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
Watering the lawn
Watering the flowerbed