THE VILLAGE OF **FRANKLIN PARK**

& Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago



SAVE WATER • PREVENT FLOODING • IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

You can make a difference to help improve water quality, prevent flooding and save on your water bill.

Rain barrels capture rainwater from your roof and save it for when you need it. By keeping this water out of the sewer system, they can help prevent sewer overflows and flooding. Disconnecting your downspouts and installing rain barrels will keep clean water out of the sewer system and provide you with a source of free water.

You can use your rain barrel water to wash your car, water your garden, water your lawn, or clean work boots and tools. Rain barrel water is naturally free of chlorine, lime, and calcium and some gardeners swear their plants prefer it. However, since rain barrel water is runoff from your roof, do not drink it.

If you have areas of unpaved, pervious ground near your downspouts, rain barrels should work in your yard. Installing a rain barrel is easy and only requires a few tools. Once one is connected, just wait for rain and your barrel will be ready to use.

The Village has joined the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) to deliver free rain barrels to qualified property owners in Franklin Park. A connecting elbow and detailed instructions are provided with all rain barrels. Please complete the attached order form and appropriate agreement to request a rain barrel.

For questions, contact Ewelina with the Franklin Park Utilities Department at **(847) 671-8252** or **ekubkowski@vofp.com**.

A rain barrel at work





4 color options Easy to install Easy to use Free delivery

Delivery includes 55-gallon rain barrel, flexible connecting elbow, linking hose and detailed instructions.



The Village of Franklin Park has joined with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) to offer free rain barrels to qualified property owners. Please complete this form and the appropriate agreement to request a rain barrel. A maximum of four rain barrels may be ordered per address.

Free Rain Barrel Order Form

Name							
Home address							
Phone number		Emai	l address				
	Barrel color rec (indicate #)	quested					
# of barrels requested (4 maximum)	(Indicate #)		Terra cotta	Blue	Black	Gray	
Desired delivery days/times		Signa	Signature				
Installation Options							
If you want to install the rain barro		Please return the completed ORDER FORM and either AGREEMENT A* or AGREEMENT B* to:					
			Uti	lities Dep	artment		
If you want the Village of Frank install the rain barrel(s			Village of Franklin Park 9500 Belmont Avenue				
 Complete and attach AGREEMENT B* Call (847) 671-8252 to schedule an appointment for installation. 			Franklin Park, IL 60131				
		or ekubkowski@vofp.com					
Appointments are available 8AM - Monday - Friday. The applicant me at the time of installation.		*Agreements can be notarized free of charge at Village Hall (9500 Belmont Avenue, Franklin Pa					

AGREEMENT A

GENERAL RELEASE, WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION, HOLD HARMLESS AND PROPERTY ACCESS AGREEMENT

Please read this form carefully as in signing this General Release, Waiver, Indemnification, Hold Harmless and Property Access Agreement ("*Agreement*"), you are agreeing to waive and release any and all legal claims and authorizing entry onto your property in consideration for one or more rain barrels.

I/we, ______, ("Owner") do hereby swear under oath that Owner is the legal property owner of the property commonly known as ______,

Illinois, and that Owner is 18 years of age or older.

Owner hereby covenants and agrees to waive and release all legal claims for any type of liability, damage, injury, loss or expense, and further understands and agrees to unconditionally indemnify and hold harmless the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and the Village of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois and any of their officials, officers, agents, attorneys, servants and employees (the "*Indemnified Parties*"), from and against any and all claims, liabilities, damages, losses or expenses, including attorney fees, caused or incurred by or to Owner, any party or property, as a result of Owner's participation in the rain barrel program or resulting from the distribution, delivery, installation, maintenance, use or inspection of any rain barrel.

Owner further unconditionally authorizes and agrees to allow and permit access to Owner's property by any of the Indemnified Parties, or any designated contractor of the Indemnified Parties, for the delivery of one or more rain barrels to Owner's property and for any subsequent annual inspection by one or more of the Indemnified Parties to determine proper connection and use of any rain barrel. Owner acknowledges and agrees that Owner is responsible for the installation and maintenance of each rain barrel and covenants and agrees to obtain any necessary governmental authorization, if required, before installing the rain barrels at Owner's cost.

Owner covenants and agrees that this Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the County of Cook, State of Illinois. If any term or provision of this Agreement shall be held illegal, unenforceable or in conflict with any law governing this Agreement, Owner understands that the validity of the remaining portions shall not be affected thereby.

In signing this Agreement, Owner acknowledges and represents that Owner has read and fully understand this Agreement and has had the opportunity to seek legal counsel. Owner further acknowledges and agrees that the rain barrel program is strictly voluntary and if Owner fails to install or maintain or decides to disconnect a rain barrel, Owner shall be required to return said. If removal of any rain barrel is required by law or one or more of the Indemnified Parties, Owner agrees to undertake such task at Owner's own cost without reimbursement of any kind.

