

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 pervious (landscaped) surface so that overflow water soaks into the ground instead of pooling on paved surfaces.
- ◆ Keep your rain barrel lid tightly closed.
- ◆ Keep your barrel free of organic material.
- ◆ During the rainy season, every 3-4 days 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 by opening the spigot at bottom. *Only tip when draining is complete and barrel is nearly empty.* 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 North Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District assumes no liability for the installation, maintenance, property damage or injury associated with your rain barrel.



North Cook County
Soil & Water
Conservation District
Plastic Barrel & Composter Display
Kinsch Village Florist
of Palatine
P.O. BOX 407
Streamwood, IL. 60107
Assisting Local Landowners
in Natural Resource Conservation
Since 1950⁺

Rain Barrel Information



NORTH COOK CO.
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 407
STREAMWOOD, IL. 60107
847-468-0071

Illinois' 98 SWCDs are non-taxing
local governments

WWW.NORTHCOOKSWCD.ORG

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 rivers.

Conserves Water Supply Resources

Rainwater used from rain barrels helps reduce the amount of water used from underground aquifers and community / municipal supplies.

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.



Plastic barrels are repurposed food grade barrels with a screw on, screened, top and an overflow hose connection. Oak barrels are pre-used Wine & Beer barrels. They are completely sealed & come with a diverter for attachment to the downspout. *Refinished* Oak barrels have Black Oxide painted metal rings and stained & sealed wooden parts. All barrels are fitted with a spigot and connection for attaching additional barrels. Styles & shades may vary with supply.

Rain Barrel Instructions

- ◆ It is a good idea to put your barrel up on a flat, stable platform (wood pedestal, 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 hose to direct water to a vegetated area, 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.
- ◆ Plastic Barrels: Measure and cut the downspout. (Keep the cut off for reattachment in the winter). Use existing elbow or a flexible elbow attachment to direct 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 elbows can be purchased at hardware stores. Most homeowners do not require a flexible elbow. However, you may choose to use a flex elbow to hide a barrel around the corner of your building.
- ◆ In Fall, open spigot and unscrew connector cap to drain barrel. Store as is, flip over or bring inside. If removing from downspout, replace downspout you saved for the Winter.
- ◆ Diverters can switch downspout from filling to normal operation once the barrel is full.

ORDER BY APRIL 1ST. PICK UP IN MAY.
(Next Sale— Order by May 1st. Pick up in June)
Mail Check & Order Form To:
North Cook Co. SWCD, P.O. Box 407
Streamwood, IL. 60107

Payment Due With Order

Name
REQUIRED: _____

Address: _____

Phone
REQUIRED: _____

Email: _____

Item	Qty	Total
PLASTIC Rain Barrel (\$59.99)		
Wood Pedestal (\$23.00)		
Connector Hose (\$9.00) To connect adjacent barrels		
Grand Total		

CIRCLE Color Choice for PLASTIC Barrels

Black Blue Terra Cotta

Order must be picked up at:

Kinsch Village Florist
301 West Johnson St. in Palatine
OR SWCD at 899 Jay Street in Elgin

Streamwood Residents Only:

Please call for details.

You will be notified, at the number you provide on this form, when your order is ready for pick up.

**Questions? Concerns? Want to pick up in Elgin?
Check the website or call us at 847-468-0071**

More Info. at WWW.NORTHCOOKSWCD.ORG

WWW.NORTHCOOKSWCD.ORG

More Info. at WWW.NORTHCOOKSWCD.ORG

ORDER ONLINE!!

LOOK FOR THE E-PAY LINK ON OUR RAIN BARREL PAGE.

ORDER ONLINE!!