How much rain 🌧️ can you harvest in Austin?

Could it help prevent 🔥 wildfire damage?

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Let’s look at the last 30 years of data for Austin to see what the driest and wettest years were. We might be surprised by what we find.

Most homes, even in arid environments, do not put their rainwater to productive use. They let it run off the property, straight out to the ocean.

There is an opportunity to integrate **rainwater harvesting** into the design of new homes in Austin.

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The driest year in Austin
in the last 30 years was:

421 mm
(16.57 inches)

The wettest year in Austin
in the last 30 years was:

1,215 mm
(47.83 inches)

This translates to:

37,890 litres
(9,971 gallons) of
harvest / 1000 sq. feet of
roof in the driest year

109,350 litres
(28,776 gallons) of
harvest / 1000 sq. feet of
roof in the wettest year

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The average home size in Austin is:

2,068 sq. feet

This translates to:

78,356.52 litres
(20,620 gallons) in
the driest year

226,136 litres
(59,509 gallons) in
the wettest year

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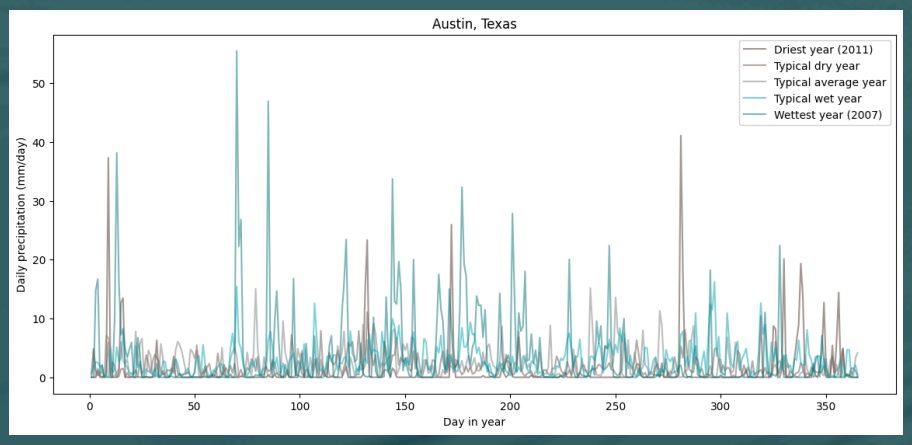
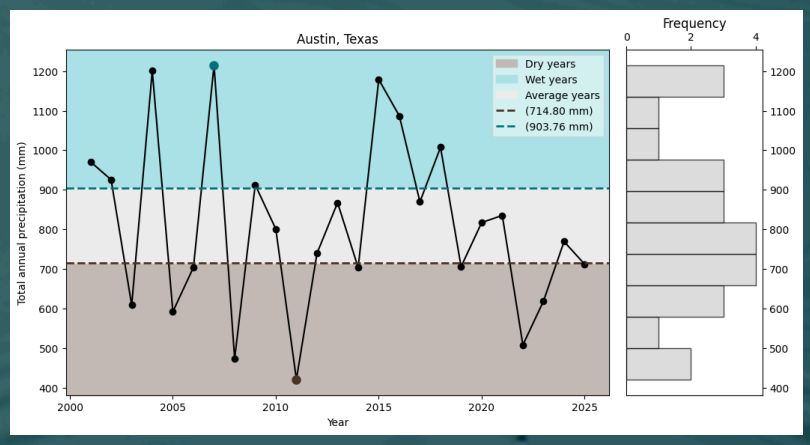
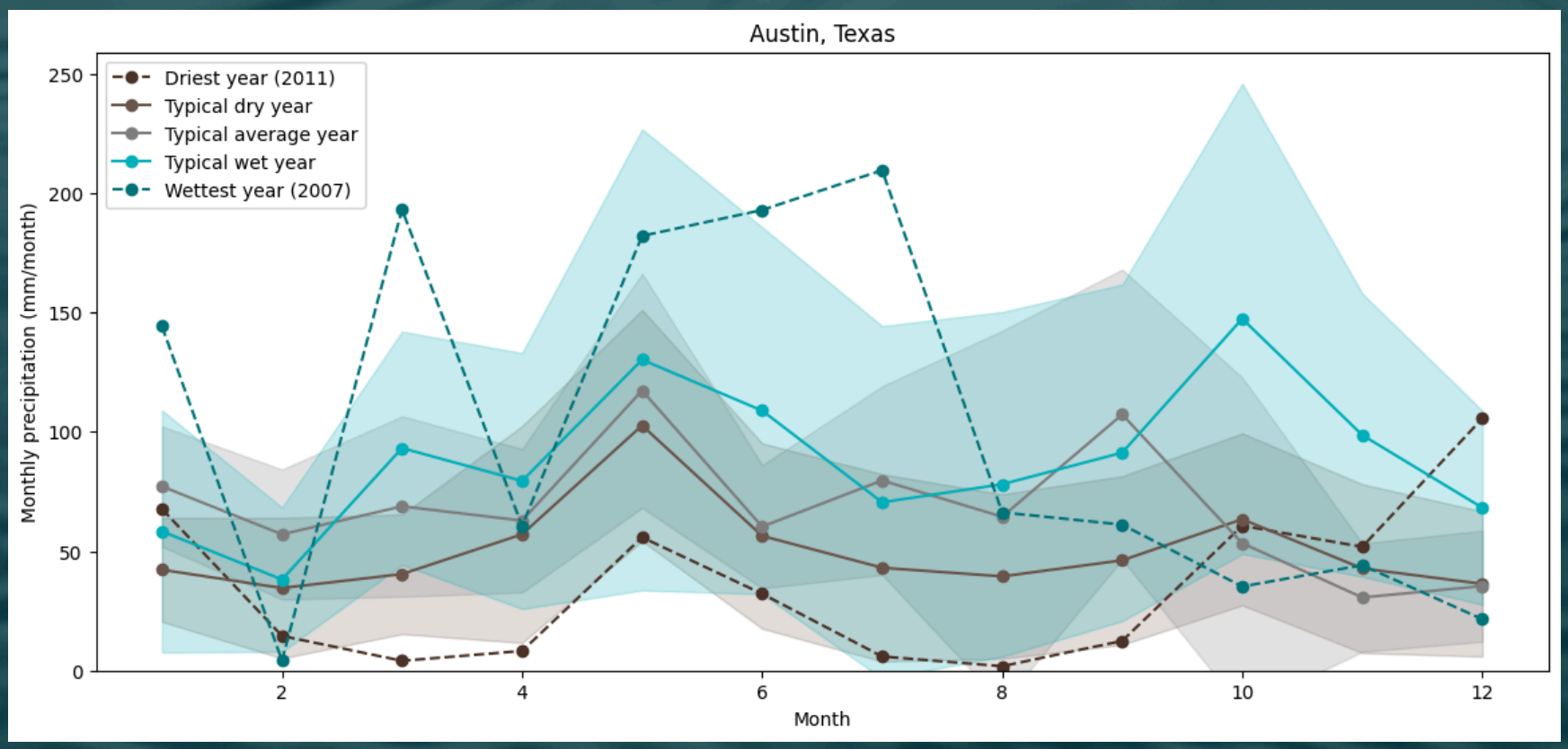
If we combined rainwater harvesting with a property-wide greywater reuse strategy, fire-resistant landscaping and fire-resistant building materials, we could bring the fire risk down substantially.

Greywater could be used to keep the fire-resistant landscape green and non-flammable year-round, and the rainwater could be stored for wildfire season as a backup measure.

Below are some charts the 5th World Data team put together to help understand the opportunity.







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If you are in Austin and you are a building professional who wants to integrate these systems into your designs, please reach out at **www.5thworld.com/contact/**