

# Cumberland County Conservation District

## Rain Barrel Project Order Form

The rain barrels are **\$90.00**. We have a limited supply, available per pre-order and will be offering barrels based on the pre-order list. Since we have a limited supply, we are asking to **limit one barrel per customer.**

Order deadline is **May 16, 2025**.

### Name & Address:

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

**email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate potential pick-up timeframe:

Barrels must be picked up at Cumberland County Conservation District on

**May 30<sup>th</sup> between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM**

**or**

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM**

An email will be sent to barrel recipients with directions.

Please detach and return this form in person or by mail with a check for \$90.00 payable to:

**Cumberland County Conservation District**  
310 Allen Road, Suite 301

Carlisle, PA 17013

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RAIN BARREL PROJECT



Harvesting rain water in Cumberland County for over 20 years!

## What is a rain barrel?

A rain barrel is a system that collects and stores rain water from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff and diverted to storm drains, streams and the Chesapeake Bay. The rain barrel is constructed using a used 55-gallon food grade barrel, a bottom drain, a spigot, an overflow, a screen to keep debris and insects out, and a downspout diverter to carry the water into the rain barrel. A rain barrel is a relatively simple and inexpensive way to capture and store rain water for use at later times. It conveniently sits under residential gutter down spouts.

## Advantages of a rain barrel:

Lawn and garden watering can make up a large percentage of total household water use during the summer. A rain barrel collects water and stores it for when you need it most, during periods of drought, to water plants, wash your car, etc. We will continue to do this program because of the demand for the rain barrels. The barrel provides an ample supply of free water for gardens, flower pots, etc.

A rain barrel can save homeowners over 1,000 gallons of water during the peak summer months. Saving water not only helps protect the environment, it saves money and energy (decreased demand for treated tap water and well water).

Diverting water from storm drains decreases nonpoint source pollution and the impact of runoff to streams and the Chesapeake Bay. Therefore, a rain barrel is an easy way for you to help protect the Bay.

## How do I adapt the rain barrel to my downspout?

To get the downspout water into the rain barrel, you will have to cut or remove a portion of your downspout and install the provided downspout adapter from your downspout to the top of the rain barrel.

### Tips for using your rain barrel:

- Do not use collected water for drinking, cooking, or bathing.
- Keep the lid secure so children or animals cannot fall into the barrel.
- Disconnect the barrel during the winter to avoid freezing and breaking of the barrel and its valves.
- If a moss killer has been used on the roof let a few rainfalls occur before collecting the roof runoff.
- Divert the overflow hose toward a grassy area. This will allow the water to infiltrate the ground.
- The installed screen will prevent mosquitoes from breeding in your barrel.
- Consider joining multiple barrels for additional capacity!

## About our rain barrels:

We use black, food grade pickle barrels to construct the rain barrels. After examining many other rain barrel designs, we made some improvements to make this rain barrel reliable with several hook up options. The spigot and drain both have a standard garden hose connection, and the overflow could be adapted to a garden hose with some additional fittings. The screen is 256 mesh per inch, which is more than required to keep mosquitoes out. We hope your rain barrel will provide years of trouble free operation and provide an adequate supply of water for your intended use.



Drain



Spigot



Overflow

The barrels are assembled in cooperation with Penn State Master Watershed Stewards in Cumberland County.