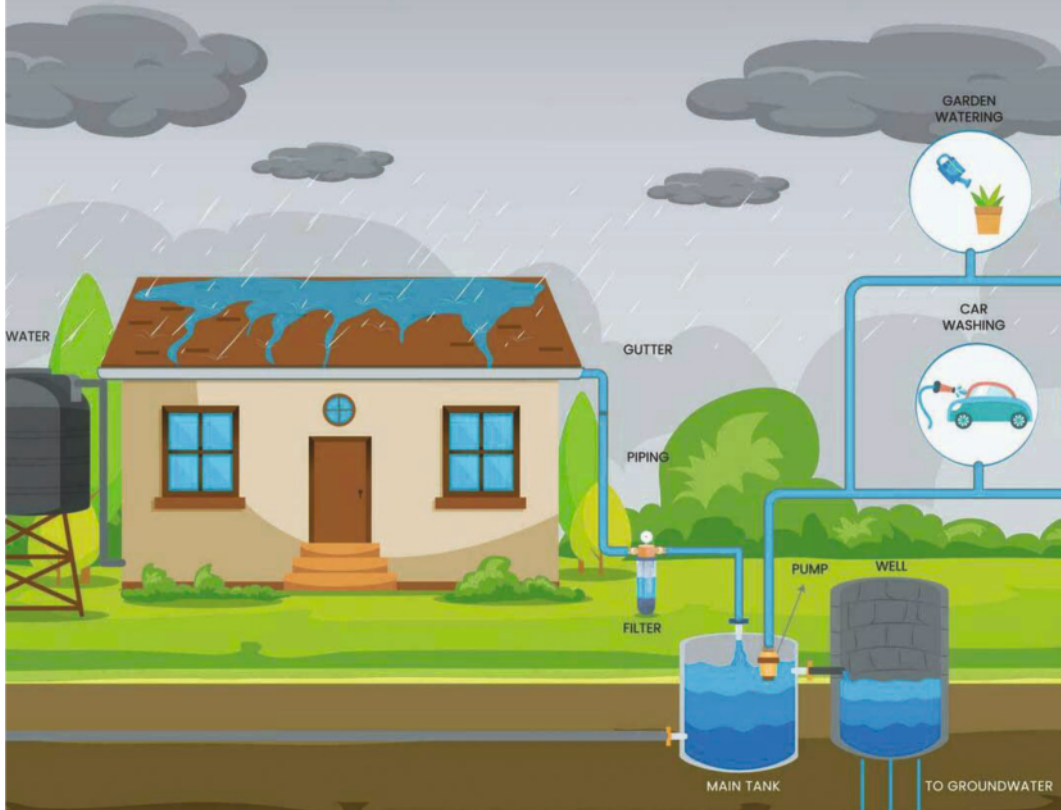




Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur

Rain Water Harvesting Plan Policy

RAINWATER HARVESTING AND USES





Rain Water Harvesting Plan Policy

January - 2026

1. Preamble

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University (PAHSUS), located in a semi-arid, drought-prone region of Maharashtra, recognizes the increasing challenges of water scarcity and climate change. With the rise in academic, research, and infrastructural activities across its **old and newly developing campuses**, the University is committed to the **sustainable management of water resources**, primarily through the **implementation of rainwater harvesting (RWH) and water conservation initiatives**.

This policy outlines a comprehensive and actionable framework to harvest, store, and recharge rainwater while minimizing water consumption. It is an essential part of the University's **Green Campus and Environmental Sustainability Vision**, aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-6: Clean Water and Sanitation) and national regulations such as the **Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA)** guidelines and **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** directives.

2. Objectives of the Policy

The policy aims to:

1. Promote sustainable and efficient use of rainwater across both the **old and new university campuses**.
2. Augment water supply through **groundwater recharge and rainwater storage systems**.
3. Minimize dependency on borewells and municipal water supply.
4. Reduce surface runoff and prevent flooding and erosion through stormwater management.
5. Integrate RWH systems into **all new infrastructure and retrofit existing buildings**.
6. Foster a culture of **water conservation and awareness** among faculty, students, and staff.
7. Encourage interdisciplinary **research, training, and innovation** in water harvesting and reuse.

3. Scope and Applicability

This policy is applicable to:

- All buildings and open spaces in the **existing (old) and developing (new) campus zones** of PAHSUS.
- All future **infrastructure and renovation projects**, academic blocks, hostels, administrative complexes, canteens, residential areas, and affiliated institutions.
- University staff, faculty, departments, engineering and maintenance sections, and construction contractors.

- Stakeholders involved in project planning, execution, and environmental compliance.

