

Preventing Mosquitoes

Your rain barrel will be equipped with a mosquito screen under the lid to keep mosquitoes and other insects out.

- ◆ Place your barrel so that overflow water soaks into the ground instead of pooling on paved surfaces.
- ◆ Keep your rain barrel lid sealed.
- ◆ Keep your barrel free of organic material.
- ◆ During the rainy season, every 3-4 days use your hand to splash off any water that may collect on top of the barrel. Mosquitoes need at least 4 days of standing water to develop as larva.
- ◆ If you believe mosquitoes are breeding in your rain barrel, empty your barrel completely. This will kill all mosquito larvae that may be in your barrel. If your mosquito netting is intact and there are no leaks where mosquitoes can enter the barrel, your rain barrel should be mosquito-free.

Disclaimer

With proper installation, maintenance and use, your rain barrel should function properly. The LaPorte County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) assumes no liability for the installation, maintenance, property damage or injury associated with your rain barrel.



LaPorte County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)

**100 Legacy Plaza West
LaPorte, IN 46350**
P - (219) 362-6633 ext. 3
F - (219) 324-8317
www.laporteswcd.com

Rain Barrels provided by:



UpCycle Products
www.UpCycle-Products.com

LaPorte County
Soil & Water
Conservation District
(SWCD)

Rain Barrel and Composter Program



Orders will be available
for pick up monthly—
please call the office
to verify schedule and dates.

Or if you have any other questions
about
the Rain Barrels, accessories, or
composters.

Phone: (219) 362-6633 Ext. 3
LaPorte Co. Soil and Water
Conservation District (SWCD)

Why Harvest Rainwater with Rain Barrels?

Helps Reduce Stormwater Pollution

Rainwater stored in rain barrels helps reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and the amount of pollutants that are picked up and carried to storm sewers, creeks and all other water bodies.

Conserves Water Supply Resources

Rainwater used from rain barrels helps reduce the amount of water used from underground aquifers.

Better for Plants and Gardens

Rainwater stored in rain barrels is a naturally soft water and devoid of minerals, chlorine, fluoride, and other chemicals. For this reason, plants respond very well to rainwater. After all, it's what plants in the wild thrive on!

Helps Inform Your Neighbors

One of the best reasons to start harvesting rainwater with rain barrels is to teach and encourage others to do the same. You will help to spread the culture of rainwater collection and in turn, help your larger community and the environment. It is always important to remember that every living thing on the planet needs water to survive so, we as humans must expand our idea of community to the plants and animals that surround us.

Using Rain Barrel Water

- ◆ Water your flowers, trees, shrubs, and lawn
- ◆ Wash your car; rinse tools or muddy boots.
- ◆ DO NOT DRINK WATER from your rain barrel.
- ◆ DO NOT COOK OR BATHE with water from your rain barrel.



All of the plastic rain barrels are made from re-cycled food grade barrels. The rain barrels have a screw on top with one inch holes, screen mesh to keep out debris and mosquitoes, An overflow male hose connection, a drain valve and a connection to attach additional barrels.

Rain Barrel Instructions

- ◆ It is a good idea to put your barrel up on a flat, stable platform (concrete blocks, landscaping blocks or other solid support). The added height increases the water pressure and allows you to put a bucket under the spigot to bring water to your indoor plants. A full 55 gallon rain barrel weighs over 450 pounds.
- ◆ Provide overflow hoses or pipes to direct water away from your house foundation for times of high rainfall.
- ◆ Locate and install your rain barrel to keep kids safe. Keep your rain barrel lid tight at all times to prevent children, animals and insects from entering or falling in.
- ◆ Measure and cut the downspout. (Keep the cut off for reattachment in the winter). Use two elbows or a flexible spout attachment to direct the water to the top of the barrel. The end of the downspout should be cut 2-3 inches above the top of the barrel. Downspouts can be cut with a hacksaw. Flexible spouts can be purchased at hardware stores or home centers.
- ◆ In the Fall, you will want to empty your rain barrel and store it or flip it over. Replace the downspout you saved for the Winter.
- ◆ Diverter are available that can easily switch the downspout from filling the barrel to normal operation once the barrel is full.

Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Item	Color	Qty	Total
Prices are each			
Rain Barrel (55 Gallon) (Available in black, grey, terra-cotta, and blue. Price: \$75.00			
Diverter Price: \$22.00	White		
Small Flex Elbow (2x3 in.) Price: \$8.00	White		
Large Flex Elbow (3x4 in.) Price: \$12.00	White		
Linking Hose Price: \$7.00	Black		
Pedestal Price: \$18.00	Wood		
Tumbling Composter (55 Gallon) Price: \$100.00	Black		
Potting Bench Price: \$175.00	Wood		

For pictures and more information about these items visit

www.laporteswcd.com or
www.upcycle-products.com