

The Village of Clarendon Hills,  
the CHCO2 Footprint Project, and  
The Conservation Foundation invite you to be part of our a



## *“Raincatchers of Clarendon Hills Painting Contest”*

GREAT RAIN BARRELS AND OTHER ITEMS  
ON SALE NOW!

TO ORDER YOUR RAIN BARREL AND SUPPLIES VISIT

[www.ClarendonHills.us/Sustainability.cfm](http://www.ClarendonHills.us/Sustainability.cfm)

or

Upcycle-Products.com

(Be sure to click the Clarendon Hills Order Form link)



### What are rain barrels and why are they beneficial?

- A rain barrel is used to collect and store rainwater runoff, typically from rooftops. Instead of running down driveways and sidewalks to sewers, rainwater is collected into a rain barrel where it can be stored for use in gardens, to water house plants, for pet care and to wash cars. Rain barrels are a simple, efficient, low-cost method for homeowners to conserve water.
- It is estimated that during the hot summer months, the average homeowner uses 40 percent of household water in the yard. The mineral-rich and chlorine-free rain that falls on roofs can be used to offset household water usage and reduce water bills.
- A quarter-inch of rain falling on the average roof yields more than 200 gallons of water. In the Chicago area, the average annual rainfall is more than 30", meaning every household could collect 24,000 gallons of water a year in rain barrels!
- Conserving the rain that falls on properties will help recharge the water supply and reduce the stress on rivers and streams, which can help reduce flooding.
- Collecting rainwater where it falls reduces the negative impacts of having it run down driveways and lawns, where it picks up pollutants like motor oil and pesticides, carrying them to our rivers and streams.

**Reduce Your  
Carbon Footprint  
And  
Reduce Your  
Water Bill!**

### How can rain barrels be purchased?

- Available for purchase at Upcycle-Products.com by clicking on Clarendon Hills Municipal Order Form on the right side.
- Payment is accepted by check (UpCycle Products, Inc. 400 E. Wapella Street, Minooka, IL 60447), credit card, or PayPal.
- For questions or to make purchases or pickup arrangements, call 815-735-9583, or email [Sales@UpCycle-Products.com](mailto:Sales@UpCycle-Products.com).

**Purchase Your Barrel  
and Supplies @  
Upcycle-Products.Com**



### What are the features of the UpCycle Products Inc's rain barrels?

- They are 55-gallon containers, stand about 48" high and weigh 400 pounds when full.
- Made of food grade recycled plastic containers which can be painted, rain barrels are available in a variety of colors (choice varies and cannot be guaranteed).
- They are sealed to keep them safe around children and animals.
- The screw-off lid is equipped with a screen to keep debris and insects out.
- A valve on the bottom of the barrels to which a hose is attached makes the captured rainwater available through a simple gravity system.
- A connector at the bottom can be used with a hose to connect to a second barrel.



- An overflow connector at the top of the barrels allows for a hose to be attached and directed to other landscaped areas.

### How are rain barrels installed and used?

- Rain barrels work best when placed on a stand or concrete blocks under a downspout. The added height increases water pressure and provides space for a bucket or watering can to be placed under the valve. The Conservation Foundation has wooden stands available for \$20.
- Once the barrel is positioned on the platform, measure and cut the downspout to a length just above the top of the barrel. Downspouts can be cut with a hacksaw. Save the cut-off for reattachment in the winter.
- Attach two elbows or a 2" by 3" flex-elbow connector (available at most hardware stores and home centers) to the downspout to direct water to the top of the barrel.
- To use, attach a hose (a soaker hose is great) to the bottom valve and direct to landscaping, or simply fill buckets or watering cans to wash vehicles or water plants.
- The ideal time to install rain barrels is when the rainy season begins in the spring. In the fall, empty the barrel and store it upside-down. Then replace the downspout.

Pickup your rain barrels will  
take place on  
April 26, 2014  
(in honor of Earth Day)  
from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
at  
Prospect School Parking Lot  
100 N. Prospect Ave.  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

### How can the rainwater be used?

- Consider these ideas for your mineral-rich, chlorine-free rainwater:
- Attach regular or soaker hoses to the bottom spigot and top overflow valve and direct to landscaped areas nearby.
- Fill a bucket or watering can to hand-water plants in your garden and indoor plants.
- Use for pet-care, from filling animal water bowls to using for pet baths.
- Use the rainwater to wash cars and bicycles.

Installation of a functioning,  
decorated rain barrel will take  
place at Clarendon Hills Bank on  
Saturday, June 14, 2014 as a  
lasting example for the  
community!



### How to decorate your rain barrel!

- Make decorating your rain barrel a family or group project. It's fun and easy!
- To paint a rain barrel a solid color, Krylon's Fusion spray paints are recommended as they are designed for plastic and do not require a primer.
- To paint designs, first prime the barrel with Zinser 1-2-3 (blue can) and follow with a coat of interior/exterior grade acrylic paint. Finally, paint your designs with acrylics
- Apply a sealer to protect against weather and cracking.





### FEELING CREATIVE?

Individuals, families, and groups can also participate in this cultural and community event! Purchase your own rain barrel, decorate it, and enter it in the contest.

Download a rain barrel painting contest application at the village's sustainability webpage at [www.clarendonhills.us/sustainability.cfm](http://www.clarendonhills.us/sustainability.cfm)

Your painted rain barrel entries must be physically delivered to the Village of Public Works garage by 3pm, June 6, 2014.

Completed entries shall include:

1. Your completed application;
2. Your best photograph of the painted rain barrel; and (of course)
3. Your painted rain barrel for display.

A public voting period will take place from June 13, 2014 – July 13, 2014. The winner will be announced at Dancin' in the Streets on Wednesday in mid-July, 2014, and will receive a tumbling composter for "Best Decorated Barrel".

As a part of his Eagle Scout Service Project, Alex Sivak is donating one rain barrel to each of the Clarendon Hills Schools to be decorated by students, and displayed in and around downtown Clarendon Hills.



THE BEST IN SHOW WILL WIN THIS TUMBLING COMPOSTER FOR THEIR HOME OR BUSINESS!



Alex Sivak, a member of Clarendon Hills Boy Scout Troop 51, has taken upon this event as his Eagle Scout Service Project. This project will help promote the message that CHCO2 Footprint Project, a non-profit organization that supports the community of Clarendon Hills with environmental education to reduce our individual and collective carbon footprints, wants to encourage. It will aim to educate and aid the community in the conservation and preservation of water through the installation of rain barrels. Also, it is a cultural event that blends artistic talents with conservation measures, in which the whole community can participate.

