LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
RAINWATER & GREYWATER SYSTEMS

ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPING
ECOLOGICAL CONSULTING
HABITAT RESTORATION
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT NURSERY

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PROJECT GOALS:
Utilize 1.5 million gallons/year of collected rainwater to use for non-potable - domestic use (i.e. flushing toilets, laundry washing)
Utilize 500,000 gallons/year of collected rainwater for miscellaneous purposes (i.e. washing sidewalks, car, fountains, etc.)
Utilize 400,000 gallons/year of greywater to irrigate 1 acre of landscape
**Total Municipal Water Savings: 2.4 million gallons/year**
Mitigate stormwater runoff
Achieve Gold LEED Status

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design,
Greywater System Design,
Stormwater Management

DEVELOPER:
Tim Lewis Communities

ARCHITECT:
BAR Architects San Francisco

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The Del Monte Development Project is a 230,000 square foot warehouse that will be reborn into one of the largest mixed-use development projects in the East Bay. This large scale interdisciplinary project involved collaboration between ECI and the development team which included architects, structural engineers and civil engineers. Tim Lewis Communities hired ECI to mitigate storm water runoff and creatively utilize rainwater to use for non-potable use, such as flushing toilets and a display fountain. Greywater from both the residential and commercial spaces will be used for irrigation.

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS:
$800,000 - $1 Million
Rainwater: 112,000 gallons
Greywater: 10,000 gallons

Rainwater collection from showers/laundry.
Greywater collection from shower/laundry.
Treated water supply to toilets.
Treated water supply to irrigation.

Above-ground treatment/mechanical.
PROJECT GOALS:
Collect Rainwater to irrigate 9,000 sq ft of landscaping on a living roof.

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design,
Stormwater Management,
Project Management

DEVELOPER:
First Community Housing

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:
OJK Architecture and Planning

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
L&D Construction

AWARDS:
2014 AIA Design Award: “Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability”
LEED Platinum Certification

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
First Community Housing built affordable apartments for seniors and wanted to utilize rainwater harvesting for their irrigation system. The rainwater collected from the roof is stored below the building, where ECI designed four 5,000 gallon rainwater tanks that fit snuggly into a small footprint in the underground parking garage (as seen above). From there, the rainwater which is used mostly in the dry season, will irrigate ALL of the site’s landscaping, including a 9,000 sq ft roof garden. In any overflow events the water is diverted into a bioswale area with boulders and water loving plants. This site’s design minimizes dependency on public water utilities and strives to achieve a “Net-Zero” landscape.

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS
$140,000
PROJECT GOALS:
Rainwater harvesting system to irrigate the landscape for 5 living roofs
Achieve LEED Credits.

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design,
Stormwater Management

DEVELOPER:
Smith Group JJR

AWARDS:
LEED Silver Certification

PROJECT
The California Pacific Medical Center will be opening its new campus on Van Ness Ave & Geary St, San Francisco. It is targeting LEED Silver Status, becoming one of the largest LEED certified hospitals in the world. ECI’s Bobby Markowitz, working as Earthcraft Landscape Design Inc. helped them work towards this goal by designing an alternative water system that irrigates 9,000 sq ft. A 100,000 gallon cistern was designed to be built into the foundation in the underground parking garage, (construction shown above). The stored rainwater will then be pumped upwards about 200 ft to irrigate five living roofs located on various levels of the 17 story building. This system will manage stormwater run-off as well as utilize 180,000 gallons of rainwater per year that would otherwise be sent to the sewer.

DESCRIPTION:

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS:
$1.5 Million
PROJECT GOALS:
Reduce City Water and Energy Dependency,
Support Green Infrastructure and Building,
Grant Funding

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design for Interior Non-Potable Use,
Site Planning,
Project Management

OWNER:
University of California Santa Cruz

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
UC Santa Cruz hired ECI to design a prototype rainwater harvesting system to supply water that flushes the toilets at the Wellness Center. This small scale pilot project will give the UCSC community an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of rainwater harvesting and re-use at an educational facility. It is expected that this will serve as a prototype for other rainwater catchment systems on UC campuses.
The location was chosen not only for the small-scale applicability but also because the site is accessible to the campus community. The educational benefits include increased awareness about water conservation, rainwater catchment systems, and sustainability as well as reduced municipal water consumption and energy use.

