

Purpose of Rain Barrels

A rain barrel is placed beneath the downspout of a home where it collects run-off water from the roof which would otherwise be unused.

Uses

- Watering your lawn
- Watering your garden
- Washing your car
- Outdoor cleaning

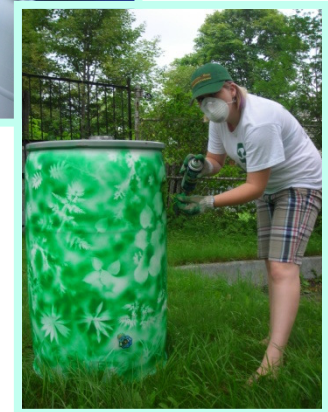
Description

At full capacity the rain barrel can hold between 50 – 60 gallons of water, providing 500 pounds of pressure for your watering needs. The rain barrel is equipped with a spigot, which allows owners to fill buckets or attach a garden hose.



Step 5 (optional): Paint

With a brush or a roller, lay down a base coat of acrylic latex primer. Then be creative and have fun (Tip: painting is a great way to get the kids involved). We used green spray paint, and used leaves as stencils.



For more information please
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DO-IT-YOURSELF
RAIN BARRELS



A guide prepared by the North East Avalon Atlantic
Coastal Action Program and the Conservation Corps
Newfoundland and Labrador



Step 2: Cut Hole for Intake

Drill pilot holes and cut a 3" hole in the lid with a hacksaw blade (or a serrated knife) – aim for a low point, but remember, the barrel will need to fit under your eavestrough's downspout.



Step 3: Assemble Intake

Cut out a circular piece of mosquito netting that measures 5 inches in diameter. Attach mosquito netting to a PVC reducer with a hose clamp (Tip: cable-ties also work well).



Insert the PVC reducer into the 3 inch hole in the lid of the barrel.



Step 4: Connect Tap

Drill a hole in the side of the barrel, towards the bottom. Remember, you will want to leave enough room for a bucket or a watering can (or the barrel can be raised on blocks). Insert the tap. On the back of the tap, apply a bead of silicone, add the o-ring, then the washer, and then the nut. Tighten the nut with an adjustable wrench. Your rain barrel is all done!



Step 1: Gather Tools and Materials

The specific tools and materials you will need will depend somewhat on the type of barrel you have. You will likely need:

Tools	Materials
Drill (and bits)	Barrel
Adjustable Wrench	Insect Netting
Serrated Blade	4" Hose Clamp
	Tap
	Rubber O-Ring
	Washer
	3"-4" PVC Coupling
	Silicone

