Rain barrel should include the following components:

- Overflow port & hose diverts water away from house
- Durable, UV-stable polyethylene, food-grade plastic
- Screen on barrel to remove sediment and particles as the water enters the barrel
- Screen also prevents mosquitoes and other insects from getting to the water
- High-quality, durable spigot allows connection to garden hose
- Spigot located low on the barrel to drain majority of water out of the barrel for maintenance
- Aesthetic features that are compatible with the landscaping plan
- A child and animal proof lid