

East Falls Goes Green!

Rain Barrel Workshop

Rain barrel Benefits...

Reduce runoff Stormwater runoff is the leading cause of pollution in our River today. Stormwater runoff carries motor oil, fertilizers, pesticides and other toxic pollutants, including pet waste into storm drains that are emptied into our River. Erosion is also another problematic result of stormwater run-off.

*An overflow hose located at the top of the barrel directs the excess water from your barrel to a garden or to an area where it can slowly soak into the ground for greater infiltration and percolation.

Healthy water for your plants Rainwater has no added chemicals, is usually soft and free of dissolved minerals. This untreated water is great for your indoor plants, your garden and lawn, washing your car and filling your birdbaths.

Conserve water. Our ground water and fresh water supplies are limited, So make the most of the rain and capture it to reuse in your garden!

Save money. Collect hundreds of gallons at no cost!

When it rains, the rainwater hitting your roof will collect in your barrel. In order to have the greatest benefit, the barrel will need to be emptied after each storm. This will ensure that the barrel will have capacity available to retain rainwater in the next storm.

Some examples of uses for this collected rainwater are:

- * watering the lawn
- * watering the garden
- * washing the car/bike
- * clean outdoor/patio furniture
- * washing gardening containers and tools
- * watering indoor plants and potted deck plants
- * simply release the water before a storm for better infiltration and percolation (reduces runoff and aids filtration)

Do not use the water collected in your rain barrel as a drinking water source.

If you do not have a use for the water in your barrel, a simple option is to always leave the spigot in a slightly open position so that the water drains slowly from the barrel over several days after a storm.

Due to potentially hazardous chemicals and metals associated with the following materials, it is suggested that you do not use a rain barrel if...

- * your roof is made of wood shingles or shakes and has been treated with chemicals to resist rotting and moss growth
- * you have zinc anti-moss strips on your roof
- * you have a copper roof or copper gutters
- * you have asphalt shingles with zinc embedded in the surface