

# Rain Barrel Order

Rain Barrels are 33 to 42 inches tall. Upcycled and sanitized 55-gallon plastic barrels formerly used for food product shipping. Modified into rain barrels and assembled with a spigot, linking fitting at bottom end, overflow fitting near top and screen enclosure for top.



	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
BLACK RAIN BARREL		<b>\$100</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>			

- Rain Barrel Orders will be collected all year.
- Rain Barrel Pickup will be Late Feb/Early March for the first round.

#### USE RAIN BARREL WATER:

- ✓ To wash your car
- ✓ To water your plants
- ✓ To wash your windows

### Order Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make out and send payments to: Ford County SWCD  
1380 W Ottawa, PO Box 232, Paxton, IL 60957*



# Helpful Tips

- Choose a spot for your barrel where you can either tap into or modify a downspout to fill your barrel. There are several rainwater diverters on the market that are easily installed into your downspout. Remember the intent of the downspout is to direct water away from the basement and foundation of your home. DO NOT redirect water back to the base of the home from the overflow fitting. Connect a hose and direct the water away from the house.
- Choose a spot for your barrel and place concrete blocks or similar sturdy material to raise your barrel up approximately a foot above the surrounding ground. This will allow easy access to the spigot with a watering can or bucket. Additionally, the elevated barrel will ensure your hose, if used, will flow properly to your flowers. Remember that water seeks its own level. In other words, if the end of your hose is higher than the spigot, then the water will not flow out. The concrete blocks will make your barrel a little sturdier also.
- If you purchased or want to purchase multiple barrels you can connect the two barrels together from the one barrel's overflow fitting to the spigot of the other. Make sure to open the spigot on the receiving barrel. When the barrel under the downspout becomes full it will overflow to the next and so on and so on. There is no limit to how many barrels may be connected.

## Winterizing your Barrel

You do not need to remove the fittings for winter. We use plastic fittings because brass and steel do not interface well with plastic barrels. These items expand and contract at a different rate, which is the major cause of other manufacturer's barrels leaking in a short period of time. The only thing you need to do to prepare for the winter season is to drain all the water out of them, remove any hoses, open the spigot, and remove the cap from the linking fitting. You can leave them standing all winter. Enough water will remain in them to keep them from being blown over and if they do freeze you will end up with a bird bath size ice cube which will not damage your rain barrel.

