



Memorandum of Understanding

between

Green Builder® Coalition

and

American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSEA)

Regarding the Water Efficiency Rating Score (WERS) Program

Description and Background of the Parties

➤ Green Builder® Coalition

Founded in 2010, The Green Builder® Coalition is a not-for-profit association dedicated to amplifying the voice of individual green builders and industry professionals to drive advocacy, research and education for more sustainable home building practices. The Coalition has been actively involved in the development of the Water Efficiency Rating Score (WERS) program since February 2014. The WERS program is a predictive, performance-based water efficiency program for new and existing residential properties. It assesses indoor and outdoor water usage and produces a score of 0-100, with zero being most desirable. This award-winning program can be incorporated into a green building program, used as the measure for a financial incentive or adopted into a building code.

➤ American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA)

ARCSA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1994 to promote sustainable rainwater harvesting practices to help solve potable, non-potable, stormwater and energy challenges throughout the world. Its membership consists of 720 members in 14 nations, including large and small businesses, individuals, regulators, water purveyors, elected federal, state and local officials, manufacturers, academia, designers, utility officials, installers, sustainability advocates, system maintainers, architects, plumbers and other enthusiasts.

Goal

- To disseminate the WERS program to promote water efficiency, in general, and through rainwater harvesting, specifically.
- To promote the use of rainwater harvesting in water efficiency strategies to lower one's WERS.

Presently Identified Areas of Collaboration between The Coalition and ARCSA

1. ARCSA Accredited Professional Certification will count towards the WERS course prerequisites for the WERS verifier accreditation program. ARCSA APs will not need to attend this section of the course.
2. ARCSA CEUs and WERS CEUs will be reciprocal and considered valid as part of their respective CEU processes.
3. ARCSA instructors are invited to attend the WERS training course and become WERS instructors.
4. ARCSA will send out a notice to ARCSA APs on WERS and invite them to become WERS verifiers.
5. The Green Builder® Coalition (through the WERS Technical Committee) & ARCSA will work together to make sure the rainwater verification is correct and complete.
6. ARCSA / The Green Builder® Coalition will jointly issue press releases supporting the announcement of the WERS program.
7. ARCSA has the option to license the WERS training curriculum from Santa Fe Community College (SFCC). Financial and logistical terms would be negotiated between ARCSA and SFCC.
8. The Green Builder® Coalition will announce its support for ARCSA-ASPE-ANSI Standards 63 and 78 as the Rainwater and Stormwater Standards used in WERS and it will be incorporated in the WERS verifier accreditation training.

9. Prior to the training section on rainwater, ARCSEA-ASPE-ANSI Standards 63 and 78, and the benefits for joining ARCSEA will be mentioned by the WERS trainer.
10. ARCSEA's Education Committee and the Training & Education Team of the WERS Development Group will work together to identify 5-10 graphics and exam questions that cover key elements of rainwater and stormwater harvesting for use in the WERS training. These materials will be license-free and ARCSEA will be listed as the source.
11. Annually, the Green Builder® Coalition will provide a gratis online webinar on the WERS program for ARCSEA members.
12. A pre-release copy of the WERS spreadsheet will be shared with an appropriate ARCSEA technical committee for feedback on the tank sizing components of the WERS program.
13. ARCSEA will be listed as a Supporting Partner on the WERS website.
14. The Green Builder® Coalition/WERS will be listed as an Official Partner of ARCSEA and listed on the ARCSEA website.

Terms

This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in effect for a period of two (2) years from the date of signing and it may be renewed for a further two (2) years by the mutual agreement of both parties. The Memorandum can be terminated at any time by either party upon provision of thirty (30) days written notice to the other party. This Memorandum may be amended or modified at any time by the mutual consent of the co-operating institutions.

This MOU is hereby agreed to by the undersigned:

[Green Builder® Coalition]


Signature: 

Print Name: Mike Collignon

Title: Executive Director

Date: 12/22/2015

[ARCSEA]

Signature: 

Print Name: David Crawford

Title: President

Date: 12/22/15