

## What is a rain barrel?

Water conservation is becoming an increasing concern, particularly in the summer months when the demand for water is highest due to lawn and garden watering. Rainwater collection is part of a comprehensive water conservation program.

A rain barrel provides an innovative way to capture rainwater from your roof and store it for later use.

Water from rain barrels provides chlorine-free water to:

- ◆ Water your lawn
- ◆ Irrigate gardens
- ◆ Water indoor plants
- ◆ Wash your car



This water would otherwise run off your roof through downspouts and become stormwater, picking up pollutants on its way to a storm drain, stream, or lake. You can lower your water bill, conserve well water in the dry season, and reduce polluted stormwater runoff.

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## Conserve Water with a Rain Barrel



Save money through the  
Rain Barrel Cost  
Share Program

for residents of the  
St. Jones River Watershed  
and the City of Dover

# About the Rain Barrel Cost-Share Program

In an effort to implement a comprehensive water conservation plan, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's Nonpoint Source Program is offering a cost-share program providing rain barrels to residents living in the St. Jones River Watershed and the City of Dover. **These barrels, which typically cost over \$100, are available for purchase for only \$35 through the program.**

**A limited number of barrels are available by reservation only.** To reserve a barrel, please contact the Nonpoint Source Program at 302-739-9922 or email Sharon Webb at [sharon.webb@state.de.us](mailto:sharon.webb@state.de.us).

The barrels will be available for pickup on **September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup> (from 11 am to 7 pm) at the City of Dover Grounds Division, Dover (located on Water St. one block east of the Christ Episcopal Church turn right at blacktop driveway next to the News Journal Building)**. When picking up your barrel, you will be asked to sign an agreement stating that you will maintain the barrel for its intended use for a minimum of five years. Payment must be by check or money order made out to the State of Delaware. Barrels are bulky and may not fit in most vehicles with the trunk closed, so please bring string or bungee cords.

# About the Rain Barrel

These 60 gallon terra cotta colored plastic barrels are made from recycled food grade barrels and were originally brought into the United States filled with olives and pickles. These plastic barrels have traveled thousands of miles, and even though they have been thoroughly cleaned inside and out and applied with several coats of a UV polish, they may still have some small scratches and scrapes. This should be considered part of the "character" of the Grecian rain barrels.

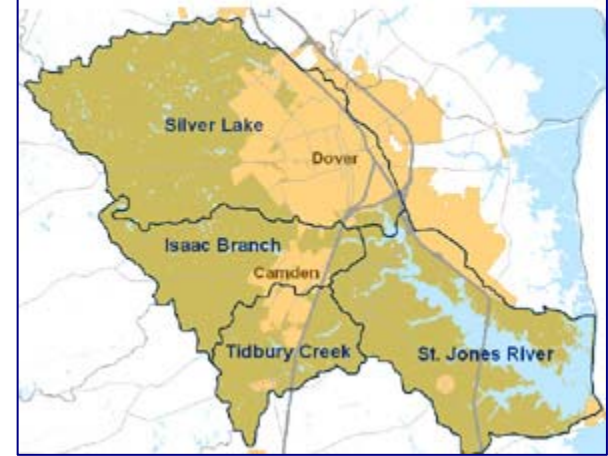
Some of the features of the barrels include:

- ◆ a screw-on perforated top with inside mesh screen to keep out debris, bugs, pets, and children
- ◆ two overflow male hose connections, which allow excess water to be diverted into a second barrel
- ◆ a brass spigot with threads to connect to a garden hose
- ◆ a bottom drain plug


By attaching a hose, excess water can be diverted to any remote area such as a garden or flower bed.

The brass spigot is shipped inside the barrel and will need to be attached to the pre-installed plastic fitting. The barrel is approximately 39" tall and 23" in diameter and holds approximately 60 gallons of water.

## The St. Jones River Watershed



## How do I know if I live in the St. Jones Watershed?

- 1) Go to the following link [http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/water2000/Sections/Watershed/ws/sj\\_tat.htm](http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/water2000/Sections/Watershed/ws/sj_tat.htm)
- 2) Click on the link for the St. Jones Rain Barrel Program. You can zoom in on the map to view road names and landmarks by clicking on the  button. (You may have to click more than once.)

If you do not have internet access or are unable to determine if you live in the watershed, please call the NPS Program at 302-739-9922.