



Rainwell Waterscapes are interactive, indigenous landscapes, which take roof rainwater on a playful, educational and environmentally responsible journey.

Roof rainwater is harvested, then stored in a Rainwell Waterseats before a hand operated water pump draws and spills rainwater onto a meandering watercourse to a swale, or raingarden.

The Rainwell Waterseats is a rain tank cleverly concealed in an outdoor seat to become an attractive and functional feature. Constructed using sustainably managed Australian Jarrah, its magnificently rich coloured grain, durability and smooth finish makes it ideal for outdoor seating and an activity platform.

The 400/600 litre tank can be connected to a downpipe or existing water tank for rainwater supply. Rainwater release can be regulated to share water activities between rainfalls. An empty tank then captures stormwater for more activity, and will help reduce flood risk and waterway damage when storms occur.

The classic, cast iron hand water pump's simple and robust design is easily maintained. Using it requires technique and action to get the water flowing - an experience shared with many children in remote villages around the world.

Filling buckets and watering cans requires teamwork and brainstorming to pump the desired measures, and carrying their containers to sand pits for experiments or, watering garden beds can be fun and challenging.

Hand pumping from storage is not endless. Children will discover the connection between rainfall and water supply, enlightening them to water conservation.

The watercourse's natural stream-like setting and meandering course through splash pools is an inviting amenity for children to play, learn and develop an appreciation for our natural environment. Watercourse activity may include finding and making objects to float, filling and emptying splash pools, making dams, getting wet, keeping dry and more...

When the children return indoors the watercourse comes alive again with wildlife, such as birds, enjoying a drink or bath in the splash pools - another natural spectacle for the children to enjoy. On warmer days, evaporation will cool the area, and the splash pools will dry out to prevent mosquitoes breeding.

Swales and raingardens are an attractive way to improve the health of the environment. They slow down and reduce stormwater runoff and thus help prevent flooding and erosion in our waterways. In addition, the free-draining soil and plants filter pollutants in rainwater, which helps maintain healthy ecosystems, required for good fish stocks and water activities. For more information visit: <http://raingardens.melbournewater.com.au/>

An indigenous bushland garden set in and around the Rainwell Waterscape can provide habitat to attract wildlife, such as insects, birds and lizards. Children will be given the opportunity to let their senses discover nature's continuous display of colour, movement and life.

Understanding, valuing and practicing conservation will ensure the health of our natural environment, and can save money through reduced energy, water consumption and maintenance.

Funding grants may also apply.

For more information, or to arrange a site visit contact: Garry Baker • 0434 433 377 • garry.baker@rainwell.com.au

