

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

*31 JANUARY 2008*

**HOUSEHOLDERS THIRSTY FOR PEACE OF MIND TURN TO  
BONUS RAINWATER SAVER GUIDE**

Australians suffering under water restrictions and wanting to harvest rainwater in their own backyard will be able to pick up a Bonus 2008 *Rainwater Consumer Guide* with the March issue of *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine, at selected newsagencies from 6 February.

The no-fuss 42-page Guide, updated since its first release in October last year, will be attached to the March issue of *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine and available at leading newsagencies, Newlink and Newspaper's extensive network of newsagencies throughout Australia.

The Guide is an easy tool to enable Australians to cut through the 'flood' of information about harvesting rainwater and make the right choice when looking into sustainable water options for their home.

Developed by the Australian Rainwater Industry Development Group (ARID) and the Master Plumbers' and Mechanical Services Association of Australia (MPMSAA), the Guide was first released in 2007 with over 70,000 Australians rushing to access a copy through NewsPower and online.

Offering practical advice, tips on harvesting rainwater and using rainwater products, the Guide is a must have for any water user who is considering or currently using a rainwater harvesting device within their home.

*The Guide* walks consumers through the options for installing rainwater tanks such as utilising above or below ground tanks, planning the distribution of water throughout your home and useful tips on selecting the right pumps and filters to correctly manage collected rainwater.

Consumers unsure about the amount of rainwater they will be able to collect will also find the Guide useful, with practical tips on working out your expected rainfall collection based on your collection area and where you live.

The Guide also includes an ARID member directory, a state-by-state guide to government rebates and regulations for new homes.

ARID Chairman David Beattie says the success of the Guide in 2007 made it clear that Australians are serious about doing their bit to save the earth's most precious resource – water.

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“The decision to purchase a rainwater tank is not only a personal commitment to addressing the water crisis we now face, it is an acknowledgement that we can all start to address this national issue from our own backyard.

“We wanted to produce a comprehensive consumer guide filled with expert advice from ARID members, with their many years of service in the water industry, to help consumers make the most of new domestic rainwater technologies”, said Mr. Beattie.

MPMSAA CEO Ray Herbert says the Guide has also played a part in educating home-owners who may be unaware of the increasing financial and practical benefits of a rainwater harvesting system.

“With most states and territories of Australia now offering rebates and incentives for installing rainwater harvesting systems, there is no better time for consumers to begin to manage their own water supply.

“Simply by installing a rainwater tank, a typical family of four can collect enough rainwater for all of its laundry or toilet flushing use for a year, representing significant water savings - equating to an average of 45,000 litres per year per household,” said Mr Herbert.

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