

Residential rainwater tank rebate application form

(From 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2026)

Please return completed form to:

Level 4, 218-232 Molesworth Street, Lismore

PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480

ABN: 81 383 023 771

T: (02) 6623 3800

demand@rous.nsw.gov.au www.rous.nsw.gov.au

Office use only

If you have any questions, please contact Rous County Council's Water Sustainability Officer on (02) 6623 3800.

Application checklist

Before sending your application to Rous County Council, please use the checklist below. I have:

- ☐ Completed **ALL** sections of the application form
- ☐ Attached copies of my receipts for tank purchase and installation
- ☐ Attached a copy of my Certificate of Compliance (required for internal connections)
- ☐ Attached a copy of my development application approval (required for tanks exceeding 10,000 litres)
- ☐ Attached a copy of my BASIX Certificate (if required)
- ☐ Read and understood all terms and conditions
- ☐ Signed the application form on page 4

Note: Incomplete applications may be returned and result in a delay in payment of rebate.

A. Applicant details (please print clearly)

Name		<input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Managing agent *
* Please attach proof of authority to act on behalf of owner.		
Installation address		
Water meter number		
Postal address		
Telephone	Mobile	
Email		

B. Bank account details (for rebate payment)

Account name	
BSB No.	Account / Member No.
Note: Payment from Rous County Council will be made within 30 calendar days once the application has been assessed and approved.	

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Approved rebate amount	\$	Approved by
Date		Signature

Notes

Notes

C. Tank details

Important information: Using rainwater.

The NSW Department of Health, Rous County Council and local councils support the use of rainwater tanks for all non-potable uses, such as garden watering and toilet flushing. The use of rainwater tanks for drinking purposes is not recommended where a reticulated potable water supply is available. If you are considering using rainwater for drinking, cooking, or bathing purposes, please be aware of information provided by the NSW Department of Health on the filtering and treatment of rainwater for these purposes.

Tank volume (litres)

(1 gallon = approximately 4.5 litres)

Tank purchased from

Date of purchase / / 20

(Please attach a copy of your receipt/s for purchase and installation)

Tank type (Please tick the appropriate box)

- ☐ Polyethylene (plastic) ☐ Aquaplate ☐ Corrugated iron ☐ Zincalume
☐ Concrete ☐ Other (please describe)

Total cost of your tank purchase and installation \$

(Please include costs of site preparation, tank purchase, plumbing costs, and any consumables)

Note: Please ensure you attach a copy of receipt/s for purchase and installation of tank.

Has a rainwater tank rebate previously been received from Rous County Council for this property?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Is your dwelling a new or existing one? ☐ New ☐ Existing

Is your rainwater tank or internal connection required in order to comply with the BASIX (the Building Sustainability Index) requirements for new developments or major renovations? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What is your main reason for installing a rainwater tank? (Please describe)

Tank capacity rebate

Date of tank installation: / / 20

- | | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| Tank size | <input type="checkbox"/> 2,000 to 4,499 litres | Level 1 rebate - \$200 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 4,500 to 8,999 litres | Level 2 rebate - \$800 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> 9,000 litres and over | Level 3 rebate - \$1,000 |

Internal connections rebate

Date of tank connection: / / 20

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| The rainwater tank has been connected to: | <input type="checkbox"/> All toilets | Additional rebate - \$620 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Washing machine | Additional rebate - \$550 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No connection to indoor use | No additional rebate payable |

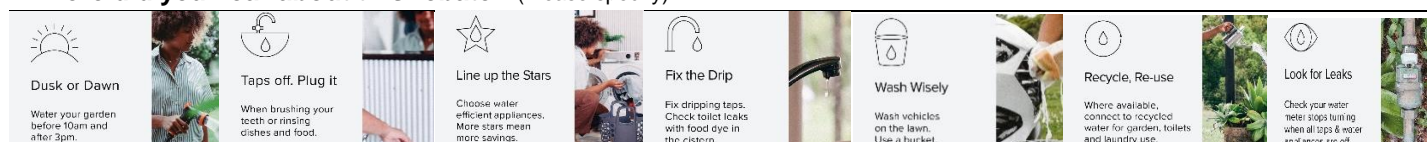
Note: Please ensure you attach a copy of the Certificate of Compliance for any internal connections.

