

## H<sub>2</sub>O Pure Plus? Right as Rain

It might be hard to believe, but West Burleigh Master Plumber Kevin Venville has been installing grey and black water treatment and re-use systems throughout Australia for more than 20 years.

In Victoria, more than 80 homes and a public toilet block in one small town have them, and they're working as well now as when they were installed.

The water quality from both the grey and black (toilet) water is of a "potable" standard, exceeding the quality you'd get out of a mains connected tap.

The installations prove beyond doubt, the economic and environmental feasibility of decentralised water supply systems and the stupidity of barriers to their use throughout Australia.

Venville has installed more than 200 of his natural water treatment and re-use systems, the latest in suburban Brisbane, and a rural hotel in the Gold Coast hinterland, which now has aqua clear creek water for its customers, instead of the tannin stained fluid of before.

All of Venville's systems enable the reuse of 100 per cent of the water used, whether it is for the garden or inside the house.

Sick of being ignored by governments, and their health, environment and water officials, Venville decided to properly commercialise his water re-use invention. He's not only succeeded in getting an international patent, but along the way he's developed a wide-range of domestic and commercial water treatment and re-use products that achieve extraordinary results.

On the home front H2O Pure Plus? systems and products enable every resident - single housing lot or high-density unit

dweller - to non-chemically treat and recycle all their black and grey water. The "whole of house" system can be even installed under the driveway if space is a problem.

The system can be easily expanded for new urban developments wishing to install community based water recycling, or retro-fitted into existing suburban areas.

Venville says: "Domestic and urban water systems no longer need to rely on the expensive and massive civil infrastructure of huge dams, leaky pipes and polluting sewerage systems."

The H2O Pure Plus? product is a sealed anaerobic filter, the core of which incorporates a variety of specially selected sands and gravels. It's been good enough to patent internationally and all water quality testing, carried out at official government laboratories, confirms the purity of the treated water.

Eat your heart out Mayor Di Thorley, who's spending millions attempting to water proof Toowoomba!

Venville has now modularised the technology, allowing easy installation in almost any location. Apart from the "whole of house" unit, he's developed "Rain Fresh" to extract pollutants from rain water tanks, "Rain Saver" - a side-of-house unit that captures and treats water from the downpipe and eliminates first flush mechanisms, and a laundry "Homesaver" unit for clean water to the garden.

Perhaps more significant are the industrial and commercial applications. Venville has installed one system at the Churchill Abattoir at Ipswich, which not only cleans all the wastewater to a potable



Kevin Venville



New Health unit for Legionella treatment.

standard, but allows the re-use of 500,000 litres of water per day.

Venville says: "The industrial treatment system can be used in any industry sector - be it in food processing, manufacturing, hazardous industry or agriculture."

Of more interest to the commercial building and maintenance industry is the H2O Pure Plus? Health system. This recently developed unit has the potential to eliminate harmful bacteria - especially

Legionella - from air conditioning cooling towers.

In what could be a world first, the Health unit - a prototype tested in Melbourne has shown extraordinary results - not only eliminates bacteria, it could spell the end of the need for chemical treatment of cooling towers.

And in a positive double whammy for commercial building developers and operators, the non-chemically treated water can be recirculated through the air conditioning units - giving up to a 70% water saving (30% evaporation).

The environmental benefits are potentially enormous as well, with many cooling towers having to dump hundreds of thousands of litres of chemically contaminated and bacteria laden water into the sewerage or stormwater system each week.

Kevin Venville says: "We're planning to install a demonstration unit in a Brisbane shopping centre in the next few months."

"The Health unit will be also coupled to our grey water treatment system - taking water from bathroom sinks and basins in the centre, naturally treat, and then return to the cooling towers, to be treated again after recirculation.

"And 24 hours a day seven days a week, the water quality is monitored in real time, giving an on-demand water quality reading to building managers and health authorities.

"The water savings at the shopping centre will be very significant. Imagine what it will be like when every commercial building in Australia can save almost all the water they use, for quality re-use," says Venville.

Now that'll be a plus!

