How much rain can you harvest in San Diego?

Could it help prevent wildfire damage?



Let's look at the last 30 years of data for San Diego 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 San Diego.



The driest year in San Diego in the last 30 years was:



122 mm

(4.8 inches)

The wettest year in San Diego in the last 30 years was:



500 mm

(19.68 inches)

This translates to:

10,980 litres

(2,889 gallons) of harvest / 1000 sq. feet of roof in the driest year

45,000 litres

(11,842 gallons) of harvest / 1000 sq. feet of roof in the wettest year

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The average home size in San Diego is:



2,417 sq. feet

This translates to:

26,538.66 litres

(6,984 gallons) in the driest year

108,765 litres

(28,622 gallons) in the wettest year

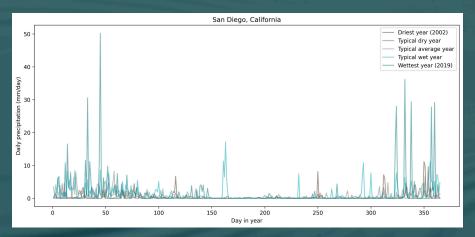


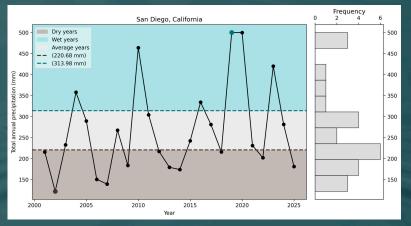
If we combined rainwater harvesting with a property-wide greywater reuse strategy, fire-resistant landscaping and fire-resistant building materials, we could bring the fire risk down substantially.

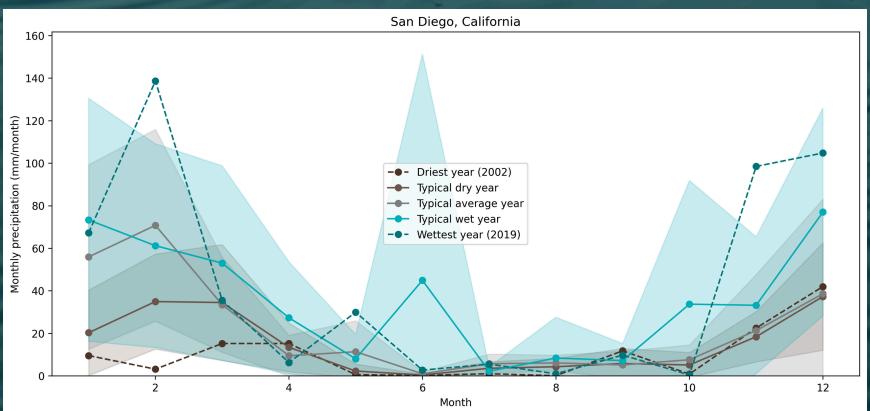
Greywater could be used to keep the fire-resistant landscape green and non-flammable year-round, and the rainwater could be stored for wildfire season as a backup measure.



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









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

