

### 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 on a landscaped surface so that overflow water soaks into the ground.
- 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



### **Use vines to beautify your rain barrel**

- Some native climber vines will attach themselves to the barrel naturally; however, you may need to use a flexible lattice for the vine to anchor to.
- Pick your favorite native climber vine.
- Maintain the health of the vine and enjoy the new, natural look of 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. 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 time 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.
- 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.
- Diverters are available that can easily switch the downspout from filling the barrel to normal operation once the barrel is full.

### Disclaimer

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

## Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**55 gallon Rain Barrels      \$60.00**

### **1st Choice:**

**Blue** \_\_\_\_\_

**Terra-Cotta** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gray** \_\_\_\_\_

**Black** \_\_\_\_\_

### **2nd Choice:**

**Blue** \_\_\_\_\_

**Terra-Cotta** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gray** \_\_\_\_\_

**Black** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-PAID ORDERS ONLY!  
NO REFUNDS!**

**DELIVERY DATE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Time: 2:pm—6:pm**

## 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 the Wabash River.

### **Conserve Water Supply Resources**

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

### **Better for Plants & 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!

### **Using Rain Barrel Water**

Water your flowers, trees, shrubs and lawn  
Wash your car, rinse tools or muddy boots

### **DO NOT DRINK, COOK OR BATHE**

with water from your rain barrel.



**SAVE WATER  
for your  
Garden and Lawn  
every time the  
rain falls...**



**Vigo County Soil & Water  
Conservation District  
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Office: 812-232-0193 ext. 3  
Fax: 812-234-9629**

**CALL TODAY TO PLACE  
YOUR ORDER !**

**PRE-PAID ORDERS ONLY!  
NO REFUNDS!**

**DELIVERY DATE:**

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