

# GOAL OF A RAIN BARREL

The main goal of a rain barrel is to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff which enters our storm sewer system and ultimately enters our rivers and streams, thereby reducing pollution and erosion. A rain barrel is an easy, inexpensive way to obtain these goals and a great way to conserve water.



# RAIN BARRELS

City of Saint Peter  
Department of Public Works  
Stormwater Utility  
405 West Saint Julien Street  
Saint Peter, MN 56082-1874

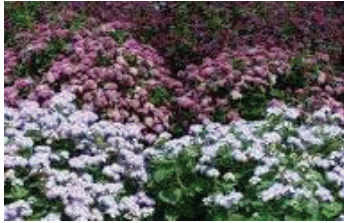
Phone: 507-934-0670 Fax: 507-934-1358  
[www.saintpetermn.gov](http://www.saintpetermn.gov)  
email: [angieg@saintpetermn.gov](mailto:angieg@saintpetermn.gov)

City of Saint Peter  
Stormwater Utility

# RAIN BARREL BENEFITS

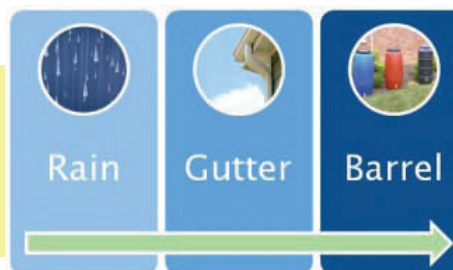
## Environmental

- Run-off from impervious surfaces adds up.
- Excess water in streams and rivers erodes channels and destroys habitats.
- As you use the stored water around your home and garden, it will absorb slowly into the ground replenishing groundwater supplies.
- Rainwater is oxygenated, non-chlorinated, low in minerals—better for plants and better for the environment!
- Excess runoff from yards and gardens can cause erosion problems and can wash things like lawn fertilizer into waterways causing nutrient overloads.



## Economical

- Approximately 40% of household water use in the summer months is for lawns and gardens.
- Reduce your monthly utility bill by using stored rainwater rather than turning on your faucet.
- Reduce demand on your municipal water system, especially during the hot summer months.
- Groundwater is conserved, our community is saved the cost of treating and pumping that water; the useful life of our wells is prolonged, and electricity costs and pollution associated with pumping water from the aquifer is reduced.
- One Rain Barrel can save a typical homeowner 1,300 gallons a year. That's 1,300 gallons of water you will not have to pay for!



## Safety Tips

- Do Not use rain barrels for drinking, cooking, or bathing.



- Do Not use water from your rain barrel on vegetables gardens. Roof tops can contain bacteria and other disease-causing organisms from birds and wildlife
- In addition, many roofs have been treated with chemicals that would affect water quality and are not healthy to consume.
- Make sure to place your rain barrel on a strong, flat, sturdy base.
- Keep lid secure to prevent kids from entering and mosquitoes from breeding.



Put it away for a  
SUNNY day!