D. Survey

Has the offer of a rebate influenced your decision to install a rainwater tank?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Where did you hear about this rebate? (Please specify)



E. Terms and conditions

Read the following **Terms and Conditions** carefully before signing the application form.

1. Application

- 1.1 An application for a rebate must be submitted on a current application form. Your application must be assessed and approved before a rebate may be paid. The application must be completed in full and a copy of the official receipt for the purchase and installation of the rainwater tank attached.
- 1.2 Rous County Council **reserves the right to reject or return:**
 - 1.2.1 Incomplete applications.
 - 1.2.2 Applications that do not meet all or part of the Program Terms and Conditions.
- 1.3 Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis having regard for potable water saving initiatives from Rous County Council's bulk water supply.
- 1.4 Once funding for the program is exhausted, no further applications will be accepted for each financial year. Applications will be processed and approved on a first come, first served basis.

2. Program eligibility

2.1 You **are eligible to participate in the program** if:

- 2.1.1 The property is a residential property connected to town water within the Rous bulk water supply area. This means your property needs to be in the Council areas of:
 - Ballina (excluding Wardell);
 - Byron (excluding Mullumbimby);
 - Lismore (excluding Nimbin);
 - Richmond Valley (excluding Casino and land to the west of Coraki).
- 2.1.2 You own or are the authorised managing agent of the property where the rainwater tank is installed.
- 2.1.3 You paid for and installed the rainwater tank during the time of the current Rous Regional Demand Management Plan, between 01 July 2023 and 30 June 2026. Note: You can only apply for a rebate after the tank has been installed and, after the completion of works.
- 2.1.4 For installation of a tank, the rainwater tank is new and covered by a 12-month manufacturer's warranty.
- 2.1.5 The volume and connection requirements outlined in the Table of Rebates (refer to section C of the application form) have been met.
- 2.1.6 The rainwater tank is used exclusively for the collection and storage of rainwater only on the property where the tank is to be installed.
- 2.1.7 The rainwater tank must have at least one outdoor use to be eligible if there are no internal connections.
- 2.1.8 The rainwater tank is installed by a licensed plumber if water from the tank is to be supplied for flushing toilets, use in the laundry, or is otherwise interconnected with the town water supply. In this instance, the plumber must be licensed, and you must submit a copy of the Certificate of Compliance with your application.

2.2 You are **ineligible to participate in the program** if:

- 2.2.1 A rebate has previously been paid for purchase and installation of a tank at the property listed in 'Applicant details' (section A of this application form), except where 2.3.1 applies.
- 2.2.2 You are seeking a rebate in relation to a rainwater tank or internal connection that is required in order to comply with the BASIX (the Building Sustainability Index) requirements or other development/covenant requirements for new developments or major renovations, except where 2.3.3 applies.
- 2.2.3 You are seeking a rebate in relation to the following types of rainwater tanks: stormwater retention tanks, designed only for stormwater management; grey water retention tanks; and water tanks solely designed and installed for firefighting purposes.

2.3 In addition, if the following circumstances apply to you, it is recommended that you contact Rous County Council to discuss your individual circumstances as you **may be eligible to participate in the program** if:

- 2.3.1 A rebate has previously been paid for installation of a tank at the property listed in 'Applicant details' (section A of this application form), but you have since installed additional tank capacity. Any rebate paid will be up to the current maximum rebate available based on the total capacity of all tanks.
- 2.3.2 A rebate has previously been paid for installation of a tank at the property listed in 'Applicant details' (section A of this application form), but you have since plumbed it to the toilets and/or washing machine.
- 2.3.3 You are installing a tank with a volume larger than, and/or installing additional internal connections, which are beyond the BASIX requirements or other development/covenant requirements, rebates will be paid on those additional installations only, and they are subject to all eligibility criteria. You must submit a copy of your BASIX Certificate with your application.
- 2.3.4 You are installing a tank at an additional Council-approved dwelling at the same property listed in 'Applicant details' (section A of this application form).

