

## Terms and conditions

The following terms and conditions apply to the NSW Home Saver Rebates – Rainwater Tanks. The applicant should read them carefully before signing the application form. If you are a Sydney Water customer you need to apply for the NSW Rainwater Tank rebate on a Sydney Water application form. Contact Sydney Water on 13 20 92 for details.

### APPLICATION

Any application for a rebate must be submitted on an official 'Rainwater Tank Rebate application form' and must be approved by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW (DECCW) before a rebate can be issued.

### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a rebate, the applicant must be either an owner of the residential property where the tank is installed or a tenant with written permission from their landlord, complete an official 'Rainwater Tank Rebate application form' and attach a copy of the receipt(s) for the purchase and installation of the rainwater tank(s). The receipt(s) must be in the applicant's name. DECCW must receive the application within six months of the date your rainwater tank is installed or no later than 5.00pm on 30 September 2011 (whichever is sooner). The applicant must have installed a rainwater tank(s) that:

- was paid for in full and installed on or after 1 July 2007 and on or before 30 June 2011
- has a minimum total capacity of 2,000 litres (note: this capacity must be reserved for rainwater only and excludes any capacity reserved for top-up with town water supply)
- is new
- is covered by a minimum 12 month warranty
- is installed in New South Wales for residential use only
- is used solely for the collection and storage of rainwater for use on the site (rainwater is water collected from roof guttering and downpipes)
- is connected to an appropriate roof area
- meets all relevant standards, the *NSW Code of Practice for Plumbing and Drainage*, backflow prevention and local council and water utility requirements
- has all associated plumbing work completed by a licensed plumber
- is not a stormwater retention tank(s) that is designed only for stormwater management. This type of tank is not eligible for this rebate. Rainwater tanks which store water solely for firefighting purposes are also ineligible.

The total sum of payments you are receiving (from local, state and Australian government rebates) cannot exceed the total cost of your installed rainwater tank(s).

From 15 January 2010, the total amount of NSW Home Saver Rebates a household can receive must not exceed \$1500 per property.

### BASIX

Rainwater tanks installed to comply with BASIX (the Building Sustainability Index) for new homes, major renovations or a pool installation are not eligible for a rebate. Visit [www.basix.nsw.gov.au](http://www.basix.nsw.gov.au) for more information.

### BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Your rainwater tank installation must meet the requirements of the *NSW Code of Practice for Plumbing and Drainage (2006)*. The code specifies that where a rainwater tank installation has been designed and installed to allow a connection with the town water supply, the following backflow prevention is required:

#### a. Containment protection

A containment protection device is a backflow prevention device installed at the water meter(s) at the property boundary to prevent backflow to the town water supply from within the property. This device is required on all properties where a rainwater tank has a top-up from or interconnection to the town water supply. Table 1 outlines the specific requirements for containment protection devices.

Table 1: Containment protection requirements for residential properties

| Rainwater tank location   | Meter size (mm) | Type of backflow prevention  |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Above ground              | = or > 20       | Dual Check Valve (combined with meter) (non testable device)   |
| Fully or partially buried | = or > 20       | Dual Check Valve with Atmospheric Port (where this is not available in the required size, a testable backflow prevention device must be installed) |

To assist residents to comply with this requirement, your local water utility may provide a new water meter with a backflow prevention device. Contact your local water utility for further details.

Please note that applicants with properties where the water meter is more than 25mm, regardless of whether the rainwater tank is installed above or below ground, will be responsible for the installation of an appropriate backflow prevention device, which must be fitted by a licensed plumber. This may be the case with some medium density or high rise properties. Contact your local water utility for further details.

Applicants with properties on the town water supply that don't have a water meter on the property (this includes properties that share a water meter with other dwellings), should contact the local water utility to confirm their requirements.

#### b. Zone protection

A zone protection device is a backflow prevention device installed at the connection to specific sections of a plumbing system within a building or facility. This device is required when there is an interconnection between the rainwater tank service and the town water service supplied from a local water utility. Table 2 outlines the specific requirements for zone protection devices.

Table 2: Zone protection requirements for residential properties

| Rainwater tank location   | Meter size (mm) | Type of backflow prevention            |
|---------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Above ground              | = or > 20       | Dual Check Valve (non-testable device) |
| Fully or partially buried | = or > 20       | Dual Check Valve (non-testable device) |

### WATER UTILITY APPROVAL

When your rainwater tank is connected to the town water supply, the local water utility may need to inspect the rainwater tank to ensure that the installation meets their requirements. On receipt of your rebate application, we will notify your local water utility that a tank has been installed at your property. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the rainwater tank and installation meets local water utility requirements.

### ONGOING OPERATION OF TANK

The rainwater tank must operate on the property for a period of five (5) years after installation. On provision of reasonable notice from DECCW, the applicant will allow an authorised inspector access to the rainwater tank to conduct audits to ensure its continued operation.

### RESEARCH

For the first five (5) years following installation, rebate recipients may be asked to participate in DECCW research about water efficiency and rainwater tanks.

### SOLE REBATE

DECCW will only issue one (1) rainwater tank rebate per property.

