

RAIN BARREL

RAIN BARRELS - Why Rain Barrels?

Rain barrels can be attached to your downspouts to capture runoff from the roof.

By installing a rain barrel at your home you will:

Provide your plants with naturally softened water. The water stored in your rain barrel is great for washing your car and watering indoor and outdoor plants.

Save \$\$ and valuable water! Water flowers and garden. If you are charged for water you can reduce your municipal water bill!

HELP THE CHESAPEAKE BAY! Water stored in your rain barrels is water that won't rush off into our streams. Instead, as you use the stored rainwater, it will be absorbed slowly into the ground, replenishing ground water supplies.

By decreasing the volume of storm runoff, rain barrels also help moderate stream erosion, pollution and sedimentation that are impairing the Bay.

THE PORT TOBACCO RIVER CONSERVANCY will make rain barrels available to the public (limit 2 per person) for \$75 each in the parking lot of the TrueValue Hardware Store (Rt 6 and US 301(across from the Methodist Church) on Saturday 20 June, 2009, 9 am 'til gone! Cash or check – no credit cards, please. As the Conservancy is a 501(c) 3, tax exempt charity, \$45 of your purchases can be considered as a donation. WE HOPE TO OFFER THESE BARRELS FOR SALE SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE SUMMER.

Rain Barrel FAQs

What do they look like and where did you get them? They are heavy duty black or grey plastic barrels that were used to ship Spanish olives. We buy from various suppliers and recycle them into rain barrels.

How large are the barrels? They are 55 gallon barrels and thus will weigh 440 lbs when full. They should be placed on a sturdy, level base and children should not play on them.

Will I get mosquitoes in my rain barrel? The barrels are equipped with fiberglass screen that allows water in and keeps mosquitoes out. 1/2 of a mosquito dunk tablet will also kill mosquito larvae.

Is the water in my rain barrel potable? Not without further treatment to kill bacteria that may have washed off the roof from bird droppings, etcetera.

How do I install my rain barrel? Several organizations have put installation instructions on line. Download these and follow the simple directions. Tools are available from The TrueValue Hardware Store!

Can I paint my rain barrels? Yes, first wash the outside using soap and coarse steel wool to remove any olive oil and slightly roughen the surface. Use a spary paint for plastic in any color. It takes one can per barrel.

