American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association

.. August 2013 E-News ..

ARCSA Congratulates the Newest Professional Designation Recipients!

Accredited Professionals
Curt Dyer
AB Walters

Accredited Associates
Brian Morgenroth

Call for New ARCSA Board Members / Membership Expiration

Ever thought about serving on the ARCSA Board of Directors? Now's your opportunity! If interested, please email your bio as soon as possible to info@arcsa.org. The application deadline is August 31, and electronic voting will begin September 1.

A member may vote in person or by written proxy executed by the member or the member’s attorney-in-fact. All proxies must be in writing, must bear the signature of the member giving the proxy, and must specify the date on which they are executed. No proxy shall be valid.
Rain Collection: Affordable Conservation
The Llano News

Reduce your water bill with a rain barrel
Gene's Green Scene

Buildings without rainwater harvesting systems to lose water connection
The New Indian Express

ROLL OUT THE BARREL: Free rain barrels an effort to control storm water runoff
Press and Journal

Grand Prairie Farmers Market - Rain Barrel: Make it and Take it
Moon Lady News

Groundwater table likely to go up
The Times of India

Find us online!

Join Our Mailing List!

Not a Member?
Try out ARCSA membership with a FREE 30 Day Trial Membership!
Join ARCSA

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ARCSA Will Attend GreenBuild This Year

ARCSA will be attending GreenBuild this year and will have our three banners on display. If any members are going, and would like us to set up at their booth and help promote, please contact us at info@acrsa.org.

Greenbuild Nation 2013 is being held November 20-21 in Philadelphia at the Philadelphia Convention Center. The USGBC's Conference & Expo is the world's largest conference and exposition dedicated to the green building industry. This event is your opportunity to connect face-to-face with over 25,000 attendees and over 900 exhibitors! Over 15,000 attendees register for the expo hall only!

ARCSA's First Formal Project Awards Program!

The "Rain Catchers Award" has been established to recognize the industry leaders in designing and installing rainwater collection systems. The committee will be looking at how a system integrates the management of all runoff along with a properly designed system that meets water quality requirements of the use of the collected rainwater.

We know there are many high quality systems installed all across North America and judging will be hard but this will not only allow ARCSA to showcase some of the best of the best but also recognize members who are on the leading edge of the rainwater harvesting industry.

Winners will be recognized and they will have an opportunity to describe the installation during the national conference and be recognized on the ARCSA website. Please click here for full eligibility and application details.

after (11) eleven months from the date of its execution. If you will NOT be attending this year's ARCSA conference and will need someone to vote in your stead, please complete this Proxy form.

In an ongoing effort to ensure your ARCSA membership is renewed before it's expiration date, please check your renewal date by logging into your online account.
Welcome New Members!

Colorado
Julia Murphy

Florida
Doug Johnson

Hawaii
Christin Reynolds

Illinois
Bob Dahlmann

Mississippi
George Kahrs

New York
Jeremy Hellman

Oregon
Thomas Bennett

Texas
Johannes Kuhn
Chad Parsley
Don Pitts

Virginia
Wyndham Price
William Rhoads

2013 ARCSA National Conference
Registration Now Open!
Preliminary Schedule Online!

ARCSA is teaming up with the Irrigation Association for the 2013 ARCSA Annual Conference and Tradeshow at the Austin Convention Center.

When
November 5-7, 2013
(Education offerings on 11/4 and 11/8, must register separately)

View preliminary conference schedule here

Where
Austin Convention Center
500 E Cesar Chavez St, Austin, TX 78701
TEL: (512) 404-4000

Hotel reservations will be available from May 1, 2013
To make reservations, please use the links below:

ARCSA Attendee
ARCSA Exhibitor

Download the Individual Housing Form here

About the Conference
This year’s conference is the first of its kind for ARCSA. ARCSA is excited co-conference with the Irrigation Association (IA) national conference and tradeshow. The ARCSA/IA conference collaboration promises to bring the highest quality speakers and seminars to our members, as well as more exposure for our exhibitors than any other ARCSA National Conference and Tradeshow to date.

View additional conference information here

Registration
Now Open
Make sure to indicate if you are an ARCSA Member upon registering to receive your discount!

Registration Fees for 2013 ARCSA Conference:

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<tr>
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<th>ARCSA Member</th>
<th>Non-Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>* early (before Oct 4):</td>
<td>$265.00</td>
<td>* early (before Oct 4): $390.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>* regular/on-site:</td>
<td>$320.00</td>
<td>* regular/on-site: $445.00</td>
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Call for Exhibitors
2013 Exhibitor Prospectus
2013 Irrigation Show Exhibitor Contract
Want to Help Out?
We are looking for ARCSA Members to serve on the Conference Committee to help with planning.
Contact Russ Jackson at russ@rainharvest.com if you would like to join!

View our Conference webpage for additional information

Submit Your Entry in AGUA's Rainwater Harvesting Design Competition

San Antonians of all ages are encouraged to submit entries in our Roots of Change Rainwater Harvesting Design Competition. Contestants will design a system that collects rainwater from rooftops of a local non-profit facility and irrigates the adjacent community gardens.

