

DECORATE YOUR RAIN BARREL!



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DUPAGE COUNTY

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

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RAIN BARREL BENEFITS

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RAIN BARREL BENEFITS

TO LEARN MORE

Visit us at: www.dupageco.org/swm

— or —

Call us: (630) 407-6673

Q: What is a rain barrel?

A: A rain barrel is a container used to capture and store rainwater from roofs and other impervious surfaces.

Q: What are the benefits?

A: A substantial amount of household water is used for watering our lawns and gardens during throughout the summer months. A way to combat high water bills is to invest in a rain barrel. The water it captures after a rainfall can later be used on lawns and gardens. In fact, it's actually better for your gardens to use rainwater!

Furthermore, the installation is simple and the cost is comparatively low.

Q: Why is rainwater better for your garden than tapwater?

A: There are some inorganic ions and fluoride that can be traced in regular tapwater. These ions and other compounds can cause damage to plant roots in the long run. By using an organic alternative, your garden will be more sustainable and ultimately grow to be healthier. Not only will your garden flourish, but limiting your use of tapwater will save you money! It's a win-win.

Q: What about runoff reduction?

A: Another perk of having a rain barrel is that you are benefiting the greater community and environment as a whole. Since rain barrels catch rainwater, they also reduce stormwater runoff. Stormwater runoff can drag different fertilizers, pesticides and other contaminants straight into nearby bodies of water.

Even if a rain barrel doesn't have the capacity to capture all rainwater, it is a definite help!

Remember

- Rainwater is a natural way to provide nutrients to your garden and your lawn.
- The entire community can benefit from your green efforts. Rain barrels reduce the amount of stormwater runoff that carry contaminants into our streams and rivers.
- You can decorate your rain barrel to become a part of your lawn décor.
- Water in rain barrels can be used on lawns and gardens, which may reduce your water bill!
- You can purchase rain barrels at local non-profits and retailers.

