

# IT'S NOT JUST A BARREL: IT'S A RAIN BARREL!

## WHAT IS A RAIN BARREL?

Rain Barrels are an environmentally friendly way to minimize water usage (and reduce a homeowner's water cost) during warmer months.

Rain Barrels act as an effective stormwater management solution, they collect runoff from rooftops that can be used for other things, such as watering the lawn, flowers, or washing patio furniture.

## HOW WILL IT HELP WITH STORM SEWERS?

Using a rain barrel reduces the volume of water that needs to be treated through storm drains, minimizing localized flooding and erosion. Re-using this harvested rainwater for home use eliminates 100 percent of toxins, solids, metals, and pathogens that would have reached downstream water bodies through the storm sewer.

## WHERE WILL I PLACE MY RAIN BARREL?

Attached to a home's downspout, rain barrels work by delivering water through the force of gravity. Rainwater from the roof's surface collects in the rain barrel. A hose attached to a nozzle in the barrel allows this water to be re-used for outdoor watering needs.



## THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN INSTALLING A RAIN BARREL:

1. Locate your rain barrel on level and stable ground.
2. Ensure your rain barrel is watertight and has a smooth interior surface.
3. Empty the water in your rain barrel weekly to eliminate the chances of attracting mosquitos and other bugs.
4. Disconnect your rain barrel to prevent freezing during winter months.
5. DO NOT collect the run-off from tar and gravel, asbestos shingle, or treated cedar shake rooftops.

## WANT TO INSTALL A RAIN BARREL?

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