### REFUND OF REBATE

Applicants may be required to repay the rebate if they make a false declaration and/or any of these terms and conditions are found to have been breached in the first five (5) years after installation of the rainwater tank.

DECCW reserves the right to conduct field inspections to verify installations.

Applicants agree to repay any rebate received in the event that the eligible rainwater tank is returned to the place of purchase.

### PROGRAM CHANGES

DECCW reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion and at any time, to change any or all of the terms and conditions of the rebate program or to cancel the rebate program prior to 30 June 2011. Applications must be received by DECCW prior to any published termination date for the rebate program. The terms and conditions are available on DECCW's website [www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au).

### LIABILITY

The applicant acknowledges and agrees that as far as the law permits, DECCW (and its successors) accepts no liability in respect to any claim, cause of action or loss or damage arising out of, or in relation to, any rainwater tank, rainwater tank system or the consumption of any water from such rainwater tank or system that is the subject of funding assistance. The applicant agrees that they will indemnify and keep indemnified DECCW from any claim or liability arising out of, or in relation to, the rainwater tank system that is the subject of this application to the extent that any claim or liability is not caused by DECCW's negligence or breach of this application or any other term implied by law.

### PAYMENT

Payment of approved rebates will be by direct deposit into the bank account nominated on the application form or by cheque made payable to the applicant as identified in the application form.

### PRIVACY NOTICE

DECCW collects and manages the personal information you provide in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*. DECCW collects this information to determine whether your application is eligible for a rebate. Your personal information will be provided to the Australian Government as a matter of course to ensure that the total of government benefits you receive does not exceed the total cost of your installed rainwater tank.

Information collected by DECCW may also be disclosed to the Department of Planning for the purpose of checking the eligibility of your application against any BASIX requirements for your property and to DECCW's banking service provider for payment of the rebate. Your details will usually be provided to your local council or water utility for the purpose of enabling inspection of your new rainwater tank installation.

The provision of this information is voluntary, however DECCW will not issue a rebate to an applicant who refuses to provide information or agree to the disclosure of their details to the above agencies. You have the right to access and correct any of your personal information once we have collected it, at any time.

If the information provided by the Australian Government, Department of Planning and/or councils indicates that you are not eligible, then DECCW will not pay the rebate or may seek reimbursement of any rebate paid.

For further information or enquiries regarding privacy or access to your information, contact an FOI/Privacy Officer on 9995 6080 or 9995 6497 or in writing to FOI/Privacy Officer, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW, PO BOX A290, SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1232.



Save water and up to \$1500

## NSW CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

# Rainwater Tank Rebate application form

## NSW Home Saver Rebates

For details of other NSW Home Saver Rebates and application forms visit:

[www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates)  
or call the Environment Line on 1300 361 967

### Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW

59-61 Goulburn Street, Sydney

Phone +61 2 9995 5000 (switchboard)

Fax +61 2 9995 5999 TTY +61 2 9211 4723

Email [rebates@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rebates@environment.nsw.gov.au)

[www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au)

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DECCW 2009/346 | January 2010



# NSW Home Saver Rebates

The NSW Government's Climate Change Fund is helping business, households, schools, communities and government save energy, water and greenhouse gas emissions.

It includes \$170 million for rebates to help households make their homes more water and energy efficient. Rebates are available for hot water systems, hot water circulators, rainwater tanks, water efficient washing machines and dual flush toilets.

Up to 40% of a household's water use can be replaced with rainwater.

The purpose of the NSW Rainwater Tank Rebate is to save town water by encouraging householders to install a tank to collect rainwater to flush toilets and wash clothes. The rebate is scaled so that the highest rebate is available for tanks which are connected to a toilet and washing machine.

| TANK(S) CAPACITY                   | REBATE |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| 2,000 – 3,999 litres               | \$150  |
| 4,000 – 6,999 litres               | \$400  |
| 7,000 litres and above             | \$500  |
| Plus connection to toilet(s)       | \$500  |
| Plus connection to washing machine | \$500  |

## Eligibility criteria

The NSW Rainwater Tank Rebate is available for the installation of any new rainwater storage system for a residential property. It must have a minimum 2,000 litre capacity and be purchased in full and installed between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2011.

Households **not** connected to the town water supply are eligible for a rebate for the purchase of the tank only.

Rainwater tanks installed to comply with BASIX (the Building Sustainability Index) for new homes, major renovations or a pool installation are **not eligible** for a rebate. Visit [www.basix.nsw.gov.au](http://www.basix.nsw.gov.au) for more information.

If you install more than one tank, it is the combined size that counts. The National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative is also providing households with rebates for rainwater tanks and greywater systems. Visit [www.environment.gov.au/rebates](http://www.environment.gov.au/rebates) for information.

The total sum of payments you are receiving (from local, state and Australian government rebates) cannot exceed the total cost of your installed rainwater tank(s).

From 15 January 2010, the total amount of NSW Home Saver Rebates a household can receive must not exceed \$1500 per property\*.

## Local planning regulations

The rules covering installation of rainwater tanks vary in different council areas. Generally tanks with a capacity of 10,000 litres or less do not need council approval. However your council may have specific requirements for installing the tank, including size, colour and distance from neighbours' boundaries.

