

# MakeWaterWork *in your yard!*

## MAINTENANCE

### Summer

- Clean the screen once a month to prevent clogging
- Check for erosion under/around the rain barrel (platform/support must remain level and stable at all times)
- Keep your gutters as clear as possible and service on a regular basis

### Winter

- Completely drain your barrel of water (or it can crack and your warranty will be void)
- Store in a shed or garage in a protected area away from strong winds
- Always remember to remove your diverter and reconnect your downspout

## PLACEMENT

- Below a downspout
- Location must have level firm ground
- A 3'x3' paving stone can be used to provide stability

**Note: Avoid locations near ground level basement windows or window wells.**

## USAGE

- Water gardens and container plants
- Water lawns
- Wash cars
- Clean outdoor furniture
- Wash garden tools, etc.

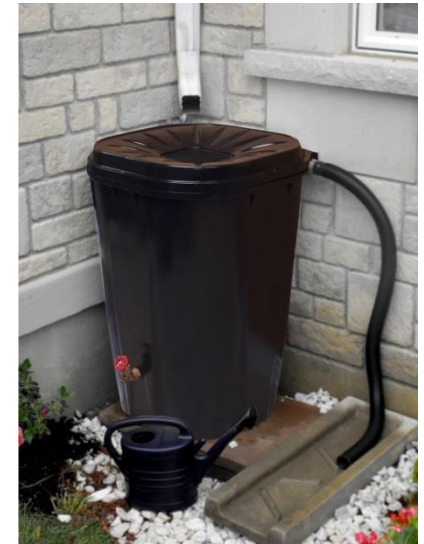
**Note: Never drink or ingest standing water.**

“MAKE WATER WORK” is a valley-wide outdoor water conservation initiative delivered by Okanagan WaterWise in partnership with local governments and utilities. Find tips to beautify your yard AND conserve at [www.MakeWaterWork.ca](http://www.MakeWaterWork.ca).

For more information on the water of the Okanagan, including information for residents, businesses, teachers and more, please visit [www.OkWaterWise.ca](http://www.OkWaterWise.ca).

**Congratulations on the purchase of your rain barrel!**

**Inside this brochure, find tips and tricks to get the most from your barrel!**



Brought to you by...



## BENEFITS

- Free irrigation for your lawn or garden
- Reduces the consumption of domestic water use
- Reduces storm sewer runoff
- Reduces runoff pollution to our creeks, rivers and lakes
- Reduces the need for Okanagan water utilities to treat, pump and distribute water
- Contributes to erosion prevention efforts
- An inspiring example of environmental stewardship
- A water source which can be available in times of drought or during watering restrictions
- Provides chlorine-free water for gardening
- Improves your soil's pH balance for better plant health

## ADDITIONAL FEATURES OF YOUR RAIN BARREL

- Capacity: 208 litres (55 gallons)
- Insect resistant stainless steel filter
- Screw-top lid to ensure safety of small children and animals
- Includes overflow spout and a 4 foot hose to easily link two or more barrels for multi-barrel installation or to redirect overflow away from building foundation
- Elevated spigot accommodates most watering cans
- Easily accommodates existing downspouts

## A FEW MORE THINGS TO CONSIDER

### Did you know...?

- An average rain event of 25mm on a 140 sq. m<sup>3</sup> roof = 3,500 litres of water.
- Average yearly rainfall in the Okanagan is 250 mm or between 28,000 & 35,000 litres of run-off from the average roof.
- Raising your rain barrel off the ground by even a few inches will improve your water pressure. If you raise your barrel, ensure a sturdy base, because at roughly 8 pounds per gallon, your 55-gallon barrel weighs over 400 pounds.

**This rain barrel comes with an overflow pipe to allow for full diversion of rainwater into the barrel. However, some people prefer a partial diversion.**

### Option 1: Full Diversion

Flexible downspout directly into barrel; requires larger overflow bulkhead and hose.



### Option 2: Partial Diversion

For those interested in partial diversion, a Diverter Kit will allow for overflow back into the gutter's downspout. Diverter Kits are available at most hardware stores.



**As you will see, the rain barrel already comes with a factory-drilled primary spout hole, located to accommodate watering cans under the spout.**

However, some may want to elevate the barrel and have the spout lower to use more water collected in the barrel. As such, three additional spigot mount points are provided at the bottom centre of each side wall.

To adapt the existing spigot and/or overflow, use a bulkhead fitting.



A bulkhead fitting makes a watertight seal between the inside and outside of the barrel, and is threaded for the spigot.