

RAIN BARREL REBATE

Receive up to \$500 back when you install a rain barrel!

What is a rain barrel?

Rain barrels capture and store the rainwater running off your rooftop. The harvested rainwater can be used immediately or stored for later use to water your lawn or garden, fill ponds or fountains, or wash your car.



To receive a rebate:

- **Download** application materials from ddoe.dc.gov/rainbarrelrebates, or request by calling (202) 817-9672.
- **Assess** your site to determine location, volume, and type of barrel best for your site.
- **Purchase** a barrel.
- **Install** the barrel.
- **Submit** the rebate application, receipt, and before and after pictures.

How much is the rebate?

\$1 per gallon, with a minimum of 50 gallons and maximum rebate of \$500 per property.

** Limit of two (2) rain barrel rebates per property.*

***Rain barrels less than 50 gallons are not eligible for a rebate.*

What should I look for when choosing a barrel?

Rain barrel criteria:

- **Volume:** Minimum of 50 gallons. *If the roof area is more than 200 ft², we suggest adding 25 gallons of capacity for each additional 200 ft².*
- **Overflow:** The barrel's overflow should be at least 2 inches in diameter.
- **Inlets:** The barrel's inlets should be screened to prevent leaf debris and mosquito larvae from entering.
- **Spigot:** The spigot should be no higher than 3 inches above the bottom of the barrel.
- **Height:** Your barrel should be elevated to increase water pressure. Decks and porches must be structurally sound to support a full barrel.

Building your own barrel? Just submit a design sketch and receipt for all parts purchased. Reimbursement cannot exceed the cost of parts. To ensure that your barrel meets the above criteria, please consider submitting the design before you begin building.



Why does the D.C. government offer rebates on rain barrels?

Rainwater that flows off impervious surfaces, such as rooftops, driveways, and roads, carries pollutants into our rivers and streams, bringing pollutants with it. Rain barrels allow water to seep into the ground slowly, naturally filtering out pollutants and recharging the water table. Barrels also slow the amount of water going into our streams and rivers during heavy storms, easing stream erosion.



RiverSmart Rebate Program

Approved Rain Barrels

There are many rain barrels on the market, but not all of them are well designed. The following barrels are eligible for the Rain Barrel Rebate. These barrels are carried at local hardware stores or can be ordered online (websites are listed).



Manufacturer: Rain Water Solutions
Model: Ivy
Volume: 50 gallons
Dimensions: 43" x 22" x 18"
www.RainWaterSolutions.com



Manufacturer: Rain Water Solutions
Model: Moby
Volume: 65 gallons
Dimensions: 39" x 29" x 27"
www.RainWaterSolutions.com



Manufacturer: Rainwater HOG
Model: Rainwater HOG
Volume: 51 gallons
Dimensions: 20" X 9 1/2" X 71"
www.rainwaterhog.com



Manufacturer: Good Ideas, Inc.
Model: Terra Cotta Rain Wizard,
Volume: 50 gallons
Dimensions: 30" x 22" X 22"



Manufacturer: Good Ideas, Inc.
Model: Terra Cotta Rain Wizard,
Volume: 50 gallons
Dimensions: 40" x 26" x 24"



Manufacturer: Aquabarrel
Model: Aquabarrel Classic, 55 gal
Volume: 55 gallons
Dimensions: 23" X 25"
www.aquabarrel.com

Have a larger rainwater harvester in mind?

If the design criteria outlined on the front of this flier are met, larger cisterns are eligible for coverage. Please call 202-817-9672 before purchasing to determine if the rebate can be applied to your specific cistern.

RiverSmart Rebate Program

Approved Rain Barrels

There are many rain barrels on the market, but not all of them are well designed. The following barrels are eligible for the Rain Barrel Rebate. These barrels are carried at local hardware stores or can be ordered online (websites are listed).



