

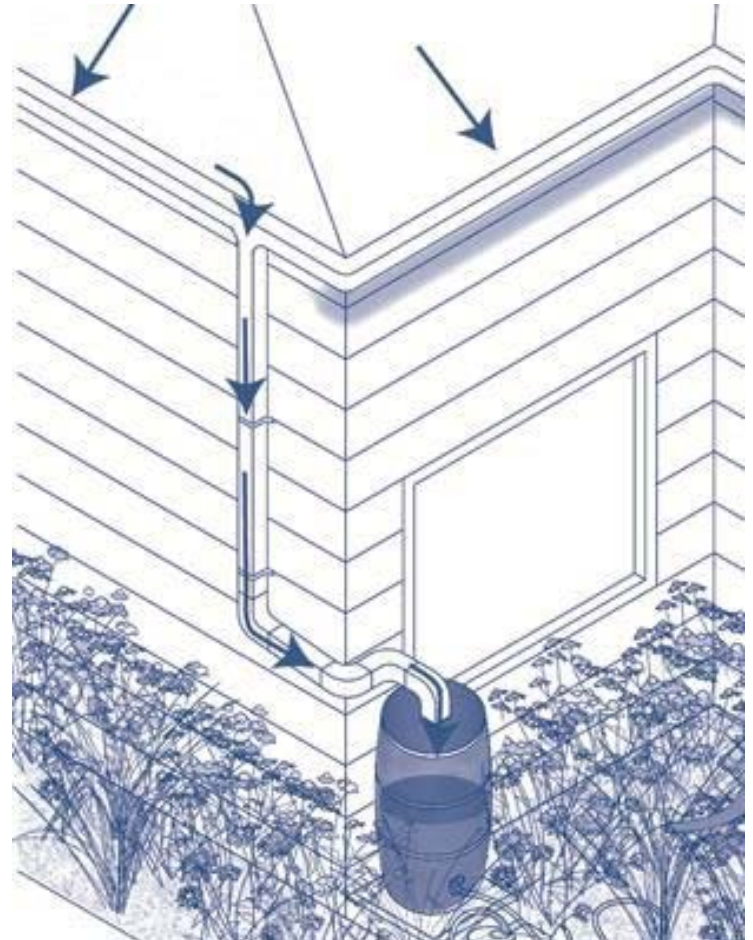
How much rain water?

The amount of water that will be collected at each downspout depends on the roof size and the number of downspouts connected to the roof.

For a 1,000 square foot area during a 1" rainfall there is approximately 623 gallons of water that can be collected.

Usually a single rain barrel can collect 40-60 gallons, depending on the barrel size.

Several rain barrels can be linked together to collect more rain water.



Maintenance on your Rain Barrel

During the rainy months, routinely inspect your rain barrel. Remove any debris that has accumulated on the lid that might block the screen mesh.

Routinely clean the inside of your rain barrel and gutters to ensure there is no clogging.

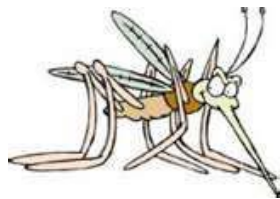
Unless stated by the manufacturer disconnect your rain barrel in the winter months. Turn the barrel upside down or store it in a dry area to prevent the barrel from cracking. Redirect the downspout away from the foundation whenever your rain barrel is not connected.

If you keep your rain barrel outside during the winter make sure the bottom spigot is open so the water can drain out of the barrel at all times.

Rain barrels are not meant for long term storage. Empty your rain barrel completely once a week to avoid stagnant water. Make sure no standing water is on the top of your barrel.



Other Tips



To Avoid Mosquitoes:

Depending on your rain barrel design, ensure that all connections to the barrel are sealed and that all fine screens are not damaged.

It takes approximately 4 days of standing water for mosquito larvae to develop. If you think there is a problem use small portions of Mosquito Dunks that kills mosquito and black fly larvae for 30 days or more, and will not affect plants, people or wildlife. Read the directions on the mosquito dunks before using them.

Do not collect the first flush from your roof. This will allow you to screen debris and avoid water contaminated by bird droppings and dust.

When installing your rain barrel, remove the existing downspout and elbow intact and store for reinstallation in the late fall.

Avoid using rain water that has been collected from asphalt roofing, redwood, cedar or treated wood shingles on food-producing gardens. The aforementioned surfaces may leach toxic material when wet.

