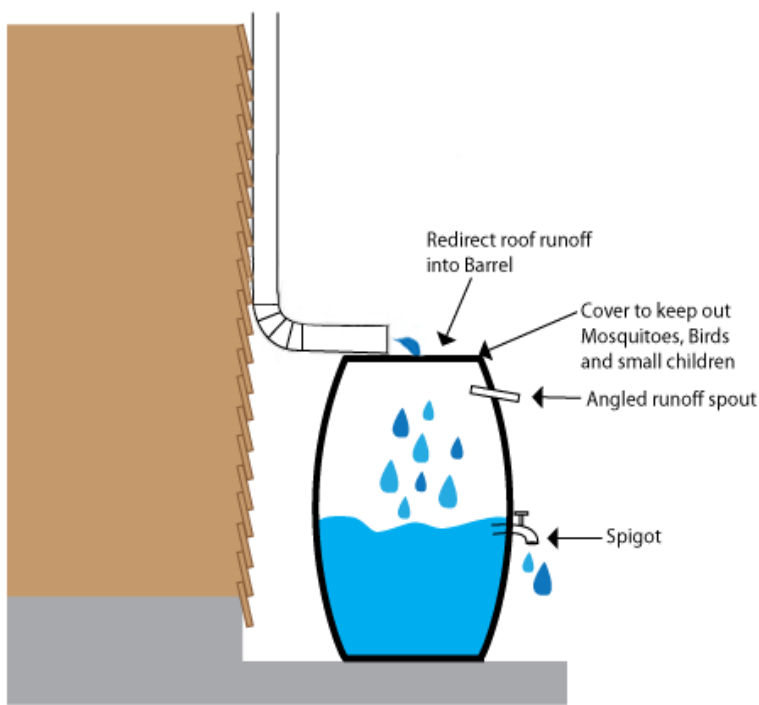




# Rain Barrels

*Use rain barrels to water your plants and wash your car. They lower your water bill, reduce stormwater, and help the environment!*



## How do they work?

Rain barrels allow you to capture and store rainwater from your roof before it becomes polluted runoff. Rain barrels come in all shapes and sizes, but typically hold between 50-80 gallons of rain water.

## Where should rain barrels be installed?

Rain barrels should be installed under a roof gutter downspout. Downspouts can be easily modified with flexible gutter extensions to accommodate a rain barrel. Placing your rain barrel on a raised surface, such as cinder blocks, helps increase water pressure when you want to use the water inside.

## How do I maintain my rain barrels?

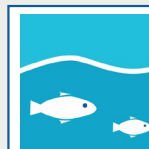
- Keep a screen on the lid of your rain barrel to prevent mosquitoes from breeding.
- Remove leaves, pine needles, and other debris from the top of the rain barrel.
- Make sure to use the water in your barrel to water your rain garden, lawn, or even wash your car. If you can't use it all, then let the remaining water run out of the barrel slowly. It will seep into the ground, preventing runoff, and making room for the next rain.

If you are interested in purchasing discounted rain barrels, or if you would like to learn more about the uses and benefits of rain barrels, please visit:

<https://www.nhcgov.com/273/Rain-Barrel-Sales>

**Already installed a rain barrel? Let us know!**

Visit us at: [www.wilmingtonnc.gov/takeaction](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/takeaction)



**HealOurWaterways.org**  
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Bradley Creek & Hewletts  
Creek!