2.4 For rainwater tanks paid for and installed between 01 July 2023 and 30 June 2026, applications under the program must be received by Rous County Council no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, 10 July 2026.

3. Backflow prevention and your local Council

3.1 Payment of a rebate does not constitute an approval or verification that a rainwater tank has been installed in compliance with relevant industry standards (including backflow prevention) and local council requirements.

3.2 The rainwater tank and associated plumbing work must meet all relevant standards, plumbing, health and building codes and other local council requirements, including but not limited to the *Plumbing Code of Australia* as amended from time to time. Your local council may undertake an inspection to ensure that these requirements have been met.

4. Research

Rebate recipients may be required to participate in research about demand management for up to three years following payment of a rebate. By submitting an application, you are providing your consent to Rous County Council to undertake such research including survey, reporting, and monitoring activities either directly or indirectly related to the program. You are also agreeing to participate in any such activities as required by Rous County Council, for example, follow up surveys and dissemination of information.

5. Rainwater tank operation and inspection program

The rainwater tank must operate on the property on which it is originally installed for a minimum period of three consecutive years from the date of installation as specified in the application form. As a condition of application, Rous County Council reserves the right to inspect all rainwater tanks and connections in respect of which it has received an application form or has granted a rebate. These inspections are to, among other things, verify application information and ensure compliance with program terms and conditions.

6. One rebate per property

Only one rebate is available per property, subject to any exceptions that may apply as outlined in Clause 2.

7. Program changes

Rous County Council reserves the right to vary or discontinue the program at any time without notice.

8. Payment of rebate

Payment of rebates is by direct deposit into the bank account nominated on the application form except for water customers of Byron Shire Council where payment will be made by cheque by Byron Shire Council.

Payment of a rebate does not release a rebate recipient from compliance with the program terms and conditions. If a rebate recipient fails to comply with the program terms and conditions in the first three years following payment of the rebate, Rous County Council may take legal action to recover the rebate. Furthermore, as a rebate recipient you agree to repay any rebate paid by Rous County Council if you return your rainwater tank for a refund.

Please note that the total sum of payments you may receive under this program and other rainwater tank rebate programs (local, state, and federal government rebates, if any) must not exceed the total cost of your installed rainwater tank/s. If it does, Rous County Council may require that you repay the rebate paid either in part or in whole.

9. Liability

A condition of application is that the applicant(s) acknowledges and agrees that to the extent permitted by law, Rous County Council accepts no liability in respect of any claim, cause of action or loss or damage arising out of, or in relation to, any rainwater tank, rainwater tank system or the consumption or use of any water from such rainwater tank or system that is the subject of the program. In addition, the applicant(s) agrees to indemnify and keep indemnified Rous County Council from any claim or liability arising out of, or in relation to, the program and rainwater tank system that is the subject of this application, to the extent that any claim or liability is not caused by Rous County Council's negligence or breach of this application, or any other terms implied by law.

10. Privacy

By completing and lodging this application form, you agree that you have provided the information in your application voluntarily. The information is being collected by Rous County Council in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*, for purposes related to the administration of the program under which you have applied, including the assessment of the effectiveness of the program. This may involve disclosing the information in this application (other than your bank details) to contractors engaged by Rous County Council or to local councils or to the state or federal government.

Rous County Council agrees to take all reasonable measures to ensure that the personal information collected by it is stored securely. You may access or correct your personal information by contacting Rous County Council by telephone on (02) 6623 3800 or by writing to: General Manager, Rous County Council, PO Box 230, Lismore NSW 2480.

F. Applicant declaration

I have read, understood, and agree to the 'Rainwater tank rebate' program terms and conditions as set out in this application form. I have exercised due diligence and made all reasonable enquiries of my rainwater tank supplier, my local council and understand the design, expected performance and regulations associated with the installation of my rainwater tank.

I declare that all information in and provided with this application form is true and correct at the time of writing.

Name	Position
Signature	Date