workshop to complete all the RWHM requirements.

7. Complete the design and/or construction of five (5) acceptable (no rainbarrel systems allowed) systems that meet the ARCOSA/ASPE/ANSI 63-2013 Standard; it is up to the applicant to state how the system meets the Standard. These additional five rainwater collection systems need to be designed by the applicant after receiving the Accredited Professional recognition.

No Additional Workshop

Application and Testing Fee for RWHM: \$150 per person

Registration: www.arcsa.org

Required CEUs: To continue receiving this designation a RWHM must maintain ARCOSA membership and submit 8 CEUs annually with a \$25 administrative fee.