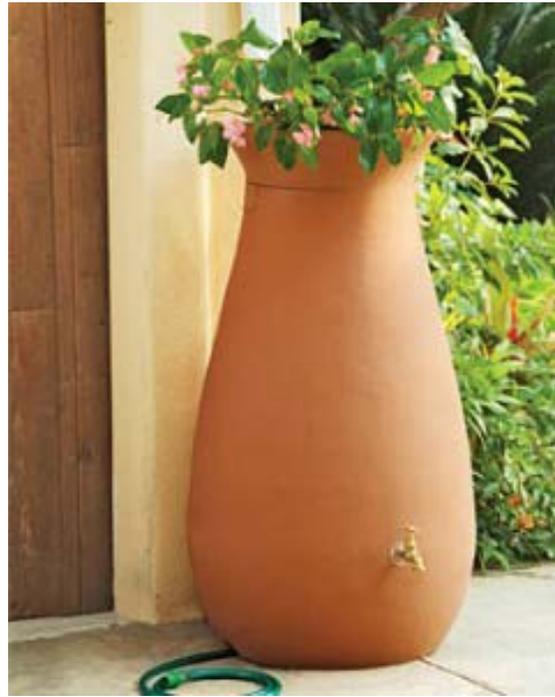


Rain Barrels



Rain Barrel Workshop

organized through the
City of Rockville and City of Gaithersburg Partnership

workshop materials and presentation by