4. Policy Statements

1. The University shall **adopt rooftop and surface runoff rainwater harvesting systems** across all feasible sites.
2. All **new buildings** must include mandatory rainwater harvesting provisions during the design phase.
3. Existing buildings will be retrofitted based on technical feasibility and priority (starting with large rooftop areas and water-intensive departments).
4. Rainwater will be used for **non-potable purposes** such as gardening, toilet flushing, and cleaning.
5. Groundwater will be recharged using **scientifically designed recharge pits, soak wells, and percolation tanks**.
6. Water audits and hydrogeological assessments will guide implementation.
7. RWH systems must follow **IS 15797:2008, CPCB, and CGWA** guidelines.
8. The University will conduct regular **training, awareness, and capacity building programs** for sustainable water management.

5. Components of Rainwater Harvesting System

1. **Catchment Areas:** Rooftops of academic buildings, hostels, halls, roads, parking areas, playgrounds.
2. **Conveyance System:** Downpipes, drains, gutters for channelling rainwater.
3. **Filtration Units:** Mesh filters, sand–charcoal–gravel filters, silt traps.
4. **Storage Systems:** Ground-level/underground tanks for collection and non-potable reuse.
5. **Recharge Structures:** Soak pits, percolation trenches, recharge shafts, and borewell recharge units.

6. Implementation Strategy

6.1 Technical Measures

- Conduct **water audits** and **hydrogeological studies** for both campuses.
- Map rooftop and open areas to calculate **rainwater harvesting potential**.
- Design recharge and storage structures per technical and topographical suitability.
- Use **IoT-based sensors** where feasible to monitor tank levels and water usage.

- Integrate **overflow connections** to prevent waterlogging and direct excess water to recharge units.

6.2 Institutional Measures

- Include RWH provisions in **all DPRs and architectural plans**.
- Include **environmental clearance checklists** for all civil and electrical works.
- Introduce a **Water Budgeting Plan** for optimal allocation of harvested and municipal water.
- Promote **greywater reuse systems** (e.g., for landscape irrigation) where possible.

7. Operation, Maintenance, and Monitoring

- **Pre-monsoon inspection** of all RWH structures and cleaning of catchments, pipes, and filters.
- **Periodic desilting** and maintenance of recharge pits and collection tanks.
- Maintain a **campus water logbook** for input-output analysis.
- Monitor **groundwater levels**, pH, and turbidity biannually to assess recharge impact.
- Create department-wise **Water Use Reports** for better accountability.

8. Water Harvesting and Water Conservation Committee (WHWCC)

Composition:

1. **Chairperson:** Vice-Chancellor or Nominated Authority
2. **Coordinator:** Director, School of Earth Sciences / Environmental Science
3. **Member Secretary:** University Engineer / Architect
4. **Members:**
 - IQAC Director
 - Faculty Experts in Environmental Science / Civil Engineering
 - NSS/NCC Director
 - Maintenance Staff
 - Student and Research Scholar Representatives
 - One representative from concerned department / school

Responsibilities:

- **Formulate Annual Plans** and timelines for RWH and conservation projects.
- Monitor **policy implementation and compliance**.
- Coordinate **audits**, vendor selection, and construction supervision.
- Conduct **training and awareness programs**.

- Submit an **Annual Water Conservation and Harvesting Report**.
- Identify and recommend **awards and incentives** for outstanding green practices.

9. Funding and Resource Mobilization

- The University shall earmark funds for water projects in its **Green Budget and Capital Works Plans**.
- Seek funding through:
 - **Jal Shakti Abhiyan**
 - **Maharashtra Groundwater Mission**
 - **UGC/AICTE Green Campus Initiatives**
 - **CSR projects of local industries and public sector units**
 - **MoEFCC schemes**
- Encourage faculty and research students to submit **research proposals and innovation projects** on water conservation.

10. Education, Training, and Research Initiatives

- Integrate rainwater harvesting topics into **Environmental Studies, Earth Science, and Civil Engineering syllabi**.
- Organize **hands-on workshops, student innovation contests, and internships**.
- Promote **research on smart RWH systems, aquifer recharge modeling, and greywater reuse**.
- Display **information boards** with data on water collection and savings at each major RWH site.

11. Policy Monitoring and Review

- The **Water Harvesting & Water Conservation Committee** will monitor implementation.
- The **Annual Green Audit Report** will include a section on water usage, RWH structures, and outcomes.
- A **third-party audit** will be conducted every **three years**.
- The policy will be **reviewed every three years** or as needed to adapt to technological and regulatory updates.

12. Policy Compliance and Enforcement

- Departments and contractors must submit a **Water Compliance Certificate** for any infrastructure work.
- Projects violating the RWH policy shall face **delay in clearances or penalties**.
- Participation in **national/state competitions or rankings (e.g., NIRF, NAAC, Swachhta Rankings)** will depend partly on RWH compliance.

Conclusion

This Rainwater Harvesting and Water Conservation Policy demonstrates Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University's commitment to water sustainability, campus resilience, and environmental responsibility. Through effective planning, collective action, and community participation, the University will evolve as a model for water-efficient campuses in Maharashtra and beyond.



Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

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