Contact your local council to find out about planning and building requirements in your area before you install a rainwater tank.

## Tank installation and connection

Rainwater tank connections to the toilet or washing machine must be undertaken by a licensed plumber and meet requirements under the *NSW Code of Practice for Plumbing and Drainage*.

The licensed plumber will need to sign your rebate application form to confirm that the tank has been professionally installed and complies with the regulations. Contact your local water utility for details about plumbing requirements including backflow prevention devices, town water top-up and first flush devices.

Many local water utilities require an inspection of rainwater tank plumbing. Your plumber is required to notify the local water utility on completion of rainwater tank plumbing work.

On receipt of your rebate application, we will also notify your local water utility that a tank has been installed at your property. If applicable, the local water utility will arrange an inspection with you. The inspection would cover internal plumbing, backflow prevention, town water supply top-up and the tank overflow system. If the tank has not been correctly installed your local utility and/or council may request that it is removed.

## Applying for the rebate

You apply for the rebate after your tank has been installed and any plumbing work is completed. You will need to:

- + agree to the terms and conditions of the rebate offer
- + complete and sign the application form
- + ensure a licensed plumber has signed the form if the tank is connected internally and/or tops up from the town water supply
- + provide a copy of the plumbing receipt(s) if the tank is connected to town water supply, toilet or washing machine
- + attach a copy of the receipt(s) demonstrating proof of purchase and installation and clearly indicating payment in full has been made.

### Forward the application form and receipts to:

NSW Home Saver Rebates – Rainwater Tanks  
PO Box A290 | Sydney South NSW 1232.

Applications must be received within six months of the date your rainwater tank is installed or no later than 5.00pm 30 September 2011 (whichever is sooner).

## When will I receive the rebate?

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW will acknowledge receipt of your application and provide an estimated turnaround time. Most rebate payments are made within 60 days of receiving the completed application form and receipt(s), subject to verification of your application details.

\* The \$1500 household cap only applies to the NSW Home Saver Rebates and does not include other local or Australian government rebates or NSW Government rebates claimed prior to 15 January 2010.



# Rainwater Tank Rebate application form (continued)

## 3. RAINWATER TANK DETAILS

Q1. Tank volume (in litres):

Q2. Estimated roof area connected to rainwater tank (in square metres):

Q3. Is the tank above or below ground?

Above  Below

Q4. Purchase date:

Q5. Installation date:

Q6. Is your property connected to the town water supply:

Yes  No

Q7. Will the tank be 'topped up' from the town water supply?

Yes  No

Q8. Has a plumber connected this tank to a toilet and/or washing machine?

Toilet  Yes  No  How many?

Washing machine  Yes  No  How many?

If you answered Yes to questions 7 or 8, a licensed plumber must complete Section 4 of this form.

## 4. LICENSED PLUMBER'S DECLARATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

If you answered Yes to questions 7 and 8 your plumber must complete this section.

Company name:

Plumber's name:

Plumber's licence number:

Plumber's contact number:

I certify that I have done the plumbing work required to connect the rainwater tank supply on this property to a toilet and/or washing machine, and/or to install a backflow prevention device and/or to install a top-up to the tank from the drinking water supply and this has been done in accordance with the applicable plumbing guidelines for the installation of rainwater tanks.

Signature:

Date:

## 5. PROPERTY OWNER'S DECLARATION (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND CONFIRM BY SIGNING BELOW)

I declare that:

+ I am the owner/tenant (delete one) of the residential property where the rainwater tank(s) is/are installed

+ my tank(s) is/are already installed

+ I have checked with my local council and my rainwater tank complies with requirements

+ I was not required to install this rainwater tank to comply with BASIX requirements

+ I have attached a copy of the receipt(s) for the purchase and installation of my rainwater tank

+ I also declare that: (tick one box below)

**EITHER**

a)  the total payments\* I am receiving do not exceed the total cost\*\* of my installed rainwater tank

**OR**

b)  I request a reduced payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as my NSW rebate, so that the total payments\* I am receiving do not exceed the total cost\*\* of my installed rainwater tank

+ I have not claimed more than a total of \$1500\*\*\* in NSW Home Saver Rebates since 15 January 2010

+ I have read, understood and I accept the terms and conditions of the rebate program

+ the information in this application is complete, truthful and correct.

\* Includes payments from the NSW and Australian Government's rebates and any local government and/or water authority incentives.

\*\* Includes the purchase, delivery and installation costs of your new rainwater tank and connections.

\*\*\* A cap of \$1500 per household applies to all the NSW Home Saver Rebates. For example a household might claim a \$150 washing machine rebate, \$150 hot water circulator rebate and a \$1000 rainwater tank rebate. The total NSW Home Saver Rebates claimed is \$1300 which is below the \$1500 household cap. The \$1500 household cap only applies to the NSW Home Saver Rebates and does not include other local or Australian government rebates or NSW Government rebates claimed before 15 January 2010.

**NOTE:** Receipts must be in the applicant's name. Receipts which do not clearly demonstrate proof of payment in full are not acceptable.

Signature:

Date:

