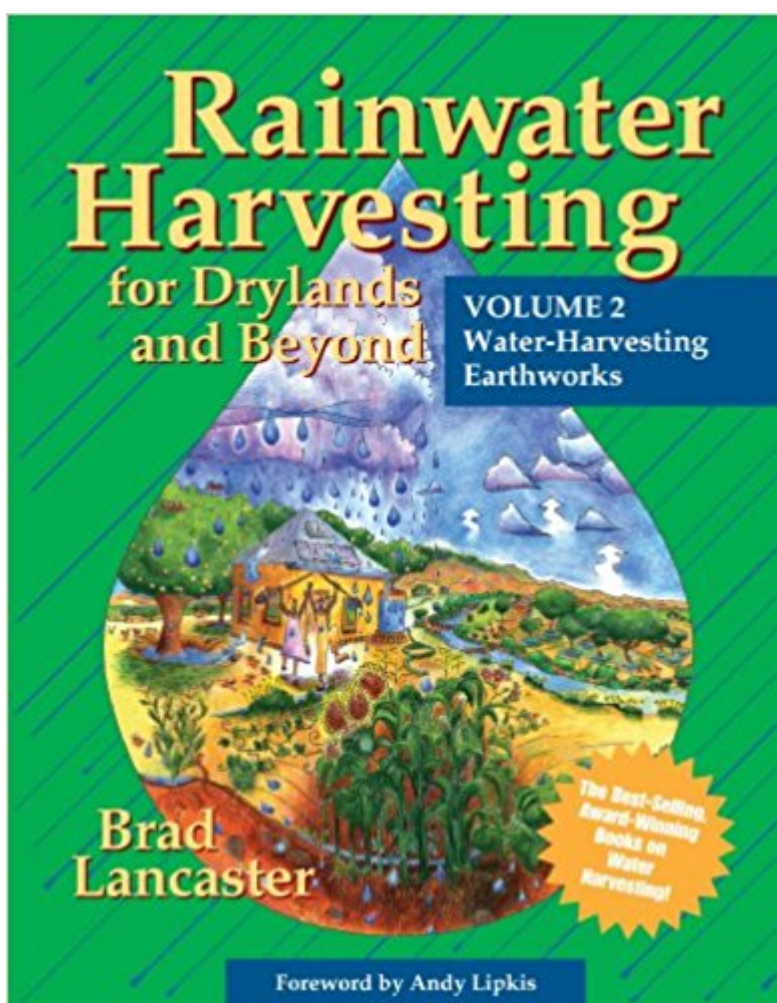


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# Rainwater Harvesting For Drylands And Beyond (Vol. 2): Water-Harvesting Earthworks



## Synopsis

Turn water scarcity into water abundance! Earthworks are one of the easiest, least expensive, and most effective ways of passively harvesting and conserving multiple sources of water in the soil. Associated vegetation then pumps the harvested water back out in the form of beauty, food, shelter, wildlife habitat, and passive heating and cooling strategies, while controlling erosion, increasing soil fertility, reducing downstream flooding, and improving water and air quality. Building on the information presented in Volume 1, this book shows you how to select, place, size, construct, and plant your chosen water-harvesting earthworks. It presents detailed how-to information and variations of a diverse array of earthworks, including chapters on mulch, vegetation, and greywater recycling so you can customize the techniques to the unique requirements of your site. Real life stories and examples permeate the book, including: How curb cuts redirect street runoff to passively irrigate flourishing shade trees planted along the street How check dams have helped create springs and perennial flows in once-dry creeks How infiltration basins are creating thriving rain-fed gardens How backyard greywater laundromats are turning "wastewater" into a resource growing food, beauty, and shade that builds community, and more. How to create simple tools to read slope and water flow More than 225 illustrations and photographs

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"What a wonderful, enthusiastic book. Brad Lancaster lives what he preachesâa water-careful lifestyle that is all about more life."--Ben Haggard , author, sustainable systems designer and

teacher

Brad Lancaster has taught, designed, and consulted on regenerative-design systems of permaculture and integrated water-harvesting systems in seven countries since 1993. He created and lives on a thriving solar-powered 1/8th-acre urban oasis in downtown Tucson, Arizona, which harvests 100,000 gallons of rainwater a year where just 12 inches falls from the sky. Brad's dynamic books, talks, workshops, and living example have inspired tens of thousands of people to 'plant the rain' to sustainably grow their local resources. Visit his website at [HarvestingRainwater.com](http://HarvestingRainwater.com).

In our area of central Texas, we can get 12" of rain in 48 hrs, and 4" in 2 hrs. Brad's book is my bible for how to control water flow during major rain events, how to capture as much rainwater as possible in the soil, and how feed lots of plants only with rain. I read this book, observed the flow of water during light and heavy rains, started small projects, and started at the highest elevation on the land. I used rock berms where water volume was high, I used earth berms and swales where I wanted to plant trees and vegetables and filled the swales with wood chips to reduce evaporation, and I used fallen trees on contour to slow the flow of water in the undeveloped forested areas. I still refer to this book often, especially before starting any new garden area or water harvesting project. Terraced garden on slope near the driveway is next and Brad explains how to do this too. The examples in the book are great and very helpful. The writing is clear and informative. I highly recommend this book. -- Jim

Volume 1 is a better book. This one doesn't add much at all to volume 1 and merely repeats. I have 30 acres I want to improve and this didn't add much helpful information for larger scale harvesting.

I had previously purchased books on cisterns and rainwater collection. However most them focused on collecting water and then distributing it. Lancaster does a great job of showing you how to store water in the best place possible. The soil. This book is easy to read with simple principles that are explored in depth with a great deal of clarity. The illustrations are easy to understand. This book stands alone apart from Volume I.

In his second volume, Mr. Lancaster shows us earthworks--passive methods of capturing, spreading and sinking rainwater. Anyone can enhance and enrich the soil with simple methods and tools. Lancaster says, "I give thee thy shovel," (p.25). Real-life examples of these methods used

worldwide accomplish many goals: turning water scarcity into water abundance; reducing the use of fossil fuels to clean and deliver water, increase the presence of native plants, and to increase food production. I intend to create a demonstration project on my own homestead, then incorporate some of these methods during my return mission trip to Sierra Leone, Africa. Every little drop counts!

If you already know you want to do this stuff, just skip to this book. If you're new to the whole rainwater saving thing, and you want to know what it's all about, start with Volume 1.

great book and well worth the price. gets you thinking about your own yard/home and how to act locally yet think globally. the book is easy and quick to read with plenty of diagrams. "real life success stories" are a nice touch to emphasize how each water saving earthwork can be used. i will keep this book for reference always. he does a good job explaining the theory behind why different earthworks should be used in different situations. the only negative thing i would say is that sometimes he makes things sound easier or maybe more straightforward than i think they would be to build/implement... to his defense he does refer people to professionals if they are in doubt. inspires hope for conservative living in a dry climate

very good

This book is It's title says for dry lands but the truth is anyplace can have extended periods of drought. Designing your garden or farm with these Great illustrations they really help you visualize what he is describing. Explains why these things matter in a interesting & readable way! Many examples of techniques from both the author's experiences as well as others! I learned a lot from this book and I am now reading volume 2 which goes into greater detail. The only negative thing I can say about the book is sometimes it is over cross-referenced to previous chapters.

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