Installing an Aboveground Rainwater Storage Tank (AST)

START

Is the total storage volume <320 gallons, the height: width ratio of the tank less than 2:1, land disturbance <500 sf, and no hardwired pumps or controls proposed for the project?

NO

Yes

no permit required

Other applicable codes and review processes

1. Yard Setbacks as defined in BMC Title 20 Land Use.
2. Fairhaven Design Review as defined in BMC 20.26
3. Design Review for ASTs as defined in BMC 20.25 and/or 20.26
4. Lake Whatcom Regulatory Chapters per BMC 16.80 and 15.42
5. All applicable state and federal laws regarding archaeological findings
6. Appropriate backflow prevention shall be installed and maintained for any rainwater systems connected to the city water supply.
   Appropriate backflow prevention could be either:
   a. An approved reduced pressure backflow assembly (RPBA) installed and tested annually according to manufacturer’s recommendations
   b. An approved airgap device installed and tested annually according to manufacturer’s recommendations

NOTES:

1. Overflows must not result in either a public or private nuisance and should be planned carefully.
2. If rainwater is intended to be used for potable uses (i.e. sinks, showers, dishwashers, etc.), a Plumbing Permit and permit from Whatcom County Health are always required.

END

Install the tank!
Installing an Underground Rainwater Storage Tank (UST)

**START**

Does the project require a building permit and have land disturbance or does the project have land disturbance greater than or equal to 500 sf?

**NO**

**YES**

Are any hardwired components (i.e. pumps, controls) proposed?

**NO**

**YES**

Are any hardwired components (i.e. pumps, controls) proposed?

**YES**

**NO**

**YES**

**NO**

**YES**

**END**

Install the tank!

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**Other applicable codes and review processes**

1. Lake Whatcom Regulatory Chapters as defined in BMC 16.60 and 15.42
2. All applicable state and federal laws regarding archeological findings
3. Appropriate backflow prevention shall be installed and maintained for any systems connected to the city water supply. Appropriate backflow prevention could be either:
   a. An approved reduced pressure backflow assembly (RPBA) installed and tested annually according to manufacturer’s recommendations
   b. An approved airgap device installed and tested annually according to manufacturer’s recommendations

**NOTES:**

1. Overflows must not result in either a public or private nuisance and should be planned carefully.
2. If rainwater is intended to be used for potable uses (i.e. sinks, showers, dishwashers, etc.), a Plumbing Permit and permit from Whatcom County Health are always required.
Does the project require a building permit and have land disturbance or does the project have land disturbance greater than or equal to 500 sf?

**NO**
- **no permit required**

**YES**
- **stormwater permit required**

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**Other applicable codes and review processes**

1. Overflows must not result in either a public or private nuisance and should be planned carefully.
2. If rainwater is intended to be used for potable uses (i.e. sinks, showers, dishwashers, etc.), a Plumbing Permit and permit from Whatcom County Health are always required.