Biohabitats

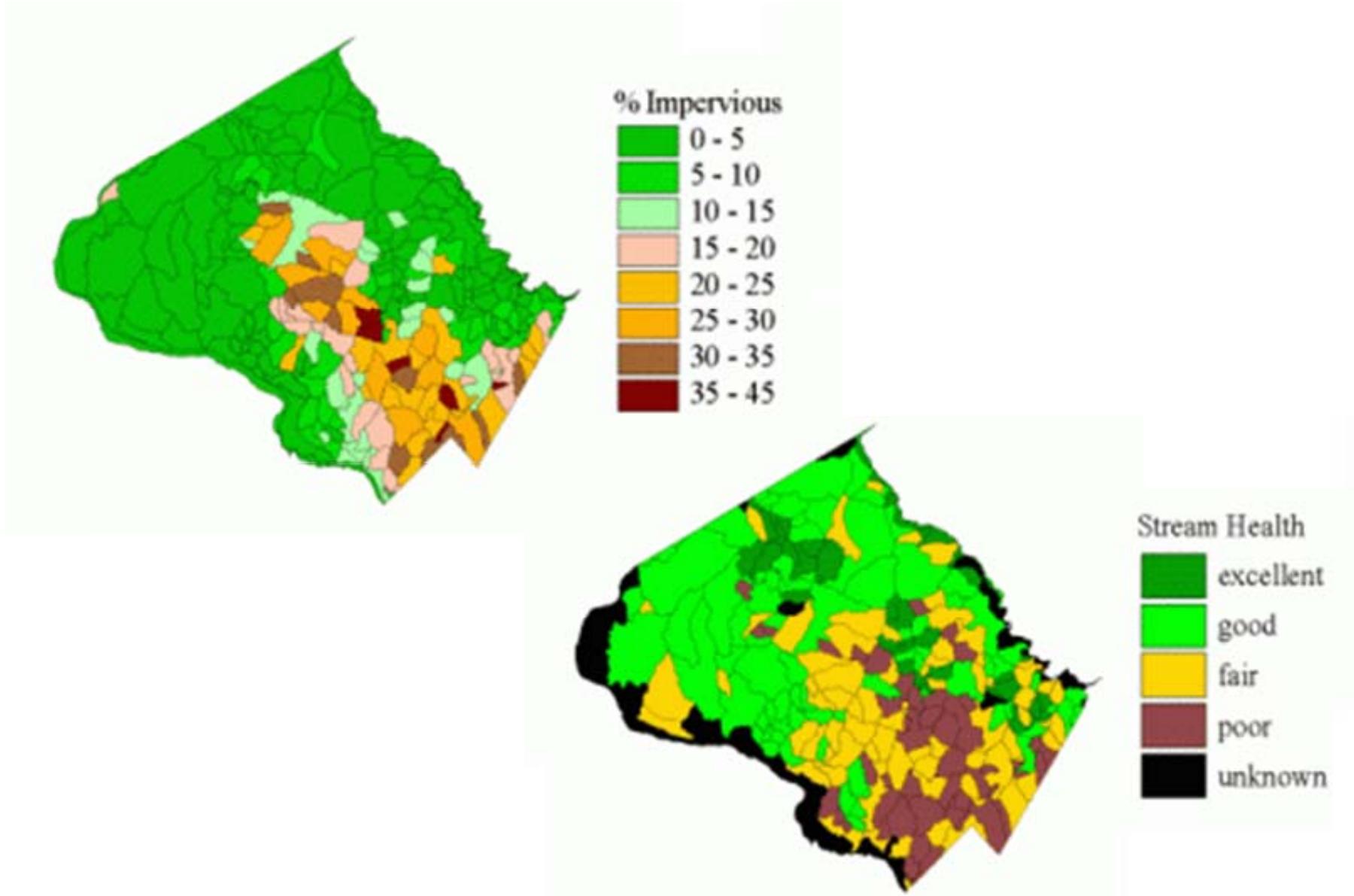


Impacts of stormwater runoff

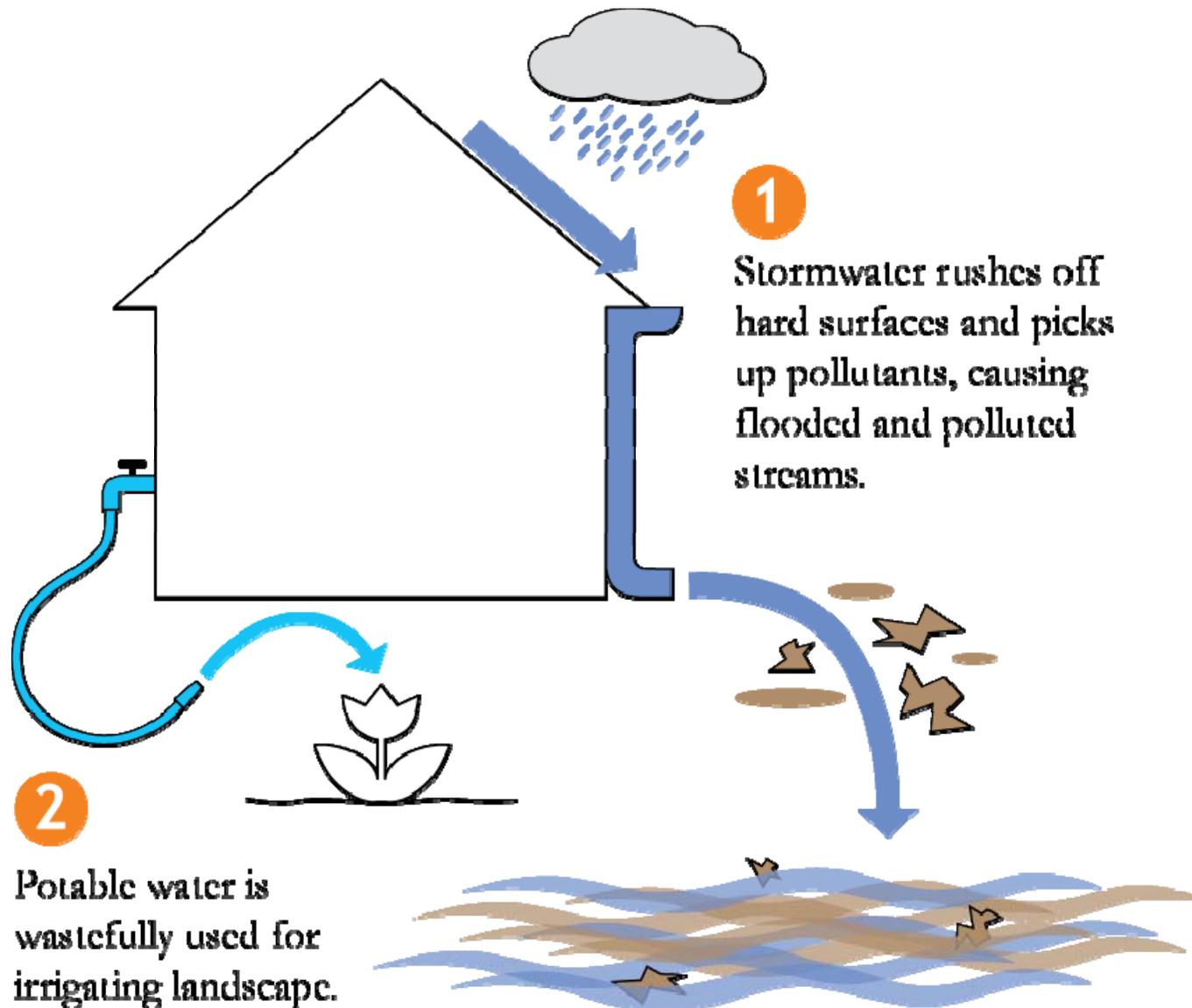
- Flooding
- Erosion
- Sedimentation
- Pollutant transport
- Decreased baseflow



