

Village of Ardsley Phase II Stormwater Management Rain Barrel Project



The US EPA / NYS DEC Stormwater Management Program aims to clean up all the waters of the US to swimmable and fishable quality. There are lots of ways that you can help. One way is to collect rainwater on your property in a Rain Barrel. You will help reduce runoff and conserve water for use in your garden.

Rain Barrels come in various sizes and materials. The 50 gallon size is popular. Material can be plastic, wood or ceramic. Here are some features of a useful Rain Barrel:



- >> **Removable screen in the inlet on top**
Clean the screen often to remove debris
- >> **“Flexispout” connection to the downspout**
Easy to remove and reconnect
- >> **Overflow hose near the top of the barrel**
Always left open so barrel will not burst or back up the flow
Direct at least 10 feet away from basement, downhill away from the house
- >> **Outlet hose close to the bottom, with a closure valve**
May have to prop barrel up on cinder blocks to access outlet
Careful – a 50 gallon Rain Barrel is very heavy!
Make sure it is stable and cannot tip over



1” of rain yields 600 gallons from 1000 square feet of roof area (that’s 40 ft X 25 ft roof area, for instance). So, a 50 gallon barrel fills up really fast! You may want to hook some barrels in series.

Some tips:

- >> Empty the barrel frequently
- >> Drain it for the winter
- >> Don’t use the water for drinking
- >> Plant a Rain Garden downhill
and use the Rain Barrel to water it.



For more information and Rain Barrel sources:

http://water.rutgers.edu/Stormwater_Management/rainbarrels.html

<https://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain/soak-rain-rain-barrels>

http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/water/watershed_management/

[wm_plans/lid/what_is_a_rain_barrel.pdf](#)

See the Village of Ardsley Rain Barrel! → next page

Visit the Village of Ardsley Rain Barrel !

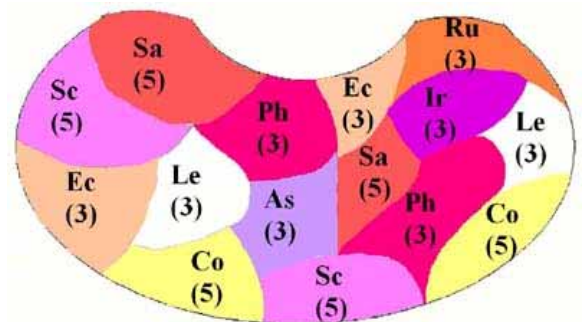
Our Rain Barrel is installed at Mc Dowell Park, right next to the storage building and just downhill from the picnic pavilion. It is a 50 gallon oak barrel which was purchased from Sprainbrook Nursery. It was placed on a level spot on a layer of pea gravel. "Flexispout" was connected to the downspout and was directed to the screened inlet on top. (Only a one yard stretch of rain gutter feeds the downspout in order to prevent the barrel from filling too often since this Rain Barrel is for demonstration purposes.)



Thank you to Ardsley High School Environmental Science Club for helping with installation, and excavation and planting of the receiving Rain Garden !



As *Aster oblongifolius*
Co *Coreopsis 'Early Sunrise'*
Ec *Echinacea purpurea magnus*
Ir *Iris versicolor*
Le *Leucanthemum 'Becky'*
Ph *Phlox stolonifera 'Home Fires'*
Ru *Rudbeckia 'Goldstrum'*
Sa *Salvia 'East Friesland'*
Sc *Scabiosa 'Pink Mist'*



AHS Environmental Science Club:

Front row: Robin Briendel, Rachel Wiskind, Alison Shlom, Elana Schlossberg,
 Alex Brinas, Kate Montgomery, Sydney Frankel

Back row: Jordan Stein, Jesse Gourevitch, Dan Barnett, Faculty Advisor