This friendly contest is open to the general public, as well as design professionals, and is intended to call attention to the need to protect America's waters while simultaneously heightening awareness of environmental justice issues in a community context. Six cash awards of up to $500 each will be given.

Please visit the website here to get more details and learn the important dates of participating.

.. ARCSA Inspired ..

Struggle for Legitimacy
by Kevin Mercer, BA. MA

I was very pleased when ARCSA Executive Director Heather Kinkade agreed that it was long overdue that rain barrels be given more prominence on the ARCSA web site. However, it was an acknowledgment that came with mixed emotions for me as a manufacturer of residential scale stormwater systems.

While rain barrel programs are a staple of practically every stormwater program, two recent professional seminars brought home just how great a challenge we face as an industry.

The first - the Florida Stormwater Association's (FSA) MS4 permit compliance refresher seminar. As many of you are aware, MS4 compliance has predominantly shifted to cities and counties. Local policy
and planning staff now need to understand low impact development policies, how to implement low-impact redevelopment programs and to evaluate the performance effectiveness of stormwater ponds when seeking to achieve MS4 permit compliance.

Will the FSA course planners include rainwater harvesting in their box of LID stormwater management tools? Will they recommend cities and counties adopt mandatory lot level rainwater harvesting? Will participants learn how rainwater harvesting outperforms stormwater ponds?

I'll bet they won't. And here's why.

The second seminar description - A new way of stormwater management: applying asset management to stormwater programs.

We can pretty much predict, that of all the LID policy and asset purchase planning discussed, not much thought will be accorded to the utilization of residential property rain harvesting. More consideration will fall to green roofs than rainwater harvesting.

It is plain that rain harvesting is not top of mind for front-line stormwater LID planners. And that means that we have a problem.

Stormwater planners do not consider mass residential scale rain harvesting worthy of investment. They view residential rain barrels as a cheap and cheerful education and outreach tool, not as a viable infrastructure asset.

This devaluation of rainwater harvesting reflects a lack of design and performance standards. What other industry association accepts clearly inferior products to stand as the most common public representation of its trade? To the general public, rain harvesting is a re-purposed waste drum with barely functional elements. Imagine the permeable paver industry association being unconcerned about a majority of their products not infiltrating?

Is it any wonder our industry fails to gain traction and advance technologically? The consumer market is continually flooded with products designed without regard for reliable operational management. We must nurture rain harvesting, at any scale, as reliable cleantech systems that can be managed as stormwater assets. The time is long overdue for best practice standards for rainwater harvesting product's use in municipal MS4 stormwater programs.

Furthermore, it is time for ARCSA to speak up about improving the rainwater harvesting industry's contribution to national stormwater management policy objectives, especially at the residential property-scale, where the rain falls.

Kevin Mercer, a self-described LID geek, is president of RainGrid Inc.-an LID stormwater technology company.

kmercer@raingrid.com
A Whole House Potable Water System
by Jim Harrington, Rainwater Collection Solutions, Inc.

The City of Atlanta recently passed an ordinance allowing rainwater catchment systems for single family residential potable use. It is an exciting step for a region with so many water issues.

Our company has installed the first potable rainwater harvesting system under the new ordinance. The client had experienced problems with the quality of the municipal drinking water at their previous home and felt that the only way to be sure what was coming out of the faucet was to harvest their own rainwater. Installing a potable water rainwater harvesting system put them in control of the water quality in their home.

A 4,600 gallon custom size Original Rainwater Pillow is installed in a finished crawl space and only occupies 25% of the available space in the area. The pillow is located in the rear of the crawl space behind the homes utilities in order to still maintain a large storage area. Since the floor was sloped, a deck was installed to level the pillow area.

The home’s new gutters direct the 980 gallons the rainwater from 1 inch of rain to 300 micron down spout filters. The water fills a 16 gallon first flush separator before flowing into the pillow. The first flush drains between rain events into a garden area. Additionally water and debris that passes through the down spout filters is also directed to garden areas around the home. By combining the passive and active rainwater harvesting techniques, we have been able to eliminate storm water runoff from almost all rain events.
The stored rainwater in The Original Rainwater Pillow is treated by aeration jets and filtration on a daily basis. This insures that the water is held at the highest quality before further treatment and use.

The system uses a 28 gallon per minute demand pump strong enough to provide water to a second story shower, sink, and toilet simultaneously. The rainwater is filtered to exceed potable water industry standards by using a three stage filtration system followed by 32 gallon per minute UV Light treatment. The result is water filtered to .5 microns and disinfected above potable water requirements. The pump is controlled by a pressure switch set between 30 and 50 PSI and includes a 20 gallon pressure tank to reduce cycling.

This system provides a constant source of exceptional quality water for all of the homeowner’s needs.