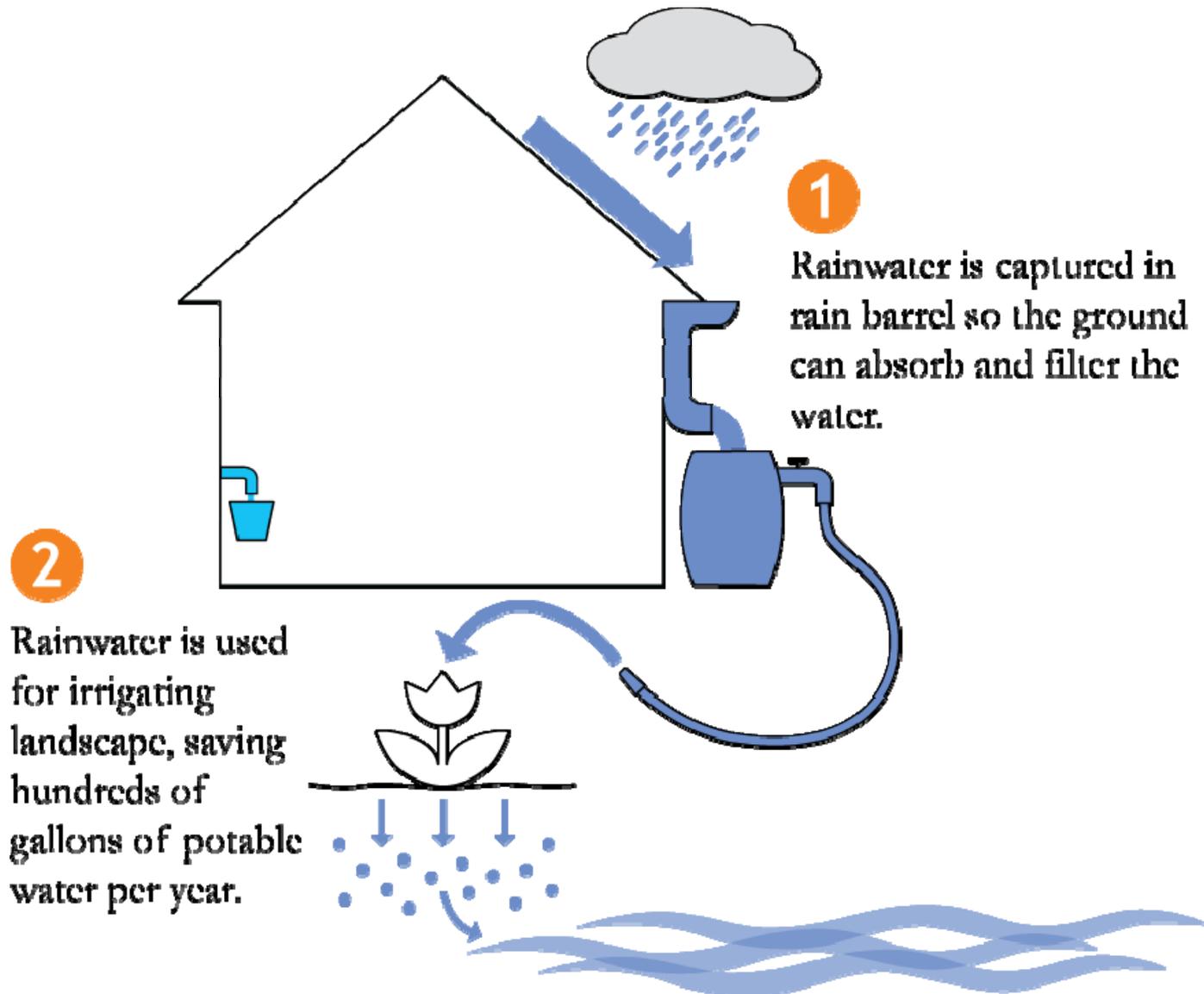
Effects on stream health



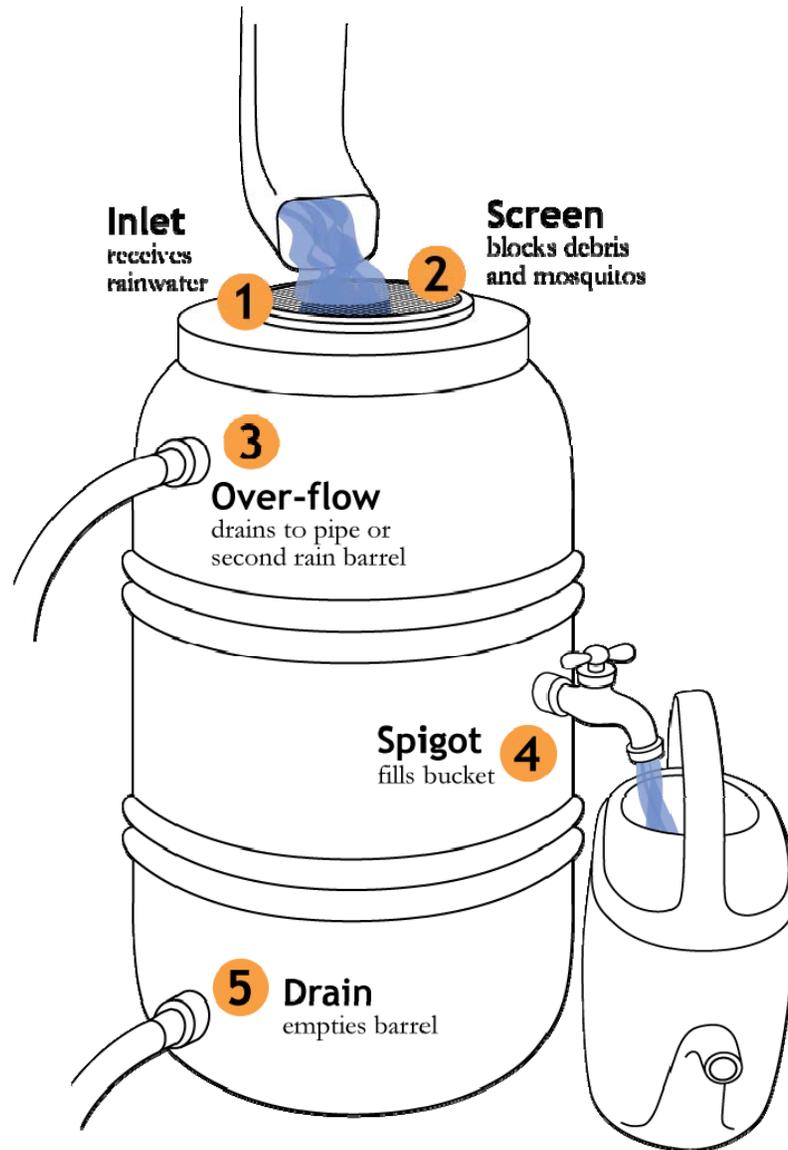
Typical residential scenario



Rain barrel benefits



Anatomy of a rain barrel



Where does the water go?



Direct connection to storm drain

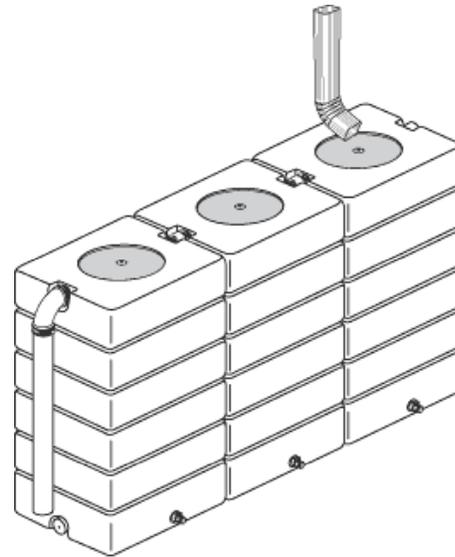


Drainage to paved surface

Downspout disconnection



Rain barrel designs



Sizing

- Consider roof area in relation to volume of rain barrel(s)
- How much water can you use?
- How much space is available?
- Rule of thumb:
1" rain over 1000 sq. ft. roof produces 600 gallons.



