



**Rainwater
Harvesting**
A U S T R A L I A

A DIVISION OF IRRIGATION AUSTRALIA

Business Plan 2024 - 2026

Who are we

**We are the peak national organisation representing the Rainwater Harvesting Industry.
We provide resources and knowledge to promote the advancement of rainwater conservation and work with all levels of government and industry for preservation of our future water supply.**

Vision

**Harvest water to build a sustainable
and resilient Australia**



Rainwater Harvesting Key Messages



Rainwater Harvesting Works

Rainwater Harvesting is the only solution that delivers demand management, drought response, disaster resilience, flood management, stormwater pollutant and volume controls and water for urban cooling and groundwater replenishment. Rainwater tanks are a low cost, easily sourced Australian made product.

Resilience

Rainwater harvesting for most buildings is a basic building block of resilient cities. In natural and other disasters, the rainwater tank is a local water source that cannot be hacked, works without electricity and keeps filling up again.





Building and Planning Regulation

Australians need nature-based solutions to build sustainable communities. Rainwater harvesting is an important element of land use planning policies and building controls at every level of government. Rainwater Harvesting Australia (RHA) should be represented on working groups developing rainwater and stormwater related policies and regulation.

More rain falls on our cities than we use from our dams

An amazing amount of rain falls on our cities but most of it goes to waste or even does harm.

Sydney Harbour contains about 500 billion litres of water. Almost two “Sydney Harbours” of rain falls on Sydney each year. Sydney Water provides a bit more than one “Sydney Harbour”

In urban areas we can store rainwater for simple household uses, watering a vegetable garden, flushing toilets and washing clothes. We can use stored rainwater to cool our cities, green our gardens and replenish groundwater starved by urban concrete. In rural areas most people use rainwater for all their household water needs.





Rural Rainwater Harvesting

Nearly 2 million Australians drink rainwater every day and rely on rainwater as their main source of water.

Capturing and using resources at the source, as rural communities have done for over two centuries, allows regional areas to thrive and has supported our agricultural and farming communities.

Strategic Focus Areas 2024 - 2026



Policy and Regulation



Communication and Engagement



Industry Advocacy and Networking

The strategic focus areas will be guided by dedicated working groups, overseen by the RHA Committee. These groups will actively involve IAL members and other industry stakeholders to achieve beneficial results for both the rainwater harvesting sector and the broader Australian community.

Policy and Regulation

Purpose

Proactively leading the development of a national rainwater harvesting policy and its integration into building and plumbing regulations and standards. By engaging with key decision-makers and influencers of policy, we aim to promote sustainable water management practices and drive widespread adoption of rainwater harvesting solutions.

Activities for 2024

- National Rainwater Harvesting Policy
- ABCB and NCC2025
- Standards Australia and AS3500
- BASIX Review

Communication and Engagement

Purpose

Ensure that our industry stays informed, engaged, and actively involved in our initiatives. We strive to effectively communicate our key messages and activities to decision-makers and influencers. Additionally, we aim to enhance awareness of our association, achievements, and policy initiatives, thereby encouraging participation from industry professionals, decision-makers, and the broader community.

Activities for 2024

- New RHA website
 - Key Focus for 2024
 - Determining the appropriate technical infrastructure and content management system
 - Design and Development of website structure and content
 - Budget and Funding

Industry Advocacy and Networking

Purpose

To facilitate connections and nurture relationships among professionals, businesses, and stakeholders within the industry. By bringing together thought leaders and industry stakeholders, it aims to lead advocacy for significant industry issues, advance regulatory changes, and enhance engagement and participation.

Activities for 2024

- National Industry Event
 - Leveraging the success of Rainwater Resilience Industry Event 2023
 - Networking with key stakeholders and thought leaders within the industry, as well as in the broader building and water policy space
 - Raising awareness of our industry, emphasising our key messages, influencing decision-makers, and advocating for transformative change
 - Informing the industry of the association's activities and accomplishments, highlighting how they can contribute, and secure their commitment to supporting the association

2024 - 2026 Roadmap

2024

2025

2026

Policy and Regulation

- Develop National Rainwater Harvesting Policy
- NCC2025
- AS3500
- BASIX review
- WTS for Switching Devices

- Rainwater Harvesting Policy communication
- WTS for Switching Devices

- Rainwater Harvesting Policy into regulation
- NCC2028 engagement

Communication and Engagement

- New RHA Website

- Industry and Member Communication across website, email and social media
- Develop Training program

- Industry and Member Communication across website, email and social media
- Launch Training program

Industry Advocacy and Networking

- Annual National RHA Event

- Annual National RHA Event

- Annual National RHA Event

Rainwater Harvesting Committee



Jackie Hammond
RHA Chair
CEO, Blue Mountain Co



Michael Smit
RHA Deputy Chair
RHA Policy & Regulation
Working Group Lead
Technical and Sustainability Manager,
Kingspan



Anant Yuvarajah
RHA Secretary
RHA Communication & Engagement Working
Group Lead
Director, ASC Water Tanks



David Beltrami
RHA Treasurer
General Manager, Beltrami Group



David Cameron
RHA IAL Representative
CEO, Irrigation Australia



Stuart Heldon
RHA Committee Member
Business Unit Director, Kingspan



Andrew Murray
RHA Committee Member
Sales Manager, White International



Jonathan Fitzgerald
RHA Committee Member
Technical Development Manager,
Davey



Michelle Kramer
RHA Committee Member
General Manager Sales and Finance,
Q Tank



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