

## About Your Rain Barrel



Your rain barrel is a 50 gallon barrel made of 100% recycled plastic and is 100% recyclable. The Ivy Rain Barrel is produced by Rain Water Solutions Inc.

Functions and Features:

- Made in the USA!
- Locking lid with reusable zip ties
- All parts included, 3/4" valve, mosquito screen, and overflow hose
- Barrels nest for easy storage
- Linking capability
- 2 overflow ports
- Meets EPA safety standards
- Opaque HDPE material

## Rain Barrel Benefits

- Save 500 gallons of water annually.
- Reduce stormwater runoff to local lakes and wetlands.
- Save precious groundwater resources by reusing water. This also saves you money!



Eagan - Inver Grove Heights  
Watershed Management Organization

3830 Pilot Knob Rd  
Eagan, MN 55122

Phone: 651-480-7781 or 651-675-5300

E-mail: [eighwmo@cityofeagan.com](mailto:eighwmo@cityofeagan.com)

Website: [www.eaganinvergroveheightswmo.org](http://www.eaganinvergroveheightswmo.org)



## Your New Rain Barrel:

### Installation and Maintenance Guide



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# Installation and Maintenance

## Location

1. **Identify downspouts**—Walk your property and note locations. Consider where overflow will go if not using a diverter.
2. **Install where you will use the water**—Easy access to your rain barrel ensures you will use it. You may also use a soaker hose from your rain barrel.
3. **Incorporate your rain barrel into your landscape**—You may choose to camouflage your rain barrel or enhance it with a flowerbed. We hope you want to show it off!

## Safety Considerations

- Place on level surface. A full rain barrel can weigh 425 lbs. Elevating on pavers can make dispensing water easier.
- Must have lid and/or mesh to prevent mosquitos and debris from getting inside.
- Never use the water for drinking or cooking.

## Installation: Without Diverter

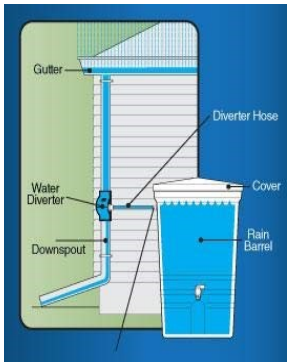
You may not need to purchase any additional components for installation without a diverter, however long term maintenance can be more difficult. The Rain Water



Solutions website has a good installation video. Essentially, after establishing your base, you will remove elbow from lower part of down spout, determine where to cut your downspout above your barrel, and re-attach the elbow. A flexible piece of gutter can ease this process. Be sure that the overflow pipe directs water away from your house.

## Installation: With Diverter

This requires the purchase of some additional elements, however you will see long term benefits with reduced maintenance. There are a variety of diverters available for purchase. You will need to follow instructions that come with your diverter. Essentially, after you establish your



base you will be measuring a level line over to your down spout, then depending upon the diverter type, you may be installing the diverter slightly above the level line to ensure that water diverts to the rain barrel. Overflow will continue down your existing down spout.

## Maintenance

Whether you use a diverter and the type of diverter impacts the amount of maintenance that may be required. If you do not use a diverter, regularly clean gutters and inspect for debris. Even if you are using a diverter, occasionally check for build up of debris.

A diverter will allow overflow water to continue through your downspout. If you do not have a diverter regularly check the overflow to ensure the water is not causing erosion or ponding.

To winterize your rain barrel, drain the barrel, detach from the diverter, disengage diverter, and turn your barrel upside down. Don't forget to reconnect your rain barrel after the threat of frost has passed.

## Questions?

**Minnesota Water Stewards can assist with diverter installation:** Request assistance by emailing [eihwmo@cityofeagan.com](mailto:eihwmo@cityofeagan.com)

**Eagan-Inver Grove Heights Watershed Management Organization:**  
[www.eaganinvergrovehightswmo.org](http://www.eaganinvergrovehightswmo.org)

**City of Eagan:**  
[www.cityofeagan.com/stop-stormwater-pollution](http://www.cityofeagan.com/stop-stormwater-pollution)

**Rain Water Solutions:**  
[www.rainwatersolutions.com/collections/rain-barrels](http://www.rainwatersolutions.com/collections/rain-barrels)