Sizing

Connect rain barrels in series for more storage



Aaron's Rain Barrels



Great American Rain Barrels

Installing a rain barrel

Choose a location

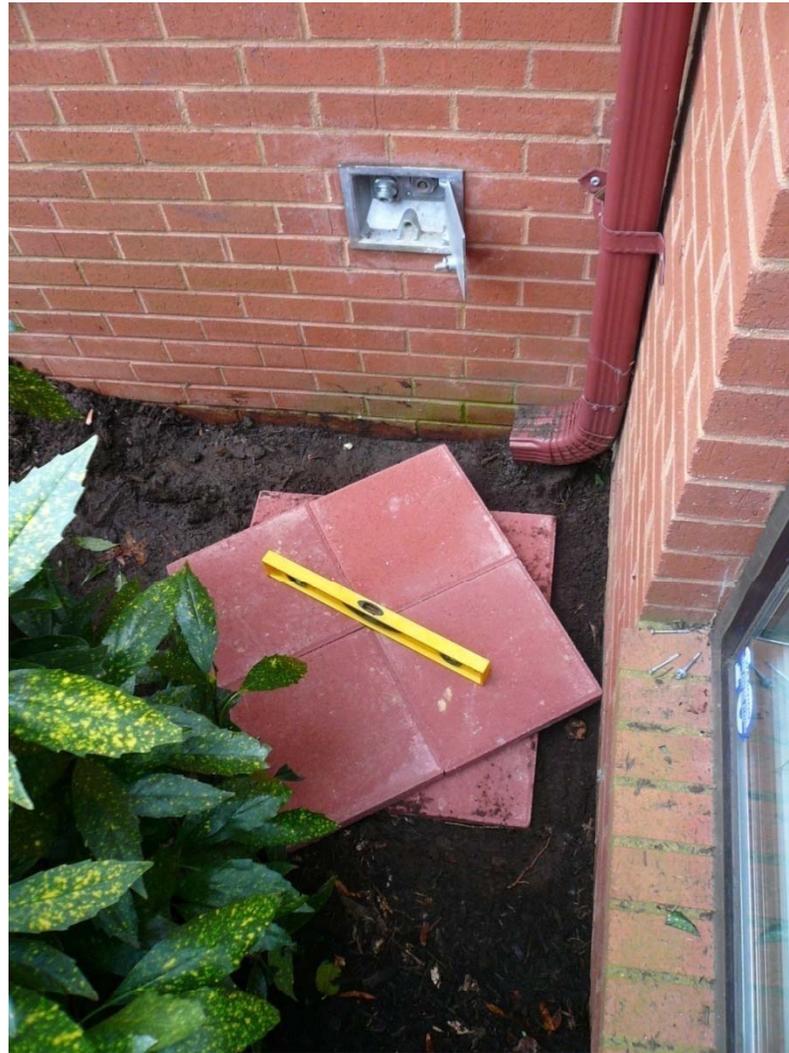


Gardenwatersaver.com



Aaron's Rain Barrels

Installing a rain barrel



Level the ground

Installing a rain barrel

Using a stand or concrete blocks



Woodland Carpentry



Aaron's Rain Barrels

Installing a rain barrel



Measure and mark where to cut downspout for adapter or diverter

Installing a rain barrel



Remove downspout and cut



Installing a rain barrel

Role of diverters

- Direct flow to barrel
- Take offline in winter
- Some designs have integrated overflow