Manufacturer: AquaBarrel
Model: EarthMinded RainStation
Volume: 60 gallons
www.aquabarrel.com



Manufacturer: InterState Coalition for the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB)
Volume: 60 gallons
Dimensions: 42" X 24"
www.potomacriver.org



Manufacturer: Exaco
Model: ECO 67 Round
Volume: 67 gallons
Dimensions: 22" wide x 41" high
http://www.exaco.com/rain_barrels.html



Manufacturer: Exaco
Model: ECO 70 Square
Volume: 70 gallons
Dimensions: 34" x 24" x 40"
http://www.exaco.com/rain_barrels.html

Have a larger rainwater harvester in mind?

If the design criteria outlined on the front of this flier are met, larger cisterns are eligible for coverage. Please call 202-817-9672 before purchasing to determine if the rebate can be applied to your specific cistern.

RiverSmart Rebate Program

Approved Rain Barrels

There are many rain barrels on the market, but not all of them are well designed. The following barrels are eligible for the Rain Barrel Rebate. These barrels are carried at local hardware stores or can be ordered online (websites are listed).



Manufacturer: Aquadra Systems
Model: The Aquadra System
Volume: 75 gallons
Dimensions: 12" X 24" X 72"
www.aquadrasystems.com



Manufacturer: Aquabarrel
Model: RainBox
Volume: 75 gallons
Dimensions: 20" X 24" X 42"
www.aquabarrel.com



Manufacturer: Aquabarrel
Model: Aquabarrel Abe
Volume: 80 gallons
Dimensions: 28" X 52"
www.aquabarrel.com



Manufacturer: RiverSides
Model: RiverSafe Rain Barrel
Volume: 132 gallons
Dimensions: 51" X 27"
www.riversides.org



Manufacturer: Aquabarrel
Model: 275 Gallon Cistern
Volume: 275 gallons
Dimensions: 66" long x 22" wide x 45" wide
www.aquabarrel.com

Have a larger rainwater harvester in mind?

If the design criteria outlined on the front of this flier are met, larger cisterns are eligible for coverage. Please call 202-817-9672 before purchasing to determine if the rebate can be applied to your specific cistern.

RiverSmart Homes Rain Barrel Rebate Program Choosing the Right Rain Barrel and Installation Site

There are many options for size, shape, volume, and placement of a rain barrel. Here are six factors to keep in mind when choosing a rain barrel and selecting the right location for installation:

- **Need for Water**

Where do you plan to water your lawn, wash your car, or maintain your vegetable garden? Attach the rain barrel to a downspout close to areas where water is frequently needed.

- **Ease of Use**

The barrel should be at a higher elevation than the areas where the water will be used so that a garden hose (or soaker hose) can be used to empty it. If the barrel is below where the water is needed, then the water will have to be carried. The barrel can be propped up on bricks or cinder blocks to slightly increase water pressure.

- **Available Space**

Rain barrels come in many different shapes and sizes. The rain barrels that have been approved for the rain barrel rebate range in height from 2.5 feet to almost 6 feet and can be up to 2.5 feet wide. Do not place the barrel where it will obstruct a walkway or basement entrance or within 18 inches of electric and gas meters. Be sure the surface is level so the barrel will be stable when full.

- **Runoff volume**

If possible, try to maximize the benefit of the rain barrel by placing it under the downspout that receives the most water.

- **Overflow**

In most cases, the rain barrel will not be large enough to capture *all* of the water from a downspout, and it will fill up quickly during a heavy rainstorm. Your rain barrel should have an automatic overflow mechanism that diverts water back into the downspout when the barrel is full, or to an overflow pipe that drains away from your home. Many barrels are equipped with overflow ports or diverter boxes.

- **Filter and Maintenance**

Rain barrels have filters that capture leaves and debris from the roof. The filter will need to be emptied regularly when it is full to prevent clogging. Be sure to place the barrel in such a way that there is easy access to the filter to maintain its functionality.

Questions?

Contact Sarah Davidson at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
sdavidson@allianceforthebay.org or 202-817-9672