AGREEMENT A

Signed, sealed and d	elivered this	day of	, 20
Signature: Property Owner's Name (Please Print):			
Signed and sworn before me	e by		
this day of	20		
Notary Public			
Signed, sealed and d	elivered this	day of	, 20
Signature:			
Property Owner's Name (Please Print):			
Signed and sworn before me	e by		
this day of	20		

Notary Public

AGREEMENT B

GENERAL RELEASE, WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION, HOLD HARMLESS AND PROPERTY ACCESS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING VILLAGE INSTALLATION OF ANY RAIN BARREL

Please read this form carefully as in signing this General Release, Waiver, Indemnification, Hold Harmless and Property Access Agreement ("*Agreement*"), you are agreeing to waive and release any and all legal claims and authorizing entry onto your property in consideration for the installation of one or more rain barrels on your property by the Village of Franklin Park.

I/we, ______, ("Owner") do hereby swear under oath that Owner is the legal property owner of the property commonly known as ______, Illinois, and that Owner is 18 years of age or older.

Owner hereby covenants and agrees to waive and release all legal claims for any type of liability, damage, injury, loss or expense, and further understands and agrees to unconditionally indemnify and hold harmless the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and the Village of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois and any of their officials, officers, agents, attorneys, servants and employees (the "*Indemnified Parties*"), from and against any and all claims, liabilities, damages, losses or expenses, including attorney fees, caused or incurred by or to Owner, any party or property, as a result of Owner's participation in the rain barrel program or resulting from the distribution, delivery, installation, maintenance, use or inspection of any rain barrel.

Owner further unconditionally authorizes and agrees to allow and permit access to Owner's property by any of the Indemnified Parties, or any designated contractor of the Indemnified Parties, for the delivery of one or more rain barrels to Owner's property and for any subsequent annual inspection by one or more of the Indemnified Parties to determine proper connection and use of any rain barrel. Owner acknowledges and agrees that Owner is responsible for the installation and maintenance of each rain barrel and covenants and agrees to obtain any necessary governmental authorization, if required, before installing the rain barrels at Owner's cost.

Owner hereby further covenants and agrees to waive and release all legal claims for any type of liability, damage, injury, loss or expense, and further understands and agrees to unconditionally indemnify and hold harmless the Village of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois and any of their officials, officers, agents, attorneys, servants and employees, from and against any and all claims, liabilities, damages, losses or expenses, including attorney fees, caused or incurred by or to Owner, any third party or property, as a result of Owner's participation in the rain barrel program or resulting in any way from the Village's placement or installment of any rain barrel, and any and all property damage, reckless or negligent act, or failure related in any way to the installment of any rain barrel or the failure to use or quality of any supplies or installed materials or equipment used for the installment, connection or maintenance of such, including any damage to any structure or property surrounding such structure or fixture attached or adjacent to said structure or property.

AGREEMENT B

Owner covenants and agrees that this Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the County of Cook, State of Illinois. If any term or provision of this Agreement shall be held illegal, unenforceable or in conflict with any law governing this Agreement, Owner understands that the validity of the remaining portions shall not be affected thereby.

In signing this Agreement, Owner acknowledges and represents that Owner has read and fully understand this Agreement and has had the opportunity to seek legal counsel. Owner further acknowledges and agrees that the rain barrel program is strictly voluntary and if Owner fails to install or maintain or decides to disconnect a rain barrel, Owner shall be required to return said. If removal of any rain barrel is required by law or one or more of the Indemnified Parties, Owner agrees to undertake such task at Owner's own cost without reimbursement of any kind.

(Intentionally Left Blank)

AGREEMENT B

Signed, sealed and de	livered this	day of	, 20
Signature: Property Owner's Name			
(Please Print):			
Signed and sworn before me	by		
this day of	20		
Notary Public			
Signed, sealed and de	livered this	day of	, 20
Signature:			
Property Owner's Name (Please Print):			
Signed and sworn before me	by		
this day of	20		

Notary Public

Installing Your Rain Barrel

Required tools: Hacksaw, tape measure, goggles, gloves, pen or pencil **Recommended materials:** 7'-10' garden hose, concrete blocks and/or pressure treated wood

1. Place the Barrel

Rain barrels need to be located near a downspout and on level, pervious (water-absorbing - not paved) ground. Your rain barrel will overflow during heavy rain. Be sure you can direct overflow to pervious ground and away from your (and your neighbor's) home.

Placing your rain barrel on a stable platform will help increase water pressure and make it easier to use a watering can or bucket. Concrete blocks or pressure-treated wood work well for platforms. A full rain barrel weighs approximately 500 pounds, so make sure the platform is sturdy!

If you have a favorite watering can, adjust your platform to make sure it will fit comfortably under the spigot.

