



WHY USE A RAIN BARREL?

- 💧 The water is free, which **saves you money** on your monthly water bill.
- 💧 It **decreases the amount** of drinkable, treated water used for outdoor watering.
- 💧 It **reduces the energy** used to pump and treat drinking water and the demand on water treatment facilities.
- 💧 Rainwater is soft and non-chlorinated, which can **stimulate plant growth** and make soil healthier.
- 💧 It's an easy way to **conserve water** one of our most precious resources, and protect the environment.

Water Conservation Bylaw effects outdoor water use and indoor water fixtures.

For more information, visit stalbert.ca and search '**Water Conservation Bylaw**'.

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SAVE WATER. SAVE MONEY.

CATCH WATER FROM YOUR ROOF - USE A RAIN BARREL!



MAKE WATER CONSERVATION A PRIORITY THIS SUMMER!



Since 2006, the City of St. Albert's Rain Barrel program has sold rain barrels to St. Albert residents at cost, and will continue the practice this year.

HOW DO I SET UP MY RAIN BARREL?

Select a suitable site

- Locate a downspout avoiding locations where gas or water meters are present.
- Place your rain barrel below the downspout, and ensure positive drainage is a minimum of 1.5 metres away from the house foundation.
- To maximize water pressure and stability, while also leaving adequate space to fill your watering can, raise your barrel 30 – 40 centimetres using a smooth level surface, such as bricks or sidewalk blocks.

Connect downspout to rain barrel

- Remove existing downspout clamp and elbow.
- Cut the downspout approximately 30 centimetres above the rain barrel or just enough that, once the elbow is reinserted, the downspout can be redirected into the top of the rain barrel.

- Reinsert the elbow. If the elbow doesn't reach the top of the rain barrel, an extension of the downspout may need to be added.

Different variations for connecting your downspout to rain barrel exist, depending on the location of the downspout. This method is only appropriate if drainage in the area is not a problem ([diagram one](#)).

If drainage is a problem in the location you have chosen, you have several options:

- Adjust the landscaping to provide positive drainage, directing water away from the foundation wall.
- Attach a hose for overflow control or link several rain barrels together. Make sure to extend the discharge pipe away from the house foundation ([diagram two](#)).

SAFETY REMINDERS

- ✓ Ensure children refrain from playing on or inside the barrel
- ✓ Keep the lid on the barrel at all times to keep out insects, pets and wildlife.

HOW DO I MAINTAIN MY RAIN BARREL?

- Clean debris from the lid screen regularly.
- In the fall, prepare your barrel for winter storage in a few easy steps. Drain water, remove spigot, turn it upside down and cover the barrel.
- In the winter, move your downspout so it faces away from buildings and foundation walls.

