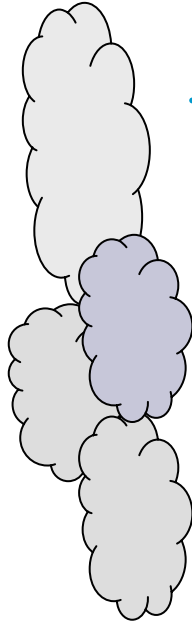
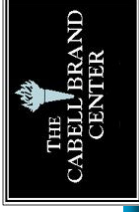


# Rainwater Harvesting & Stormwater Runoff



## The Life of a Raindrop

*A raindrop can travel quite some distance and can pick up many unwanted guests along the way.*

Raindrops fall from the sky, land on our rooftops, drain into our gutters, down the downspouts and onto our lawns.

When water travels across the land, it can pick up many toxins we apply to our lawns, debris and byproducts from our vehicles, trash left on roadsides, and sediment.

These oftentimes microscopic contaminants can travel long distances and ultimately make it to our local waterways, thus impeding the native water quality and wildlife.

### Benefits of Rainwater Harvesting:

- ◆ Protect the environment
- ◆ Reduce flooding occurrences
- ◆ Reduce erosion
- ◆ Reduce reliance on municipal and/or groundwater
- ◆ Promote environmental stewardship

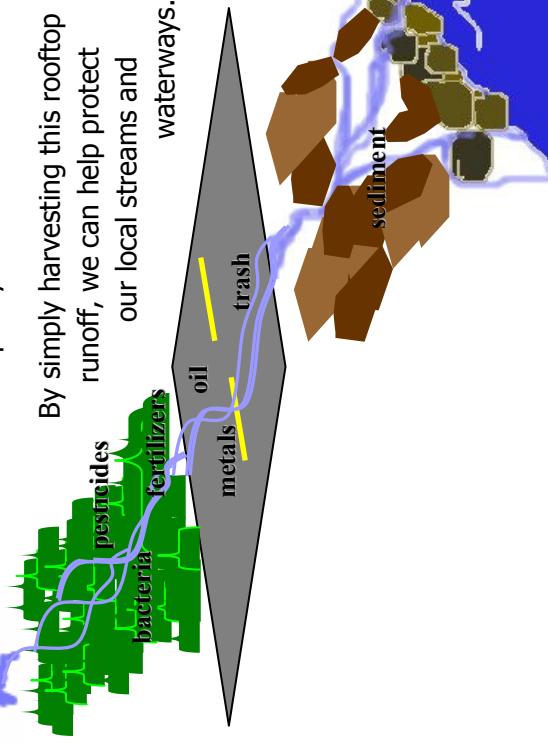
### Impervious Roof Surfaces

Virginia population increased nearly 8% from **2000-2006**, resulting in **475,535 new homes**.

Assuming each home has a roof area of 1,500 sq. ft, **713 million square feet** of impervious roof surfaces were installed during this time.

This can result in **19 billion gallons of rooftop runoff per year**.

These impervious roof surfaces contribute to Virginia's ongoing problem of nonpoint source pollution.



By simply harvesting this rooftop runoff, we can help protect our local streams and waterways.