

## Water Quality Fact Sheet

- The type of roofing material used on a home has a measurable impact on the quality of rooftop rainwater runoff, which affects natural, agricultural, and human health (1)
- Due to water scarcity and contamination, harvesting rainwater for domestic use is becoming increasingly popular as well (1)
- Metal roofs are usually recommended as the best roofing material for rainwater collection systems (1)
- Runoff from typical asphalt shingle roofs has been shown to contain traces of hazardous lead and mercury (1) • Rainwater harvested from a metal roof is superior to that from an asphalt shingle roof in terms of total organic carbon, turbidity, and color (1)
- Compared to other roofing materials, runoff from metal roofs has lower concentrations of bacteria that could potentially cause waterborne illnesses (1)
- Runoff from asphalt shingle roofs has shown significantly higher concentrations of dissolved organic carbon, which can react with chlorine during disinfection to form harmful byproducts (1)
- Water from roofs with wooden or asphalt shingles can contain chemicals used for waterproofing and weathering treatments (2)
- Coated steel roofs, such as Matterhorn products, greatly reduce the amounts of zinc and copper released by traditional galvanized metal roofs (3)

**For more information visit: [matterhornmetalroofing.com](http://matterhornmetalroofing.com)**

### Written By:

Andrew Stephens, Sustainability Consultant  
BS Chemistry and Environmental Science, University of Michigan

### Source

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2. DeBusk, Kathy M., William F. Hunt, Deanna L. Osmond, and Gregory W. Cope. "Water Quality of Rooftop Runoff: Implications for Residential Water Harvesting Systems." *Urban Waterways* . Web. 18 Sept. 2015.
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