

Rain Water Management

On a Gutterless structure

History of Rainwater Collection

- Rainwater collected as far back as 850 BC (we're not new to this practice)
- Need for water basic to human survival; civilizations without water usually do not prosper
- Rainwater collection in Constantinople reached megalithic proportions
- We are rediscovering the value of rainwater collection

History of rain water collecting



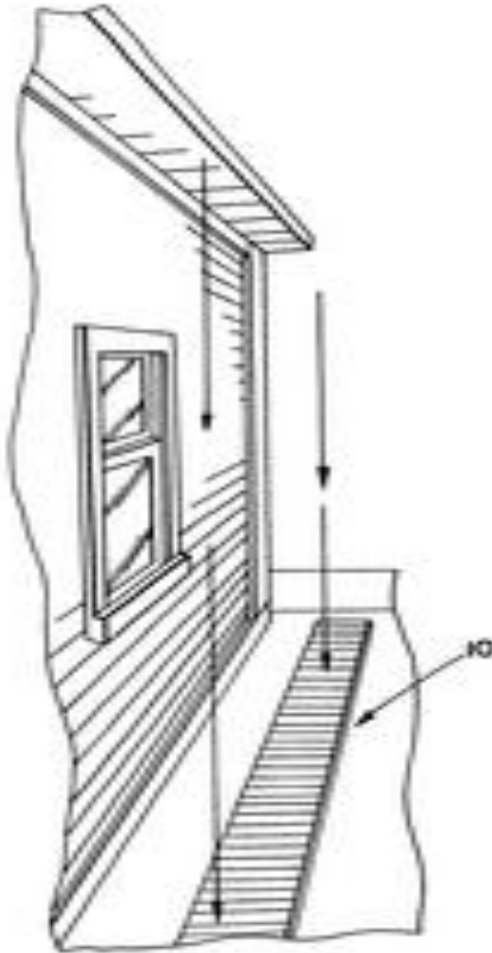
Sunken Palace

- In what is now Istanbul
- Collected rainwater from above ground
- Megalithic, expansive vault with high columns
- Could be navigated by boat
- Last of its kind
- Now this gigantic cistern is polluted from city above it; water no longer safe for drinking

Disadvantages of Gutters

- Can easily become clogged with leaves, debris
- Branches can break off nearby trees and become lodged in gutter
- Mosquitoes LOVE clogged drains = mosquito breeding site
- Gutters can be hazardous and/or expensive to clean
- Must be correctly installed to slope away from building

Gutterless System



- Rainfall or snow is collected in a trench
- Attached to drainage system or flows into cistern
- Can be expensive to excavate
- Landscape material if any has to be carefully chosen
- Aesthetically pleasing to homeowners or businesses

Porous paving



- Also called ‘reduced’ pavement
- Another way to reduce stormwater runoff and allow water to soak into the ground
- Driveways, sidewalks, or patios are candidates for porous surfaces
- Can be made from recycled bricks, stone, etc.

Then there is the 'drain barrel'



- Several steps involved
- Can use several types of containers
- Filled containers can be poured into larger receptacle
- More 'hands on' transfer of water
- Can be easily established

Rain barrels can be your creation



Buckets are handy for lots of tasks!



How to paint a rain barrel



- Clean and dry your barrel
- If sides are glossy, lightly sand the surface
- Apply a primer
- Use outdoor acrylic paint (exterior house paint) or use up old paint around the house
- Let paint dry, apply 1-2 coats of spray on polyurethane