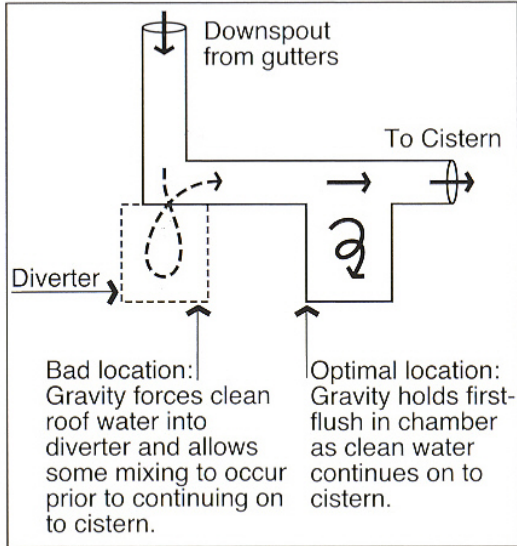


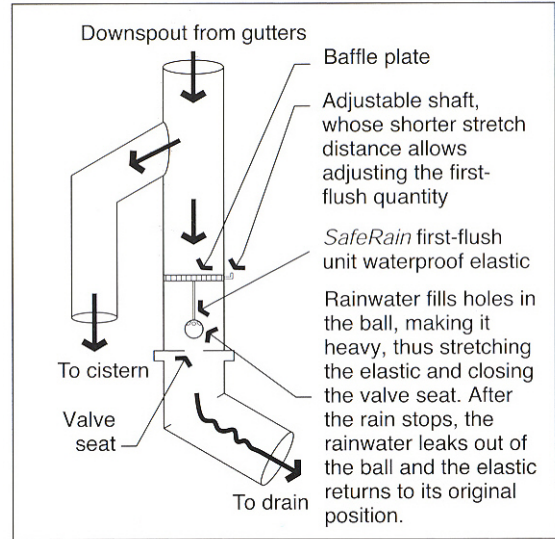
Examples of First Flush Diverters

Pictures used with permission from "Forgotten Rain, Rediscovering Rainwater Harvesting"
Heather Kinkade-Levario, ISBN 0-9720036-4-9

If roof water is to be used for potable purposes or if roof contaminants will spoil rainwater (such as heavy bird droppings) then a first flush system will be needed. These devices keep the first wash of water out of your collection container. General rule of thumb for the discard quantity: 5 - 10 gallons per 1,000 sq ft of roof or smaller. For larger roofs, discard 10 gallons per 1,000 sq ft.



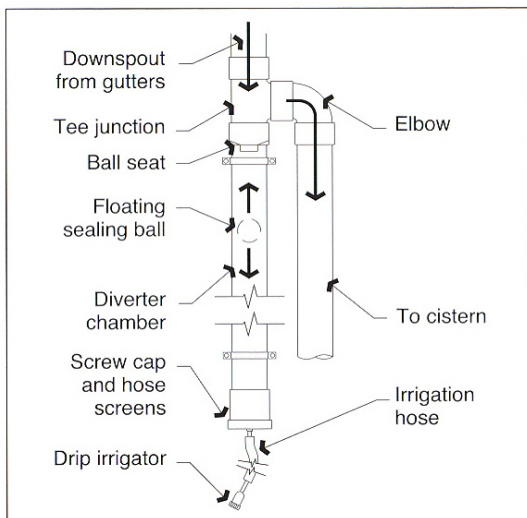
First-flush location without a self-sealing device



Baffle first-flush

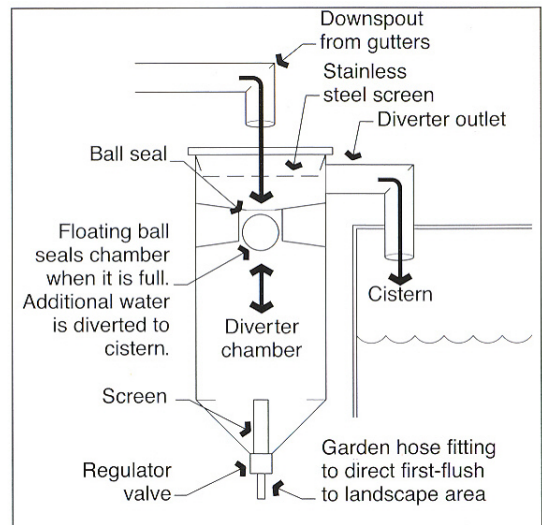
Source: Adapted from SafeRain ©2003

With this simple system ↑ attach ABS pipe to the gutter at the optimal location. The length of the first flush pipe depends on the roof area being flushed. A one foot length of 3 inch inside diameter pipe holds approximately 0.74 gallons, and a one foot length of 4 inch inside diameter pipe holds approximately 1.30 gallons. Put a screw cap on the end to close and unscrew to drain.



Typical stand-pipe first-flush

Source: Adapted from Environmental Conservation Planning and Consultancy Pty. Ltd. 1999



Floating ball first-flush

Source: Adapted from Environmental Conservation Planning and Consultancy Pty. Ltd. 1999