

## Rain Barrel Program

The Village of Alsip has enrolled in the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago's (MWRD's) new rain barrel distribution program that offers complimentary rain barrels to Cook County residents and organizations that meet certain qualifications.

### What are Rain Barrels?

Rain Barrels collect and store rainwater, and they include a system for diverting downspout water into the barrel. They also have an overflow connected to the downspout to divert excess water safely away from the house.

### What are the benefits of Rain Barrels?

**Water Conservation** - Use the water stored in rain barrels to water your lawn, garden or plants.

**Reduce Storm Water Runoff** - Rain Barrels divert storm water and reduce the strain on our sewer system during major rain storms.

**Healthier For Plants** - Unlike tap water which contains chlorine, rainwater contains no additives that could be harmful for your plants. The increased acidity in rainwater will also better enable plants to pull nutrients from the soil around them.

### What colors are available for Rain Barrels?

The current colors available are terracotta, blue, black and grey.



To find out if you meet these requirements or to learn more, please see our [Rain Barrel Information Flier](#). If you would like to submit an application for a rain barrel, please download a copy [here](#), stop by Public Works Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or call at (708) 385-6902 ext 364.

## MWRD Program Information

Don't currently qualify for a free rain barrel? You can still obtain a rain barrel directly from MWRD. Please see their [site](#) for more information.

# Order your free rain barrels today!

Visit [villageofalsip.org](http://villageofalsip.org) Residents Info, email [alsippw@voamail.org](mailto:alsippw@voamail.org) or call the Alsip Public Works at (708) 385-6902, ext. 364, for an application. Submit your completed application to:

**Alsip Public Works**  
12221 S. Orchard Avenue  
Alsip, IL 60803  
fax: (708) 371-8216

**Free delivery**  
**55-gallon capacity**  
**Available in four colors**



Terra Cotta



Blue



Black



Gray

**Includes flexible connecting elbow, linking hose and detailed instructions**

## You can make a difference to help improve water quality, prevent flooding and save on your water bill!

Disconnecting your downspouts and installing rain barrels will keep clean water out of the sewer system and provide you with a source of free water.

The Village of Alsip is pleased to offer free rain barrels to residents. If your home meets the requirements (see inside) please visit [villageofalsip.org](http://villageofalsip.org) Resident Info to obtain an application. For questions, please call Alsip Public Works at (708) 385-6902, ext. 364 or you can email [alsippw@voamail.org](mailto:alsippw@voamail.org).



This rain barrel program is a cooperative effort by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and participating communities.



Printed on FSC certified paper from responsible sources

SAVE WATER PREVENT FLOODING IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

Rain barrels are now available **for free** to qualified households.



(708) 385-6902 x364  
[alsippw@voamail.org](mailto:alsippw@voamail.org)



## A smart idea

Rain barrels capture rainwater from your roof and save it for when you need it. By keeping this water out of the sewer system, they can also help prevent sewer overflows and flooding.

You can use rain barrel water to wash your car, water your lawn, or clean work boots and tools. Rain barrel water is naturally free of chlorine, lime, and calcium and some gardeners swear their plants prefer it. However, since rain barrel water is runoff from your roof, do not drink it!

## A part of any yard

Most homes can benefit from several rain barrels. If you have areas of unpaved, pervious ground near your downspouts, rain barrels should work in your yard. Homeowners throughout Cook County have incorporated rain barrels into their yards with great results.

## Green and upcycled

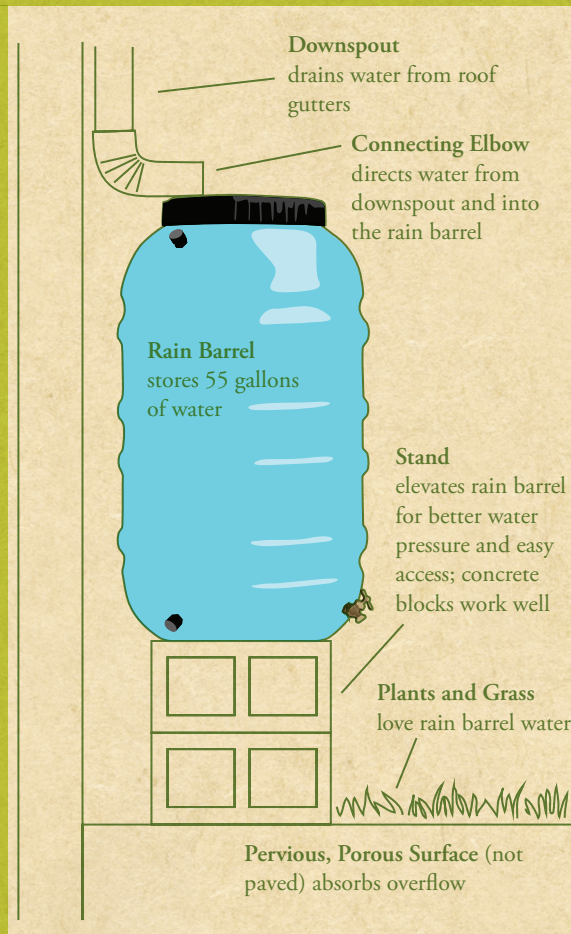
Rain barrels are a type of green infrastructure, a new approach to managing stormwater by keeping rain on the property and out of the sewer system.

Our rain barrels are made using repurposed, or upcycled, food barrels so they are doubly green.

## Easy to install, easy to use

Installing a rain barrel is easy and only requires a few tools. A connecting elbow and detailed instructions are provided with all rain barrels. Once it is connected, you just need to wait for rain and your barrel will be ready to use.

## A rain barrel at work



## Requirements to receive free rain barrels

In order to qualify to receive free rain barrels, you must meet a few requirements:

- live within a community that is participating in the rain barrel program;
- own property with downspouts that are directly connected to the sanitary sewer system;
- agree to disconnect all of your downspouts and place rain barrels on each downspout, where feasible; and,
- agree to properly use and maintain your rain barrels.

## Don't meet the requirements? Don't worry!

All Cook County residents may purchase low-cost rain barrels from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago. Visit [mwr.org](http://mwr.org) to place your order.





# Village of Alsip

## Free Rain Barrel Program

### Resident Application Form

We are pleased to offer free rain barrels to our qualified residents. Please check off the boxes to indicate that you meet the following four requirements and complete the information needed for delivery. Please turn this form into the Alsip Public Works Department. Once we receive this form, a site visit will be scheduled to confirm your downspouts are currently connected and your order will be processed.

#### To receive free rain barrels, I confirm that:

- My downspouts are currently connected to the sewer system.
- I agree to disconnect my downspouts from the sewer system.
- I agree to connect my rain barrels to the downspouts.
- I agree to properly maintain my rain barrels.

#### Resident's information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please print)*

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of downspouts connected to the sewer system \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rain barrels requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Color (indicate #): \_\_\_ Terra Cotta \_\_\_ Blue \_\_\_ Black \_\_\_ Gray

Desired delivery days/times: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_