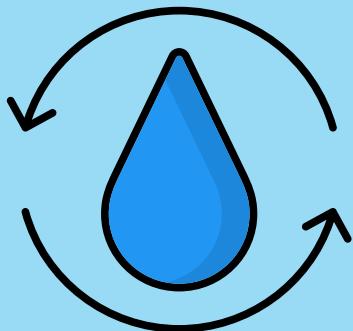


A RAINBARREL IS A STORAGE TANK THAT CAPTURES RUNOFF WATER FROM A CATCHMENT AREA SUCH AS A ROOFTOP FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING, STORAGE, AND REUSE.

In Summit County, where the average annual rainfall is about 37 inches, a 1 inch rainfall draining off a 1000 sq. ft. roof, will generate almost 600 gallons of water. Instead of running off into a sewer pipe, stream, or groundwater - why not put it to another use?



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**SUMMIT
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**



RAIN BARRELS

MAKE
EVERY
DROP
COUNT

BENEFITS

- Conserve precious water
- Helps prevent non-point pollution
- Improves storm water quality
- Helps prevent erosion
- Improves groundwater quality
- Provides mineral-rich water for plants



SET UP

- Observe your site** - where does the runoff from your roof area go now? Where does that downspout currently drain?
- Plan your rain barrel** - check local ordinances before disconnecting downspouts and layout a safe overflow location.
- Construction** - buy either fully assembled or you can build it yourself (get creative!)
- Maintenance** - drain your barrel at least once a week and winterize your rain barrel during the winter season.

TIPS

- Elevate your rain barrel to improve water pressure of the outflow.
- Common sizes for residential use are 55 and 90 gallons.
- Use only clean, food-grade barrels.
- Must be secured on a firm, level surface. A full 55-gal rain barrel weighs over 400 lbs.
- The barrel must have a lid and sturdy fine mesh covering all openings to prevent mosquitos.
- Never use the collected water for potable uses, including for any pets or livestock.