New RainWise Cistern Placement Requirements

RainWise must now comply with the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection (SDCI) Land Use Code SMC.23.44.014.C.17 requirement regarding the placement of cisterns on private property.

What does this mean to you, RainWise Contractors?

Effective December 15, 2021, all feasibility inspections, pre-inspections or site assessments will be reviewed to ensure that the placement of the cisterns complies with the code requirements.

We will also ask that all contractors ensure that the code requirements are met when assessing a property for installation. If the placement of a cistern does not meet the code requirements, the installation will be denied and a rebate will not be given.

Effective December 15, 2021

A cistern may be placed anywhere in a yard without restriction if it is:

- Under 4.5 feet tall and
- Under 4 feet wide and
- Under 600 gallons

If a cistern exceeds any of the above dimensions then it cannot be placed:

- Within 3 feet of a side lot property line or
- Within 15 feet of a front lot line or
- Within 20 feet of a rear lot line or, if there is an alley or unopened right of way, within 20 feet of the centerline of that alley or unopened right of way.

The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection Land Use code can be found at Seattle Municipal Code - SMC 23.44.014.C.17

To look up a property lot line visit the King County iMap at https://kingcounty.gov/services/gis/Maps/imap.aspx

If you have any further questions regarding these new requirements for installations of cisterns please contact rainwise@seattle.gov
Cistern has to be 3ft or more of Side Lot Line Examples

New RainWise Land Use Code Requirement

Cisterns cannot be:
Taller than 4.5 ft or wider than 4 ft wide or more then 600 gallons and be place within 3ft of property lot line

_ALLOWED EXAMPLE_

Cistern has to be 3ft or more from property line

_NOT ALLOWED EXAMPLE_

Cistern has to be 3ft or more from lot line

Si usted necesita un traductor, por favor llame a la línea de ayuda de ECOSS al (206) 767-0432

Nếu bạn cần giúp đỡ với dịch thuật, xin vui lòng gọi số ECOSS tại (206) 767-0432

如果您需要语言协助, 请致电 ECOSS(206) 767-0432 .