

Drinking Rainwater - Private Systems  
 A Proposed Rainwater Quality "Target" Profile  
 2013

Contaminant	Treatment Option (equipment)	Treated Rainwater (target values)(*)
Turbidity	gutter screen/first flush diverter	less than 1 NTU
Tannins	gutter screen/first flush diverter	less than 0.1 ppm
UV Transmittance	gutter screen/first flush diverter	more than 80%
Taste	sediment/carbon cartridge filters	not noticeable
Odor	sediment/carbon cartridge filters	not noticeable
Color	Gutter screen/first flush diverter	lack of noticeable color
pH	Acid Neutralizer Filter	7.0
Hardness	(**)	(**)
Iron	None required	below 0.13
Manganese	None required	0.01 or lower
Hydrogen Sulfide	None required	not noticeable
Nitrate	None required	0.01 or lower
Sulfate	None required	2.0 ppm or lower
Chloride	None required	2.0 ppm or lower
Chlorine (total)	None required	none
Chlorine (free)	None required	none
TDS	None required	15 ppm or less
Zinc	None required	0.70 ppm or less
Aluminum	None required	0.0124 - 0.0449 ppm
Copper	None required	below 0.15 ppm
Sodium	None required	1 ppm

(\*) targeted values are for Central Texas area and based on lab and field tests of rainwater discussed throughout this article and are the recommendations of Texas Water Savers Co. exclusively

(\*\*) without pH neutralizer, rainwater target hardness is 0 - with neutralizer can expect hardness of treated water between 3 and 8 grains

Source: Texas Water Savers Co. (2013)