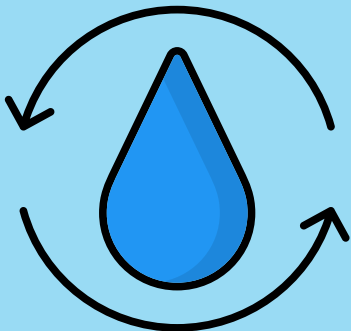


A **RAINBARREL** IS A STORAGE TANK THAT CAPTURES RUNOFF WATER FROM A CATCHMENT AREA SUCH AS A ROOFTOP FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING, STORAGE, AND REUSE.

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?



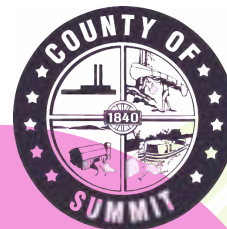
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RAIN BARRELS



SUMMIT
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MAKE
EVERY
DROP
COUNT



SET UP

1. **Observe your site** - where does the runoff from your roof area go now? Where does that downspout currently drain?
2. **Plan your rain barrel** - check local ordinances before disconnecting downspouts and layout a safe overflow location.
3. **Construction** - buy either fully assembled or you can build it yourself (get creative!)
4. **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.

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