

One Water

An Indigenous-led Process to Increase Water Resilience for First Nations in Ontario through Rainwater Harvesting

One Water is a collaboration between Indigenous communities in Mexico and Canada to increase water resilience through rainwater harvesting. In addition to knowledge and technology exchange, resilience is built through relationships. It is a 2 year project initiated in June 2023 and funded by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation.

What is Rainwater Harvesting?

Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) is the practice of collecting and storing rainwater from rooftops, which can be filtered and used for a variety of purposes.

How Does it Work?

- 1. Collection:** Rainwater is captured from the roof and directed into a storage tank.
- 2. Filtration:** The water passes through filters to remove larger particles and impurities.
- 3. Storage:** The filtered water is stored in a safe, secure tank, ready for community use.

System Installed at Nbisiing Secondary School

The first rainwater harvesting system was installed at Nbisiing Secondary School in August 2024. This system provides a sustainable water source for the **school's garden** and serves as a model for future installations. Additional sites, including a nearby **outpost and cabin**, are scheduled for installations in **2025** to expand access to water across the community.



Project Next Steps

Over the next few months we will be designing a DIY rainwater harvesting system adapted to NFN's context. In June 2025, Mexican First Nations delegates will be visiting Nbisiing to learn more about water initiatives, exchange insights and install one of the DIY rainwater harvesting systems. Keep an eye out for this exciting opportunity to connect, exchange knowledge, and collaborate!

Water Monitoring Process

One Water, in partnership with the University of Toronto, is developing a regular water monitoring process comprised of professional laboratory testing and DIY testing. This process will be used for the Nbisiing Secondary School system and will aim to be scaled to other systems in the future.

Contact Us

Curtis Avery
Dept. of Environment
705-753-2050 ext. 1290
curtisa@nfn.ca



OneWater.SomosAgua



SCAN ME



ONE WATER
SOMOS AGUA



IslaUrbana



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
Centre for Global Engineering