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Pooling Water ... continued from page D4



Swimming pool to rain tank conversion

Photo provided

Water conservation representatives from both East Bay Municipal Utility District and Contra Costa Water District have viewed the Johnson project with interest. CCWD's water conservation coordinator Chris Dundon called the cistern project a unique opportunity. "Rainwater catchment is an intriguing concept," Dundon said, "one which people don't always do purely for the financial savings."

By installing the cistern, Dundon said the Johnsons took advantage of an opportunity which may allow them to save "pretty much 100 percent" of their rainfall. And Dundon is also interested in the longterm effectiveness of this project; he wants to know how it works out and what, if any, problems develop. Rep. Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael, recently introduced legislation to establish a new Environmental Protection Agency grant program. The program, called the Drought Relief and Resilience Act supports water recycling projects, and includes a range of long- and short-term solutions.

But EBMUD's water conservation representative Scott Sommerfeld says his water district wants to encourage water reharvesting whether it is cost effective or not. "Great job," he told the Johnsons, after viewing their project.

For more information online:

http://www.ebmud.com/water-and-drought/drought/

http://www.ccwater.com/148/Conservation

http://huffman.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/after-unprecedented-public-input-rep-

jared-huffman-introduces-final

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xYlKG4IHT o