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS:
$45,000
TIBURON, CA RESIDENCE
RAINWATER DESIGN

PROJECT GOALS:
Independence from public water utilities
Rainwater Harvesting

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design
Project Management

ARCHITECT:
Colleen Mahoney

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:
Steve Suzman

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Don Larwood

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
This beautiful home with a view of the San Francisco Bay in Tiburon, California was designed to be a Net-Zero landscape, meaning all irrigation needs are produced on-site. The 15,000 gallon rainwater harvesting system irrigates the entire landscape and was designed to be out of sight underneath the deck. This challenging location on a 2:1 sloped hillside required the engineering of a retaining wall and concrete pad to support the two aboveground tanks. The proud owner of this system (image to left, below) is a clean tech entrepreneur that is able to control and manage his system remotely. Anything from monitoring tank water levels, to adjusting irrigation zones can be done from his other home in Singapore.

Estimated Construction Costs:
$50,000
LOS GATOS, CA RESIDENCE
RAINWATER HARVEST & LANDSCAPE DESIGN

PROJECT GOALS:
Japanese Style Garden Design
Rainwater Harvesting System to Irrigate Entire Landscape
Site Planning & Civil Engineering

PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design
Landscape Architect: Site Planning, Grading & Drainage, Landscape Design
General Contractor

AWARDS:
Monterey Bay Master Gardeners:
“Water Smart Garden Contest”

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Bobby Markowitz created this stunning Japanese style garden for his clients in Los Gatos, California. Their existing well was failing, and after seven attempts of drilling for a new well and having to truck in their whole water supply, they approached Mr. Markowitz to design an alternative water source. Seven 5,000 gallon above ground water tanks were installed to capture 35,000 gallons of rainwater. This enabled his clients to irrigate their whole landscape without any additional water sources.

Estimated Construction Costs:
$45,000
PROJECT GOALS:
Reduce city water dependency,
Support green infrastructure and building,
Take advantage of city rebates
Stormwater Management

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Greywater and Rainwater Harvesting System Design,
Project Management and Site Planning

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS:
$50,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Bobby Markowitz was asked to design a rainwater and greywater system for a new home being built in Palo Alto. It was determined that 25,000 gallons could be captured from the roof during the rainy season, thereby eliminating any stormwater leaving the site. The system was designed to utilize harvested rainwater for the family's domestic non-potable uses, such as toilets and washing machine. They then calculated their average greywater output from the washing machine, showers and bathroom sinks to design their landscape with what's called a Closed Loop Design. This means that the landscape should not require more water than what can be produced from the site.
APTOPS, CA RESIDENCE
RAINWATER DESIGN

PROJECT GOALS:
Net-Zero Landscape
(rainwater to irrigate total landscape)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:
Steve Sutherland Associates

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater Harvesting System Design
Project Management
Rainwater Installation

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
ECI was hired to create a rainwater catchment system for this modern home located on the coastal bluffs of Aptos California. Located under the front yard landscape, is a 2500 gallon underground cistern that will supply enough rainwater to irrigate the entire landscape. This Net-Zero design allows the home owner to go completely off grid from the municipal water supply with the added security of being drought proof.

ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION COSTS:
$25,000
PROJECT GOALS:
Modify existing landscape to minimize water requirements
Rainwater & Greywater Harvesting System

ECI PROJECT SERVICES:
Rainwater & Greywater Harvesting System Design
Project Management
Rainwater & Greywater Installation

PROJECT VALUE:
$100,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
This client approached ECI due to concern over high water usage and increased water bills. To solve this problem, ECI modified the existing landscape to require less water. Originally, the landscape required 800,000 gallons of water for irrigation. ECI removed two large turf areas and replaced them with mulched, drought tolerant plants that used drip irrigation instead of overhead spray. ECI also designed and installed a complex alternative water system that uses both rainwater and greywater together for all irrigation needs. The greywater is the main source and once that is depleted, the system switches to stored rainwater as a backup. These alternative water systems along with the landscape modifications, have decreased this site's landscape water usage by 80-90%. This is the first system of this type in the Monte Sereno jurisdiction and ECI worked closely with the city for this project to get passed and approved.
ADDITIONAL SERVICES OFFERED

ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPES - COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
- Sustainable Landscape Design
- Low Impact Development Planning
- Stormwater Management
- Landscape Installation
- Landscape Maintenance
- Habitat Gardens
- Lawn Replacement

HABITAT RESTORATION
- Habitat Restoration Plans
- Erosion & Sediment Control
- Vegetation Management

ECOLOGICAL CONSULTING
- Site & Botanical Assessments
- Environmental Impact Reports
- Feasability Studies
- Species Specific Mitigation Plans
- Monitoring & Reporting
- GIS/GPS Data

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT NURSERY
- Site Specific Seed Collection
- Botanical Consultations
- Contract Growing
- Habitat Specific Native Plants

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

B. BOYER - MONTE SERENO, CA - 11/11/2015
“While I was having my house remodeled, ECI was the best contractor we had on site out of 15 other tradesmen. I loved the quality that came from having a contractor that could design and install such a complicated rainwater and greywater system.”

