

A Lesson in Rain Gathering at the Zoo

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SAN FRANCISCO (KCBS) -- After several years of drought, Californians need to take advantage of the rain. At the San Francisco Zoo, locals learned how to do that with do-it-yourself rain barrels.

Joe Fitting, the VP of Conservation and Education at the zoo, is very proud of the corner dedicated to demonstrating and using sustainable power which includes wind power and solar power, and will eventually have a bee hive.

Today Fitting is teaching people to build a 150-gallon rain barrel to catch roof water to be used for irrigation and car washing.

Sarah Minick with the PUC says a 1,000-square-foot home could collect about 12,000 gallons a year.

And San Francisco supervisor **Carmen Chu** says that's not the only place in an urban landscape where we could harness water. Chu recommends getting rid of concrete so trees or a garden can absorb water and take it back to the earth.

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