

# Be RainWise rebates for rain gardens & cisterns

Big Roof Case Study



Seattle  
Public  
Utilities



King County

## Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority

University of Washington

844 NE 78th St



Alpha Omicron Pi is a sorority house at the University of Washington.



Members of AOPI hold up their RainWise sign in front of one of the cisterns.

Contractor:  
Thriving Garden  
Designs



Four Cisterns



4,937 ft<sup>2</sup> of  
roof captured



\$XX  
rebated



Completed in  
2019

## Project Summary

Located on Greek Row in the University District neighborhood of Seattle, Alpha Omicron Pi is proud to be a part of the UW Green Greek program, which is run entirely by students and aims to make the UW Greek Community a more sustainable place. With installation of four rainwater cisterns managing rainwater runoff from a total of nearly 5,000 square feet of roof area, AOPI has a solution to stormwater pollution. Their project

- keeps nearly 20,000 gallons of stormwater out of the combined sewer system every year,
- provides an educational opportunity for students to learn about clean water,
- captures and manages stormwater run-off from the roof, and
- protects Puget Sound from combined sewer system overflows.

The project was completed in October 2019, with a total of \$XX covered by the RainWise rebate program.

For more information, please visit: [rainwise.seattle.gov](http://rainwise.seattle.gov)

Alternative Formats Available—Call 206-633-0224 or TTY:711

# Alpha Omicron Pi

## Project Specifications

Two 865-gallon Bushman cisterns, situated next to each other, collect about 2,316 square feet of the Alpha Omicron Pi house roof. An additional two 865-gallon Bushman cisterns in a series collect 2,621 square feet from the roof and then overflow to the sidewalk via a dispersion trench. In total, 4,937 square feet is captured from the roof and slowly trickles through the cisterns' low-flow valve back into the sewer system. This reduced flow helps curb pollution into local waters.



Red cisterns match the brick building.



Two out of the four 856-gallon cisterns.



Sustainability Chair, Marisa Alison, led the project for AOLL.

## Collegiate Environmental Stewardship

RainWise Outreach Staff worked closely with AOLL Collegiate member and Sustainability Chair for the Upsilon Chapter, Marisa Alison. In October 2019, RainWise held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony alongside AOLL members to celebrate the first facility in the UW Green Greek system to go RainWise.

*“We are excited to have these four cisterns as tangible evidence of our willingness to walk the talk about caring for our environment. We talk about environmental justice and climate change and are pleased to be taking this step to mitigate stormwater runoff in our community. The people in the RainWise program and our contractor were all wonderful to work with and made this process easy. We hope the RainWise program will continue to be able to serve Seattle in this way for as long as is needed.”*

Marisa Alison, Sustainability Chair, UW AOLL

AOLL urges other Greek Organizations on campus and other members of the community to join the RainWise program to continue the process of sustainability on campus and in the Seattle area. Project partners include Sorority leadership, King County staff, RainWise outreach staff and the creative design talents of the RainWise contractor, Thriving Garden Designs.

## About RainWise

RainWise is a joint program between Seattle Public Utilities and King County Wastewater Treatment Division that provides rebates for rain gardens and cisterns to private property owners in eligible areas. Rain gardens and cisterns help control stormwater, reducing sewer overflows and the erosion of hillsides and stream banks. We'll help you determine if your property qualifies.

**For more information, please visit: [rainwise.seattle.gov](http://rainwise.seattle.gov)**



Case study completed by Urban Systems Design. Contact us at 206-678-2604 or email at [Sonja.rainwise@gmail.com](mailto:Sonja.rainwise@gmail.com).