



http://www.raintorecreation.org/rain_barrels.html

Calling all Artists!

Here is a chance to display your artistic talents to the public. We are looking for artists, in Rahway and the surrounding area to beautify rain barrels. If interested please fill out an application and submit it to the address provided. *The beautified barrels will be auctioned, and proceeds will be given to the artist. Supplies will be provided!



http://www.gatlinburg.com/rain_barrel/default.asp



http://www.inmyownbackyard.org/How_To_Build_A_Rain_Barrel.php



<http://lakecountyll.gov/Stormwater/LakeCountyWatersheds/BMPs/RainBarrelSale.htm>



http://www.vaccd.org/winooski/winooski_rainbarrels.shtml



http://www.inmyownbackyard.org/How_To_Build_A_Rain_Barrel.php

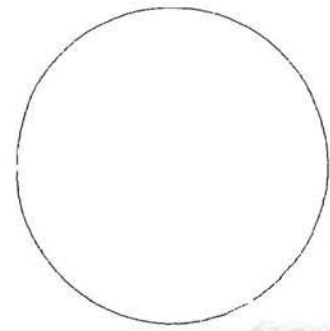
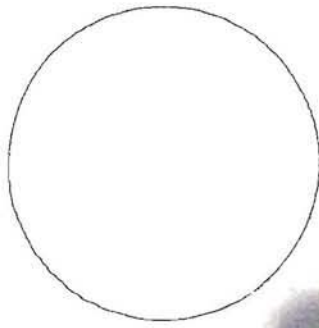


<http://www.roperid.com/science/rainbarrels.htm>

RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station





Some simple ideas for using water more efficiently

Why Conserve Water?

Despite having an average of 45 inches of rain fall annually, New Jersey is vulnerable to water supply shortages.

You can make a difference by considering some of the water conservation tips below:

In the Bathroom:

- Do not let the water run when brushing teeth or shaving. This could save up to 2.5 gallons per minute.
- Use a glassful of water instead of running the tap when brushing your teeth. It can save as much as three gallons per brushing.
- Take shorter showers by trying to keep the water running for less than eight minutes. Turn off the water while soaping or shampooing.
- Do not use the toilet as a trash disposal. Each flush can use up to six gallons of water!

In the Kitchen:

- Scrape dishes instead of rinsing them before loading them into the dishwasher.
- Run the dishwasher only with a full load.
- Instead of running water to thaw out frozen foods, defrost them overnight in the refrigerator or use the microwave defrost setting.
- Store a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap waiting for cool water.

Other Ideas:

- Only wash full loads of laundry, or adjust the water level or load size selection on your washing machine.
- Any suspicions of a water leak should be reported to the landlord or property manager; a dripping faucet can waste up to 2,000 gallons of water a year.
- In general, water should never be poured down the drain if it can be used for another purpose, such as watering plants or a garden.



Situation:

As New Jersey's population continues to grow and drinking water supplies are further constrained, more must be done to safeguard a sustainable source of freshwater for potable uses. In New Jersey, it is estimated that the average resident uses 100 gallons of water per day (gpd). During the warmer months of the year, this average daily water use dramatically increases and can climb to as much as 185 gpd during the summer months.

Action:

The Turf Management for a Healthier Lawn Program is being developed and tested in East Greenwich Township since many new residential developments suffer from acidic, compacted, or nutrient-deprived soils, which create a challenging environment for homeowners to grow attractive and healthy lawns. In these cases, homeowners may attempt to improve lawns with additional irrigation, believing that a lack of water is the cause of their lawn problems, when in reality creating a healthy lawn starts with healthy soil, high-quality grasses, and good management practices. Healthy lawns will require supplemental water only in times of inadequate precipitation and will need less applied fertilizers and pesticides. The goal of this program is to provide demonstration lawns that consume less water and showcase methods and techniques other homeowners can use to establish and maintain a healthy lawn.

The first demonstration site, located at 178 Westbrook Court in Clarksboro, will feature a water efficient Smart Irrigation system that accounts for soil moisture and atmospheric conditions when scheduling and applying water. The second demonstration, located at 116 Sarah Drive in Mickleton, will be completed without an irrigation system. By utilizing proper landscaping techniques, these projects will demonstrate that proper soil preparation, watering, and mowing will produce beautiful lawns that rely less upon applied irrigation water, fertilizers, and pesticides.

In the next few months, the following work will be completed:

- Elimination of weeds and existing vegetation through an application of a broad-spectrum herbicide.
- Deep tilling to loosen compacted soil.
- Addition of soil amendments. Some existing soils may be low in organic matter or essential nutrients such as calcium, magnesium, or potassium, and can be improved with the incorporation of compost or mineral amendments. Additionally, many New Jersey soils are naturally acidic and require the addition of lime to support turfgrass growth. A soil test can be employed to determine the need for lime, fertilizer, and other amendments.
- Soil rolling, mulching, and seeding.



Turf Management for a Healthier Lawn

Project Partnership:

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program, in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, has been working to develop a Water Conservation Program for the State of New Jersey titled "New Jersey Water Savers." Brickman, a professional landscaper/irrigation company has partnered with us to coordinate and install the lawn renovation projects. Rutgers Cooperative Extension educational programs are offered to all without regard to race, religion, color, age, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

Learn more about this project at:

www.water.rutgers.edu

