



DEPARTMENT OF  
**HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS**  
HOUSING DIVISION  
COUNTY OF MAUI

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**LANDLORD AND TENANT RAIN CATCHMENT CERTIFICATION**

We, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,  
Owner/Landlord Tenant

are aware that the unit located at: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit Address

is served by a private rain catchment system.

We understand that all our consumable water for this rental unit must come from a publicly approved source.

We certify that we have received a copy of the "Guidelines for Owners of Rain Catchment Water Systems," and will follow the recommended guidelines to have as decent, safe and sanitary rain catchment system as possible.

The Housing Division also recommends that all parties visit the University of Hawai'i at Manoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Hawai'i Rainwater Catchment Systems Program's webpage for useful information and resources regarding rain catchment systems. This page can be found at:

[www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/hawaiirain/guidelines.html](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/hawaiirain/guidelines.html)

We certify that we understand the responsibility we must assume in order to rent a unit served by a private rain catchment system.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landlord Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landlord Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tenant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tenant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **GUIDELINES FOR OWNERS OF RAIN CATCHMENT WATER SYSTEMS**

A properly constructed and maintained rain catchment water system can be an acceptable means of providing drinking water to individual homes.

The following guidelines are provided to help the homeowner in designing, constructing, inspecting and maintaining a rain catchment water system.

### **HELPFUL HINTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **Roof Catchment Area**

1. Avoid asphalt or tar based roof coatings because they may impair the taste of the water.
2. It is recommended that the first rainfall on a newly painted roof be diverted from the storage tank to discharge the waste materials.
3. Avoid low spots on the roof and in the collection gutters which will allow the trapped water to become stagnant.
4. Install a by-pass valve on the collection gutters to permit periodic cleaning of unwanted materials such as leaves, twigs, and "pele's hair."
5. Avoid planting trees close to the roof catchment area in order to minimize bird droppings, leaves, etc. from falling onto the roof or into the gutters.
6. It is recommended that a periodic scrubbing of the roof be done to remove moss, mildew, and bird droppings.

#### **Plumbing**

1. Be advised that use of lead for soldering joints in plumbing systems is prohibited.
2. It is recommended that an on-line water filter be installed between the storage tank and the house. Insure that filters are checked and changed periodically.
3. If the water has been standing for a long period of time, it is recommended that the water be run to flush out any possible stagnant water. This is especially true for homes used only on weekends or for vacation purposes.

## **Storage Tanks**

1. Storage tanks should be constructed of non-toxic material for storing drinking water, such as steel, fiber plastic, redwood and concrete.
2. If liners are used in storage tanks, liners should be FDA-approved. The smooth surfaces of a liner will tend to minimize bacteria and algae growth. Whenever possible, a drain should be installed at the bottom of the tank for the purpose of cleaning.
3. The water intake to the tank should be screened with two (2) different sized screens, with a large meshed screen to catch large debris such as leaves, and a fine meshed screen to catch small particles. All vents, pipes and openings to the tank should be screened to keep out vermin, insects, etc.
4. The tank cover should be tight-fitting, durable and rigid to keep out vermin, debris and sunlight. The frame material should not be chemically treated, as this might release the toxic chemicals into the water.

## **Treatment**

1. It is recommended that the water be chemically treated monthly to control bacteria and algae growth. The most common method of treatment is the use of chlorine compounds such as sodium and calcium hypochlorite. Household bleach, such as Clorox and Purex are the easiest to obtain and use. The recommended dose rate of treatment is 3 ounces (6 Tablespoons) per 1,000 gallons of water in the storage tank. For those who are interested in monitoring the chlorine content of their drinking water, chlorine test kits are available at local stores at minimal cost.
2. For emergency purposes, disinfecting the water can be accomplished by vigorously boiling it for one minute or adding halozone tablets that can be purchased from drug and sporting goods stores.

***NOTE: These methods of treatment do not remove lead or other metals from the water.***

## **Water Purifying Devices**

Caution is advised when purchasing any water purifying device that claims to remove toxic metals from the drinking water. Care and follow-up should be done prior to the purchase of any water purifying device.

## **Information Sources**

1. State Department of Health – (808)984-8234 (Health information, water testing, water purifying devices, etc.)
2. County of Maui Land Use and Codes Administration – (808)270-7375 (Water catchment systems – building materials, etc.)