

Cistern

Water is provided courtesy of mother nature through a rain catchment cistern. The roof serves as a giant collection pad, water flows through leaf guards into the gutters, enters a first flush diverter (dumps the first few gallons/ any dirty runoff) and the clean water enters the (1,100 gallon capacity) main tank through a claimed inlet. A an demand pump draws water from the tank and maintains water pressure to the house. There is an alarm inside the home adjacent to the water heater that, if for any reason the water level reaches half the tank's capacity, will alert you.

FYI -water treatment – we use bleach (4 cups for a full tank). You can also use slow dissolving pool tabs to maintain.

Solar for the Cottage (we stopped calling it a shed after it was finished)

Power for the cottage is renewable and free courtesy of the sun through a 12-volt system. The panels, mounted to a custom frame, provide 75 watts to the charge controller in the cottage, power is stored in a 12-volt battery (additional batteries can be added for more storage), and the power accessed through an inverter. Low wattage LED, s illuminate the inside perimeter and tha power strip provides additional outlets.