

# Rain Barrels

# What exactly is a rain barrel?

A rain barrel is a container that is designed to capture water which falls on roof tops, store that water and let the water be released when it convenient for the homeowner.

#### What do rain barrels do?

- Provides clean water for outdoor uses
- Conserves water
- Minimizes the effects of drought
- Can help decrease water pollution contributions
- Can help decrease the chance or magnitude of a flood

# Where do I put a rain barrel?

Just find a downspout!

Remember to stabilize the rain barrel on a steady, level surface and elevate the barrel so you can place your watering can or bucket underneath.



#### Rain Barrel Q & A

# Is a rain barrel expensive?

Rain barrels vary in cost a great deal depending on where you purchase them. Many are under a \$100. If you are a do-it-yourself type, a rain barrel can usually be made for under \$50.

# Will a rain barrel attract mosquitoes?

Yes and No. Mosquitoes need 7-12 days of standing water to complete their life cycle. They like stagnant water with few or no predators. Your rain barrel may "fit the bill". A properly maintained rain barrel will reduce the ability of the mosquitoes to survive.

### What about maintenance?

Follow these simple tips to keep your rain barrel in shape:

- ~ Inspect regularly
- ~ Control mosquito population
- Clean screen of debris (leaves and needles)
- Empty barrel and store for the winter

For more information or to schedule a rain barrel presentation, please contact Amy Reeher, Trumbull SWCD Watershed Coordinator at (330) 637-2056, ext. 111 or at reehera@embarqmail.com



#### **Rain Barrel Uses**

Washing the car

