

## Rain Barrels help You Save Water

It is estimated that the average rain shower that falls on the typical home results in more than 700 gallons of perfectly good rainwater running off and seeping into the ground. That amount of rainwater alone is the equivalent of almost 20 baths or nearly 60 showers. Buildings that are much larger will of course result in more rainwater running off, often reaching into the several thousand gallons being wasted.

In the face of the limited supply of water that so many areas of the country faces, this is all the more reason to consider installing rain barrels on your property. Besides being wasted, this rainwater also enters the storm drains through the ground where it can deposit various toxic materials and other pollutants, causing further harm to the environment.

Rain barrels then serve an important function, and that is to collect and store all the rainwater that would have otherwise been wasted, so you can put it to good use. Rain barrels can be as simple as large receptacles that the rain water from your roof and other surfaces in your property can run off into. A good rain in a typical home will result in rain barrels being filled fairly quickly, with the rainwater collected amounting to as much as 200 gallons of perfectly useable water. This will then result in you having a considerable amount of water that can be used for various purposes around the home, ranging from watering plants and trees, to car and window washing chores. This will have the effect of greatly reducing your water bill and reduce the pollutants that enter the ground water, as well as put all that collected rainwater to good use.

Your options for rain barrels range from commercially available rain barrels to rain barrels made out of materials that can be found around the home or in a typical garden supply store. Many commercial rain barrels have fixtures built in such as hose or faucet connectors, which make them convenient for regular use or for hooking up with other rain barrels in order to collect even more rainwater. Constructing your own rain barrels will take some time, effort and planning, although this will be offset by the money that you will save from having to buy commercial rain barrels. Whichever option you choose to go for, you will want to make sure that your rain barrels are ideally situated to collect as much rainwater as possible.

## About the Author

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