

RAIN BARRELS CARE SHEET

***Please read the brochure that came with your Rain Barrel**

Every Spring (when temperatures are high enough to avoid frozen barrels)

- Turn the diverter valve on your rain barrel to “collect” so that rain water enters your barrel
- Close the drain at the base of the barrel (unless you have a soaker hose attached to the spigot)
- Clean your filter bag (attached to the diverter valve on the rain barrel)

Monthly

- Clean your filter bag (attached to the diverter valve on the rain barrel)

Every Winter (when temperatures are low enough to freeze water in the barrel)

- Turn the diverter valve on your rain barrel to “bypass” so that rain water does not enter your barrel
- Open the drain at the base of the barrel

REMEMBER: “BEFORE IT RAINS IT’S TIME TO DRAIN” - EMPTY YOUR RAIN BARREL BEFORE EVERY PREDICTED RAIN EVENT

We understand the desire to keep rainwater in your barrel to water your plants, but a rain barrel can only collect as much rain as it has space to hold. If your rain barrel is empty it will be more effective at keeping stormwater pollution out of our drains and sewers. Again — “before it rains its time to drain” so that your barrel will capture *maximum* amount of rain, will be less likely to overflow, and will help you prevent pollution to our local streams and waterways!