How to look after your rainwater
Rainwater is good to drink and tastes nice if the water is clean. This booklet is about how to look after your rainwater system and what to do if something goes wrong. If you look after your rainwater system, the water should be safe to drink.
The roof catches all the rain which is stored in the tank. Any rubbish on the roof will make the water dirty.

Clean the roof and gutters. Take out leaves and big things like rocks and balls that may block up the gutters.
There are two mesh inserts inside the small tank that need to be hosed clean after there has been lots of rain, or after a very long dry. Before cleaning make sure the small tank is empty.

The dirty water in the small tank needs to be let out every 6 months.

To empty small tank turn the lever at the top of the valve.

Be careful. The water comes out very fast!
Pipes and Tanks

The water from the tanks goes to the pump through an underground pipe. Stop the water when work is being done on the pump.

To stop water, turn the handle anti-clockwise.

When the work on the pump is finished, re-open the handle.

To start the water, turn the handle clockwise.

This screen stops mosquitoes getting inside and breeding in the tank.

If there is a hole in the screen it must be replaced. Keep kids away from these screens. Most of them break because kids have poked sticks through the mesh.
There are two filters – a carbon one that looks like fishnet and a ceramic one that looks like a block of white powder.

Take out the filters by unscrewing the filter holder with the circular cartridge handle.

If the carbon filter gets blocked or looks orange – put in a new one.

If the ceramic filter looks orange, clean it with a green scourer pad or rub it under water with your hands until it is white again. Put in a new one every year.

The carbon filter must be on the left and the ceramic filter must be on the right. Don’t forget to fit the little black ‘O’ Ring inside the top of the filter holders.

The ‘O’ Ring stops water leaking out.
Treatment

Filter 1 carbon
- position handle
- unscrew filter holder
- remove and check filter
- replace OK
- clean filter holder with sponge
- put-in filter and ‘O’ ring
- position filter holder and handle
- screw on tight

Filter 2 ceramic
- position handle
- unscrew filter holder
- remove and check filter
- clean filter with green scourer
- clean filter holder with sponge
- put-in filter and ‘O’ ring
- position filter holder and handle
- screw on tight
Looking after your rainwater system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>every week</td>
<td>check mosquito stoppers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>every 6 months</td>
<td>change filters that can’t be cleaned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>every year</td>
<td>change ceramic and carbon filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>after big rain or long dry</td>
<td>empty the small tank and clean mesh inserts</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

What you need

- Philips head screwdriver
- Ladder
- Circular cartridge handle
- Scourer pad
- Shifting spanner

Filters can be bought from:
Freshwater Systems Australia Pty Ltd
107 Sir Donald Bradman Drive
Hilton SA 5033
Ph 08 8351 7800
Fax 08 8351 8033

Ceramic filter replacements cost $68* each
Carbon block filters cost $33* each

The pump is a Grundfos Pump.
Grundfos pumps Pty Ltd
515 South Road
Regency Park SA 5010
Ph 08 8461 4611
Fax 08 8340 0155

*Cost are approximate only

The third tap at the sink is the rainwater tap. If the water flows really slowly, the ceramic filter needs cleaning or to be replaced.
If the tap leaks or is broken contact the community council or the housing officer.