



Rainwater Harvesting Conference

Thursday & Friday, March 27 & 28, 2025

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Harrington Center for Philanthropy,
Amarillo Area Foundation
919 South Polk Street Amarillo, TX

Schedule (Draft):

Thursday, March 27th

- 8:00am Doors Open: Registration & Exhibit Viewing
- 8:30am **Welcome & Opening Reflection**
Darryl Birkenfeld, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Ogallala Commons, Nazareth, TX
Kirstyn Wright, artist and grad student, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
- 9:00am **“Water Realities in Semi-arid Landscapes”**
Will Masters, Ogallala Life Conservancy, Inc., Amarillo, TX
- 9:25am **“Rainwater Harvesting Where It Doesn’t Seem to Rain”**
Dr. Nathan Howell, Bell Helicopter Professor of Engineering, College of Engineering, West Texas A&M University, Canyon, TX
- 10:00am Break & Exhibits
- 10:30am **“Local Examples & Outcomes of Rainwater Harvesting”**
TBA
Ed Van Patten, The Gardens at High Plains Food Bank, Amarillo, TX
Darryl Birkenfeld, Ph.D., Casa La Entereza, Nazareth, TX
- 11:30am Catered Lunch and Exhibit Viewing

- 12:20pm **"Practices & Policies for Residential Rainwater Harvesting"**
Darrel McMaster, owner, Sustainable Homes, Inc., Boerne, TX
- 1:00pm **"Installing Rainwater Harvesting Systems"**
Kenya Development Engineering Students, West Texas A&M University,
Canyon, TX
- 1:40pm **"Tabletop Rainwater Harvesting"**
Sandiphon Chowdhury, WTAMU Graduate student, Canyon, TX
- 2:15pm Break & Exhibit Viewing
- 2:45pm **"Residential DIY: Rainwater Harvesting for Less Than 2K"**
WTAMU Graduate students, Canyon, TX
- 3:30pm **Rainwater Storage & Monitoring Options**
WTAMU Computer Science students with Dr. Joshua Partheban,
Canyon, TX
- 4:00pm **Wrap-Up**
- 4:15pm **Adjourn**

Friday, March 28th

- 8:00am Doors Open: Registration & Exhibit Viewing
- 8:30am **Bus Tours** (those attending on March 21st must select one option):
Tour #1:
Tour #2: Streetscape Water Harvesting (Dr. Habersang residence),
- 10:30am Buses Return to Harrington Center for Philanthropy
- 10:45am **Obstacles to Overcome:**
Starting a Business to Install Rainwater Harvesting
- 11:30am Sandwich Lunch
- 12:15pm Next Steps: Ways to Move Ahead
- 1:00pm **Adjourn**