TAI M - SANTA CRUZ, CA - 11/16/2015
“We are extremely pleased with Dakotah’s design and ECI’s work. In addition to its beauty, our garden now has ecological value and contributes to the biodiversity of our local environment. Golden-crowned sparrows, black-capped chickadees, Monarch butterflies, bumblebees and other pollinators are daily visitors. My favorite part of the new landscape is a rain garden that harvests stormwater runoff from our roof and directs it into a vegetated swale where the soil filters and cleans the water instead of having it disappear down a storm drain. Thanks to ECI, our garden was certified a Monterey Bay Friendly Landscape, which means it meets the highest standards of sustainability and eco-friendliness.”

WILLIAM K. - APTOS, CA - 12/1/2015
“We decided to work with ECI, and we are completely satisfied with their efforts and results on our behalf. They worked well with all the entities involved in this complicated project from the county, to the water district, our concrete guys and all other subs. They installed a 2500 gallon tank underground for us that filled up on the first rain we had in November, and their system will allow us to water our yard for free until the next rains come and fill the tank again, my only regret is we didn’t install the 5000 gallon tank as Bobby had recommended. It turned out that the county has started overseeing these systems, and the their requirements can impact the esthetics, and overall design, but working with Bobby Markowitz proved to be a great choice for us as he was able to work with the county, and our subs in a comprehensive manner to finish our project on time and on budget. I would recommend this company highly for any and all rainwater capture projects, as well as native designs and systems.”
ECI PERSONNEL

Joshua T. Fodor: President, Restoration Ecologist, CPESC
Josh has 20 years experience in organic horticulture, habitat restoration and ecological landscape design and implementation. After completing degrees in Biology and Environmental Studies at U.C. Santa Cruz and working 5 years in organic agriculture, he founded Central Coast Wilds in 1992. Early on he combined his interest in organic production methods with his botanical skills to create the first registered organic native plant nursery in California. Josh leads design and implementation of ecological landscape plans, vegetation management plans and habitat restoration plans throughout California, particularly in the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas. Over the last decade he has continued his professional training in erosion control, stream restoration, watershed assessment, wetland delineation, and ecological landscape management techniques. In 2006, Josh completed an extension certificate in California Water Management and Ecosystem Restoration at U.C. Berkeley. In 2008 Josh became a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control. He teaches Principles of Restoration Landscaping at Cabrillo College and is an active member of numerous professional associations including the Ecological Landscaping Association, California Landscape Contractors Association and the Society for Ecological Restoration.

Bobby Markowitz: Senior Landscape Architect, ASLA # 3309
Rainwater/Greywater Specialist
An accredited professional of the American Rainwater Catchment System Association and a licensed landscape architect. Bobby has over 17 years of experience designing and installing rainwater harvesting systems as well as site planning and project management. Because of the rising costs and diminishing supplies of municipal water, planning for rainwater harvesting and greywater use have become critical components of any landscaping firm’s portfolio.

Dakotah Bertsch: Designer, Assistant Project Manager
Dakotah earned his Masters degree in Landscape Architecture from Cal Poly Pomona, and he has a B.S. in Environmental Studies from U.C. Santa Barbara. He’s had a long love affair with California ecosystems, with years of ecological studies, frequent hikes and explorations, and years of working in the field of design, construction, maintenance and restoration of California landscapes. He also studied and apprenticed in Permaculture, and is experienced with edible and sustainable landscapes. Dakotah moved to Santa Cruz from Mendocino County to join the team at Central Coast Wilds, where he combines his interests in native habitats and ecological landscape design.

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Greg Gill: Landscape Architect
A registered Landscape Architect, Greg Gill has worked in both the private and public sectors for over 20 years. He has designed many high profile residential projects and supervised their installation. He has also designed parks and trail systems and has been involved with several historic habitat restoration projects. Greg moved to Santa Cruz from New York City to live in a more rural environment and is excited by the variety of landscape projects he is working on for ECI.

Jessica Benet: Assistant Project Manager and Landscape Designer
After 10 years in the marine biology sector, Jessica has turned her focus towards the landscape in hopes to change the effects of our current systems for dealing with stormwater runoff. Jessica has studied permaculture, horticulture and Landscape Architecture at UC Berkeley Extension and has previously worked as a landscape designer, concentrating on sustainable residential landscapes. With her focus on rainwater harvesting and greywater use, she is involved with designing alternative water systems here at ECI.