

RAIN BARREL BENEFITS

Save

Conserve water, reduce demand for treated tap water, and save money by lowering your monthly bill. A rain barrel can save over 1,000 gallons of water during peak summer months.

Happier Plants

Rainwater is free of the additives (e.g., chlorine and fluoride) in tap water that plants don't need or want. Rainwater is also slightly acidic, helping plants access soil nutrients. If your city restricts watering during times of dry weather, it may be the only way to avoid having your garden wilt. The water stored in a rain barrel can be used to water lawns and gardens either with a traditional hose, soaker hose, or with a watering can.

Building Protection

Control moisture levels around the foundation of buildings.

Flexibility

As water storage needs change, the number of barrels in a system can follow suit.

Reduced Stormwater Runoff

Rain barrels can divert a limited amount of stormwater from roofs, reducing strains on urban streams and storm sewer systems. Water and pollutants that go down a storm drain in the street go directly to the Red River, not to a waste water treatment facility. If stored water will not be used for plants or a lawn, slowly release stored water by allowing it to drain through the lower opening. Attach a hose to direct the water where you want it to flow. Make sure your barrel is empty or lowered enough to capture the maximum amount of water expected with each rain event.

CONTACT US

River Keepers
kimberly@riverkeepers.org
701.356.8915
riverkeepers.org

Clay Soil & Water Conservation District
Amanda.Lewis@clay.mnswcd.org
218.287.2255
claycountymn.gov/272/Soil-Water-Conservation-District

SUPPORTERS



RESILIENT YARD SERIES: RAIN BARRELS



FOR SALE

Assembled Rain Barrel - \$85 \$75 (Seasonally Available)

Blue or white 55 gallon used food grade barrel



Rain Barrel DIY Kit - \$65 (Seasonally Available)

- Blue or white 55 gallon used food grade barrel
- Flexi-Fit Diverter
- 3-piece Hole Saw Set
- Spigot and threaded Rubber Seal
- Fill Hoes and Rubber Seal
- "Do Not Drink This Water" Sticker
- Installation Screws
- Installation Instructions

To buy an assembled rain barrel, DIY Kit, or for more information, contact Kimberly: kimberly@riverkeepers.org or 701.356.8915.

EQUIPMENT

An assembled rain barrel requires a hand drill to complete the attachment to the downspout.

Tools required for assembly of the Rain Barrel Kit include safety glasses, safety gloves, drill, Phillips screwdriver, and a barrel.

Orders must be placed by e-mailing or calling River Keepers. Orders will usually be ready for pick-up three days after the order is placed. Usually, the order must be picked up during normal working hours of 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. but if necessary, other arrangements can be made.

Maintenance

Don't use the barrel in the winter to avoid ice damage. Drain the barrel, remove the inlet hose, remove Flex-Fit Diverter and leave all faucets open before freezing weather. Consider storing your barrel in a sheltered area. Strong winds can send an empty barrel rolling away.



WORKSHOPS

Create a resilient yard to sustain the Red River by making your own rain barrel! In addition to building your own rain barrel to take home, the workshops include a short presentation to learn the basics of water quality and effects of storm water runoff. Come prepared to carry home an empty 55-gallon barrel.

Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop

May 5, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

At a Moorhead Park

Fee: \$34 (includes supplies)

\$30 for Moorhead Residents

Make and Paint Rain Barrel Workshop

Painting is a great way to customize a rain barrel. Make and paint your own rain barrel during this two-day workshop. Artist Olivia Bain will be present to offer tips and help with your design.

May 3 and 10, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

West Fargo Fairgrounds

Fee: \$59 (includes supplies)

\$54 for Moorhead Residents

To register: Contact Moorhead Community Education at <https://www.moorheadschoools.org/schools/alternative-schools/community-education/> or call 218.284.3400.