2. Measure and Cut

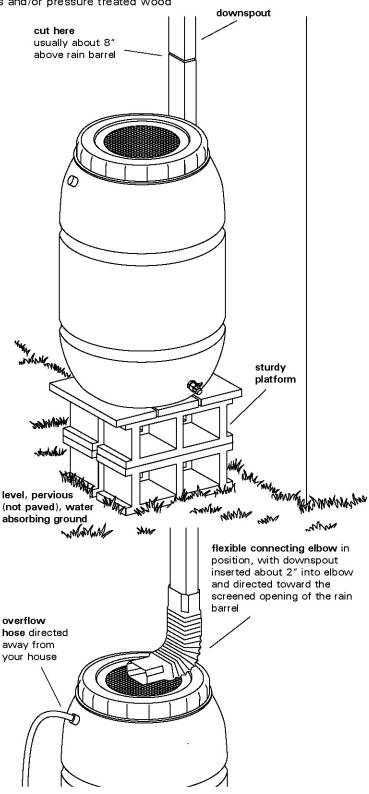
Once your rain barrel is in place, position the flexible elbow (included with your rain barrel) on the barrel and next to the downspout to determine where to cut. The elbow should be aimed at the screened opening on the top of the rain barrel, and the downspout must be inserted about 2" into the elbow. For most installations, it works well to cut the downspout about 8" above the top of the barrel. Keep in mind that the downspout will need to be inserted a couple inches into the connecting elbow. Mark the downspout with a pen or pencil where you will be cutting it.

Once you are sure where to cut, put on your safety goggles and gloves and cut the downspout with a hacksaw.

3. Connect

Connect the flexible elbow to the cut downspout by inserting the downspout into the elbow and positioning it so water will flow into your rain barrel. Connect a garden hose to the overflow fitting and direct it away from your house. Depending on the location of your rain barrel and your yard, this hose may need to be at least 7'-10' long.

Cap off the old downspout location on the ground to prevent it from becoming an animal's nest or clogged with debris.



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

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Disclaimer: With proper installation, maintenance and use, your rain barrel should function properly. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago assumes no liability for the installation, maintenance or use of your rain barrel. We are not responsible for any rain barrel malfunction; property damage or injury associated with your rain barrel, its accessories or contents.

Maintaining and Using Your Rain Barrel

You can use rain barrel water to wash your car, water your lawn, or clean work boots and tools. Rain barrel water is naturally free of chlorine, lime, and calcium, and some gardeners swear their plants prefer it.

Rain barrel water is runoff from your roof, so do not drink it or use it for bathing! Disconnect your rain barrel if you need to use a moss killer on your roof. Wait for a few rainy days before reconnecting your rain barrel to allow the moss killer to rinse away. Do not use rain barrel water on plants if your home has a copper roof or gutters.

Oh No, Overflow!

Don't worry, your rain barrel is meant to overflow once it is full. Overflow water will spill from the opening on the top and the overflow fitting. Connect a hose to the overflow fitting to direct the water away from your house. You can also connect a second rain barrel to the first one using the included connecting hose and double the amount of water captured before it overflows.

Check on your rain barrel when it is raining to make sure the overflow is not causing flooding or flowing into your neighbor's property. If your rain barrel is properly installed on a pervious surface, overflow water should be absorbed into the ground. If you see water pooling on your property, consider installing a rain garden, which is a type of landscaping designed to absorb water.

Regular Maintenance

Regularly check your gutters, downspouts, rain barrel water intake screen, rain barrel mosquito screen and rain barrel spigot for leaks, obstructions or debris. Also, confirm that the lid is secure so children and animals cannot fall into the rain barrel.

Winterizing

Drain your rain barrel before temperatures drop below freezing and keep the spigot open in the winter so water does not accumulate and freeze.

You can also turn it upside down or bring it inside to ensure no water accumulates in the barrel.

Preventing Mosquitoes

Your rain barrel comes with a mosquito-proof screen under the lid. When the mosquito netting is intact, and there are no leaks where mosquitoes can enter the barrel, your rain barrel should be mosquito-free.

Remove accumulated water from the top of the barrel every 3-4 days during the rainy season. Mosquitoes need at least 4 days of standing water to develop larvae.

If you believe mosquitoes may be breeding in your rain barrel, empty it completely and let it dry out to kill all mosquitoes.

If you want to customize the appearance of your rain barrel, you can

Paint Your Rain Barrel

Follow these steps to paint your rain barrel:

- **1.** Wash it thoroughly with soapy water to remove any dust or dirt.
- Once the barrel is dry, apply a plastic primer designed to adhere to polyethylene plastic. Follow the instructions for the primer, including safety precautions.

Note: Don't skip this step. Primer is important! Paint will not stick to a rain barrel without primer, and house paint primers will not adhere well to rain barrel plastic.

- **3.** Gently buff the primer surface with fine sandpaper to remove any glossy areas.
- **4.** Paint the barrel with artist's acrylic paint. Acrylic paint is durable and won't chip or crack as easily as other paints.
- 5. Allow several days for the paint to dry completely and apply a clear spray sealant to protect your artwork. Follow the instructions for the spray sealant, including safety precautions. This will protect your work of art from the elements.

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