Installing a rain barrel

Install diverter or adapter



Diverter



Adapter

Installing a rain barrel

Re-attach downspout, if necessary



Installing a rain barrel



Attach spigot



Installing a rain barrel



Attach hose for outflow

Installing a rain barrel

Attach overflow hose, if used



sky-bolt.com



Aquabarrel



Univ. of Florida

Installing a rain barrel



Cover inlet with screen to catch debris and block mosquitoes

Installing a rain barrel



Replace lid

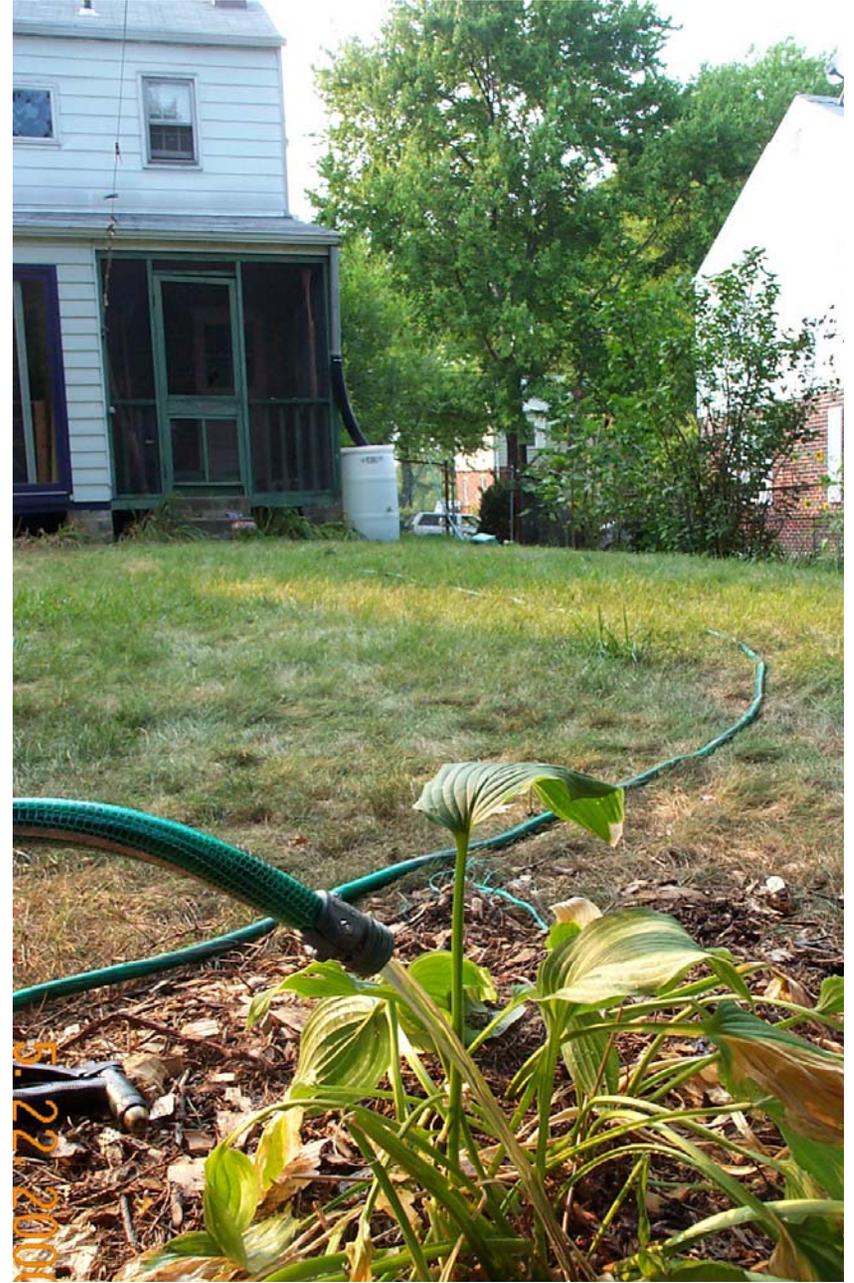
Using captured rainwater



- Hook up a garden hose
- Wash cars, windows



- Fill buckets/watering cans
- Use soaker hose to drain



Cleaning the barrel

- Periodically clean the screen
- Keep gutters clear
- Empty the barrel at least 1/year
- Add small amount of bleach if necessary
- Clean with soap and water or a biodegradable cleaner
- Clean with wet/dry vacuum



Winter maintenance

- Empty the barrel
- Store indoors or upside down
- Redirect flow onto the yard at least 6' from house



Mosquitoes

- Use a mesh screen
- Use a closed barrel
- Prevent standing water outside the barrel
- Use mosquito control pellets (Mosquito-Dunks, Mosquito-zhymes)
- Add a teaspoon of bleach to kill larvae



Finishing touches



Go catch some rain!

