

Foreword

RAINWATER COLLECTION links human and environmental systems in mutually reinforcing health. On-site, it supports human life by, in effect, generating a new source of water. Upstream, it reduces the demand to develop off-site water supplies. Downstream, it protects water quantity and quality by reducing excess urban runoff and the associated pollution, erosion, and flooding. The technology and its applications are expanding and being refined. Its applicability to both arid and humid climates is becoming increasingly clear.

Heather Kinkade-Levario has made herself the leading expert in rainwater collection and its applications through a singular combination of systematic observation, focused academic study, and professional design experience. Her native area is the arid Southwest, where the need for water collection is most glaringly obvious and where the art of water catchment has devel-

oped most rapidly. She has been a leader in the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association, the International Rainwater Catchment Systems Association, and the US Green Building Council.

Heather's first book on the subject—an award-winner in its own right—was published not long ago. But even since then, industry and design knowledge and applications have evolved and expanded. Advancements are being developed at home in North America, and introduced from Europe. Professional demands have risen for advanced technical information and new types of applications.

This new book raises available rainwater catchment, stormwater collection, and alternate water reuse information to the detailed technical level and broad scope of application required by professional architects, landscape architects, and engineers. It gives us clear writing, abundant case studies, great

illustrations, and technical authority. It is organized, comprehensive, and accessible. Through it we see where and how rainwater catchment is being implemented and alternate water reused. We see at work both simple “passive” systems and the technically more demanding, but hydrologically much more com-

plete and efficient, “active” systems. This new book elevates professionals’ awareness and capability by providing the information they need. Immediately upon publication, it has the effect and stature of this growing technology’s leading technical guideline and professional information resource.

— BRUCE K. FERGUSON, FASLA
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Director, University of Georgia School of Environmental Design
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and Porous Pavements*