



# Be RainWise

Manage your rain water at home

## Greetings RainWise Contractors!

Spring is well underway, and we are beginning to see some light at the end of the COVID tunnel. Nonetheless, COVID-19 safety protocols are still in place and we encourage everyone to continue being diligent as we engage with customers, inspectors, and each other.

We are seeing an uptick in installations so thank you for all the work you do! You should have received a copy of the Marketing Summary and we encourage you to take advantage of any opportunity to get your business in front of customers.

If you are interested in doing virtual pre-inspections, please email me directly at [tom.gannon@seattle.gov](mailto:tom.gannon@seattle.gov).

*Tom Gannon, SPU RainWise Program Manager*

## We Value Your Feedback!

All contractors should feel comfortable emailing or calling me anytime! I can get busy so if I don't get back to you right away feel free to contact me again. Continue to use the usual emails for inspection requests or general email questions but if you have specific questions about an installation, customer issues, or if you would just like to discuss the program, please contact Tom Gannon directly.

## ASK AN INSPECTOR

Q

How can I research what is on an existing property to check and see if there is any on site detention or anything else that may make this property unsuitable for RainWise?

A

There are two primary tools we recommend contractors use to determine site suitability. Using these tools can save a contractor a lot of time. One is a publicly accessible simple GIS tool that SPU's Development Services Office maintains and the other is the SDCI Permit and Property Records Search Page.

DSO GIS Tool: [DSO Water & Sewer Map \(seattle.gov\)](#)

SDCI Permit and Property Records: [Permit and Property Records - Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections](#)

## Contact Us

For general questions about the RainWise program: [rainwise@seattle.gov](mailto:rainwise@seattle.gov). To schedule a pre- or post-inspection: [inspectionrequest@seattle.gov](mailto:inspectionrequest@seattle.gov) For questions about a specific property, please contact your Seattle Public Utilities or King County RainWise inspector.

## Cistern Supply

Cistern supply at the Corps is ok but the RainWise dedicated supply is low. We are working on getting more. There are BIG CHANGES happening now. First, prices are skyrocketing. This is nationwide and both SPU and the Conservation Corps are only trying to cover costs. Unfortunately, there is no rebate increase for cisterns on the near horizon, but upper management is aware of the situation. Contact the Conservation Corps for a price update.

If you have known specific cistern needs, please email Tom Gannon at [tom.gannon@seattle.gov](mailto:tom.gannon@seattle.gov) so he can help you find what you need.

Secondly, all cisterns received from the RainWise specific stock managed by the Conservation Corps located at 7727 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave NE Contact Penny Garrett at (206) 225-8119 to place an order Monday through Thursday, 7:30am – 3:30pm. For question about the cistern program email [rainwise@seattle.gov](mailto:rainwise@seattle.gov) with any questions. Purchase from the RainWise stock will **be billed to the contractor directly by SPU. We can no longer deduct from the rebate.** This has been a pilot program and we are learning lessons as we go along so sorry for the change but thanks for your patience. You can still pay cash for cisterns from the Conservation Corps' non-RainWise dedicated stock.

## Design Details

The development of new design details continues but it is a bit of a slog. Once our engineers and agency people (King County and City of Seattle) have had sufficient time to review from our perspective, I will be developing an ad hoc RainWise Contractor committee to review them from a contractor perspective. It will be some time before they are officially implemented but now is a great time to send us any comments you may have about the current design details.

## Tasha's Tips

Side Sewer Connections – Just as a friendly reminder that if you are doing a project that involves connecting to the properties side sewer, you should be obtaining a City of Seattle side sewer permit through Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection (SDCI) at [www.seattle/sdci/permits](http://www.seattle/sdci/permits).

All final inspection of the side sewer work MUST be conducted with the SDCI inspector, not RainWise inspectors.

RainWise inspectors will only inspect the connection of the side sewer that is ABOVE GROUND. They will not inspect anything that is below ground. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure that the below ground connections have final inspection and meet City of Seattle permit requirements.

Want to Meet New Customers? Sign up at [tinyurl.com/RWcontractor](http://tinyurl.com/RWcontractor)

If you no longer want to be part of the RainWise Program, please email [rainwise@seattle.gov](mailto:rainwise@seattle.gov).