## Rain Barrels

Rain Barrels help conserve water and make it possible to use water in locations where it may be unavailable. One inch of rainfall = 0.6 gallons of water per square foot – a  $20' \times 20'$  roof will catch 240 gallons of water in a 1'' rain.



## Things to keep in mind:

- Water collected in a rain barrel is probably not potable.
- Protect the water from mosquitoes keep the barrel sealed or cover openings with screen.
- Clean rain gutters so leaves and other materials don't go into the rain barrel.
- Algae can form in the barrel paint or cover it or use an opaque barrel.
- Overflow water must have a way to drain off.
- There must be a way to get water out of the barrel either by dipping from the top, or with a faucet at the bottom. A metal faucet can be installed in a plastic barrel by screwing it into a drilled hole.
- The barrel and plumbing should be emptied and disconnected before the first freeze in the fall.
- Rain barrel connection kits are available at many hardware stores, or you can make your own.
- Barrels can be purchased or sometimes can be obtained from businesses that handle large quantities
  of liquids for food processing or cleaning.
- Do not use barrels that have contained petroleum products, herbicides, or pesticides.

**Tools**: Drill, Spade drill bits, hole saw, saw, utility knife, screwdriver

Parts: Depends on your setup – here are the parts used in setting up the 4 barrel Courthouse system –

½" galv. nipples and tees- 4½" PVC male adapter- 4½" galv. cap- 1½" PVC pipe (standpipe)- 8 feet3/4" ID vinyl tubing- 10 feetDIY Rain Barrel Diverter Kit – (Available at

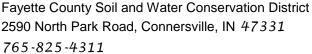
1-1/2" hose clamps - 8 Gillman's)

Faucet - 3/4" Hose Bibb - 1 Caulk \ Teflon pipe tape

Here are some rain barrels that are saving water right now. You can see the 4 barrel setup behind the access ramp at the north entrance to the Fayette County Courthouse.









Many thanks to sponsor

Gillman's Home Center

505 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St,

Connersville, IN

765-827-4440

