



Water Harvesting

FAQs on Condensate Water from Air Conditioning

1. What is Water Harvesting?

Any water “collected” from the atmosphere or water vapor in the air that turns to liquid and is collected as in the case of ACs is called “water condensate” or water harvesting.

2. How much water can we “collect” from one AC installed at home?

The amount of water collected will vary depending on the size of the AC, temperature and humidity in the air. In a city like Karachi which has high degree of humidity, from March to October, one 2 tonne AC at home if it is operated for 8-10 hours a day, one can collect up to 4-6 Gallons of water per day per AC. The discharge from central AC unit may be more.

3. Can condensate (harvested) water be used for drinking?

The condensate water is essentially Distilled water but it is NOT fit for drinking or human consumption. It is mineral free but contains heavy metals, making it corrosive. It also lacks chlorine and sanitizers.

4. What can harvested water be used for?

- ⇒ Gardening
- ⇒ Washing floors, car or cleaning of non-edible items.
- ⇒ Laundry
- ⇒ Waste disposal/Sanitation
- ⇒ Growing food/Agriculture
- ⇒ Irrigation

5. How much water is required per person for daily consumption?

Varies according to climate, location, dietary habits, etc. WHO specifies 26 gallons of water per day per person including drinking, hygiene, washing and all other needs. But in Pakistan, we can and surviving on less requirement per day. You need about 1 gallon per day for drinking which is about 3.78 liters.

6. How can I do water harvesting?

Simplest way is to do it through discharge of water from your home air conditioners. It is simple to do and easy to install. This way you can help in reducing your water consumption, you will be drawing less from the “system” thereby reducing your water consumption and cost and you will also help others who may have more water available in the system. For more information, please contact Hisaar Foundation.

For More Information:

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