Visit the Website:

[www.h2opureplus.com](http://www.h2opureplus.com)

## Free water from the sky. Is it just too obvious?

One of the most obvious, practical, and environmentally sustainable solutions to our water problem is water tanks.

In Queensland almost one in five households have a rainwater tank with 2.2 million Australians relying on rainwater as a primary drinking source. (ABS 2002 Environmental Issues)

The installation of water tanks in every possible private dwelling and business premise in urban south east Queensland, with the back up of existing dams of Wivenhoe, Somerset and the overflowing dams of the Sunshine Coast and Gold Coast interlinked, would immediately stop the need for further dams.

The installation of rainwater tanks to supply toilets, laundries and gardens would immediately save domestic householders 50% or more of their current water usage from dams. This would not only save residents a substantial amount of money on their water bills, but would also help them to be aware of the necessity for responsible use of this precious resource.

The location of Brisbane and the coastal

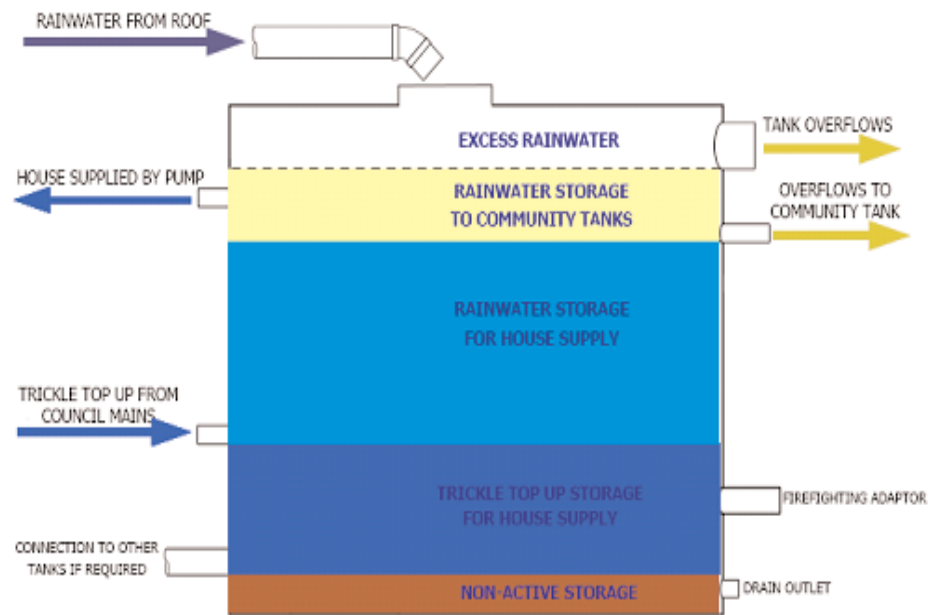
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towns north and south makes this the best rain catchment area in south east Queensland, so surely it makes sense to harvest rain water in these areas as opposed to building dams in the dry low rain fall areas on the other side of the ranges.

Only 14% of rainfall yield ends up in Somerset or Wivenhoe Dams while over 80% of rainfall on a roof can be captured.

Rainwater tanks come in a wide range of shapes, sizes and materials and can be fitted underground, above ground, on stands and even as interlocking fences or dividing walls.

It would be cheaper for the government to give each household in the urban area a rebate on the supply and fitting of a rainwater tank than building a dam, which may never supply adequate water to the city. People would have access virtually straight away after the first rainfall to free water



The diagram, above, shows how a rain water tank operates.



A typical domestic Rain Water Tank.

from the sky as opposed to waiting for the dam to fill.

There would be no ongoing costs as

opposed to dam maintenance costs.

Brisbane City Council has spent almost \$5million of ratepayers money on subsidies for rainwater tanks with over 8000 being installed. The State Government should be financially supporting Councils to encourage more tanks. Caloundra and Noosa Councils require all new dwellings to have a minimum size tank connected to laundry, toilet and gardens.

The technology, resources and obviously the finances are there for the installation of rainwater tanks. It is the quickest and most environmentally sustainable option open to us all that will truly make us the smart state.

Already 33 per cent of South Australians are on water tanks .Why can't we?

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