To learn more about The Original Rainwater Pillow, please visit the website at http://www.rainwaterpillow.com

Read the complete City of Atlanta ordinance here: http://tinyurl.com/m7y24aq

.. Professional Development ..

Missed an ARCSA Webinar?
Purchase Archived Webinars in the ARCSA Store
ARCSA has archived past webinars in our online store for your convenience. These are available at a cost of $20 each. View and purchase webinars here>>

ARCSA Workshop
ARCSA Accredited Professional (AP) Workshop

ARCSA's "Accredited Professional" Workshop is a two-day, in-depth rainwater harvesting course required for those seeking ARCSA Accredited Professional (AP) status.

This course provides attendees with knowledge for rainwater harvesting design and installation for both outdoor and in-home rainwater use; sanitation for potable uses; rules and regulations, guidelines and restrictions; business management; project planning; site and installation safety; and system construction and maintenance.

This workshop fulfills the requirement for non-LEED specific CEUs in the Water Management category of the LEED Credential Maintenance Program. It may also count toward the categories of: Project Site Factors; Project Systems and Energy Impacts; as well as Acquisition, Installation and Management of Project Materials.

The course will follow the Texas AgriLife Extension "Rainwater Harvesting Planning" manual, which is included in the cost.

September 18, 2013 - September 19, 2013
9:00 AM PDT - 5:00 PM PDT
City of Vancouver Water Resources Education Center
4600 S.E. Columbia Way Vancouver, WA 98661

For more information and to register, please click here.

ARCSA Webinar
Already Capturing Rainwater, Why Not Measure It?
"Already Capturing Rainwater, Why Not Measure it as Well?" will be presented by Henry Reges of CoCoRaHS National Coordinator and Colorado State University. CoCoRaHS (The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network) a simple, low-cost national volunteer precipitation monitoring network is now in its fifteenth year. It has become the largest single source of daily precipitation measurements in the country.

Find out more about the network, how it relates to rainwater harvesting and how you can participate and contribute to helping map the nation's rainfall.

September 17, 2013
4:00 PM EDT - 5:00 PM EDT

For more information and to register, please click here.

ARCSA Workshop
ARCSA Rainwater Harvesting Design & Construction (RWHDC)

ARCSA's Design and Construction Workshop is a requirement for the "Rainwater Harvesting Master" (RWHM) designation. Individuals seeking "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 2-3 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.

October 13, 2013
9:00 AM PDT - 5:00 PM PDT

For more information and to register, please click here.

RWH Workshops and Accreditation Courses
2013 Workshop Schedule
The Great Recession and Drought Conditions Forced this ARCSA Member to Rethink his Landscaping Career

The Great Recession and drought conditions combined, forced this new member of ARCSA, Willie Valdez, to rethink his 35 year long career as Landscaper. He knew it was time for a change when the conspiring events wore him out. He laid down his pick n shovel for the last time.
After some serious soul searching he decided to use all his years experience in the landscape business to come up with something to ease him out of his lifelong passion.

He quickly discovered a unique way out. As the patent holder of the new Drain Guardian device, a product that has many positive uses especially for those in the Rain harvesting industry... See it here and help him get it to the market.

By twist if fate he entered it to a Walmart get on the shelf contest and was selected to compete for a shot selling the product to the public via Walmart.

You can help him get back on his feet again, simply by viewing here and voting or go to www.freeflowproducts.com.

Landscaper fights for new life...
33 years at Pick-n-Shovel
Leads to new opportunity ...


**MEMBER BENEFIT:**
The Discussion Forum is Back!
**ARCSA Members Can Post Questions & Comments**

ARCSA's members-only Discussion Forum is loaded with information, is the place to ask a question of the experts, and for the expert members to provide advice. The questions and answers are both monitored to maintain high quality discourse.

**How do you access the Discussion Forum?**
1) ARCSA Members - Log in at arcsa.org
2) In the Member Service Menu, click on the "Discussion Forum" tab.

**There are currently three Forums and many topics within those forums:**

- What's Your Opinion? - Facts & views on rainwater subjects
- Rainwater System Design, Products & Services - Find solutions
- How Can We Improve ARCSA - Help to make ARCSA a better organization

The Discussion Forum is a framework for monitored, professional dialogue and debate. After your entry is posted, the administrator will either respond or find an expert to weigh in on your question or comment.
Make sure to click on the red "RSS" tab if you want to be notified of new posts.

**ARCSA Members**
**Join a Committee!**

Interested in joining an ARCSA Committee?
Contact the committee representative for the particular committee you are interested in:

- **Educational Committee** - Contact Tim Pope at water@interisland.net
- **Legislative Committee** - This committee needs leadership. Contact Heather Kinkade at heather.kinkade@arcsa.org if you are interested
- **Conference Committee** - Contact Russ Jackson at russ@rainharvest.com
- **E-news for Certified & Accredited Professionals** - Contact Eddie Craig at epcraig@msn.com
- **Vendor Webinars** - Contact Jack Holmgreen at jholmgreen@sparkletap.com

If you would like to start a new committee, please contact info@arcsa.org.