

COLLECTING RAINWATER FROM YOUR ROOF



www.shediacbayassociation.org

Rain barrels are a simple and effective way to collect rainwater that runs off from rooftops. The water collected can be used to water lawns and gardens, or to wash your vehicle.

In addition to conserving water, rain barrels also help to reduce surface water runoff. This runoff transports pollutants into storm drains, streams, and rivers. Runoff can also cause flooding and erosion-related damage.

The impact of reducing runoff is considerable when the barrels are used by a high percentage of the population. Keep the conversation going!



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TIPS AND TRICKS FOR RAIN BARREL INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE:

- When filled, the barrel becomes very heavy. Place it on a solid base, such as two cement blocks on a patio slab
- Install at a height that allows you to fill a watering can
- Connect an overflow pipe to your waterspout or redirect it from the foundation and into a flowerbed
- Cover the lid hole with a fine-mesh screen to prevent debris and bugs from entering
- Add a pump to connect a watering hose
- Clean the screen regularly to allow the flow of water

Before winter, empty the barrel completely in order to avoid damage caused by freezing

Safety tips:

- Keep the lid secure at all times to protect small children and keep out insects, pets, and wildlife
- Never use barrels that have previously been used to store toxic substances
- Never use collected water for drinking, cooking, or bathing

