

“Make & Take” Rain Barrel Lunch & Learn

Angela Bray – Stormwater Manager
August 12, 2016



Workshop Agenda

12:00 PM Welcome

12:10 PM Lunch

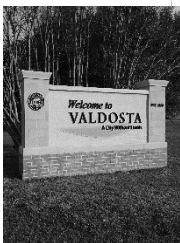
12:15 PM Presentation

- What Is A Rain Barrel?
- Why Use A Rain Barrel?
- How Much Water Are We Talking?
- How To Make Your Own
- Tips & Information

12:30 PM Rain Barrel Construction

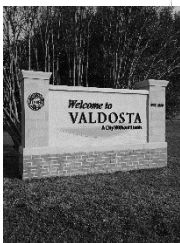
12:50 PM Questions and Comments

1:00 PM Adjourn



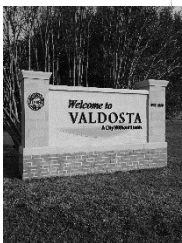
What Is A Rain Barrel?

- A barrel that collects and stores rainwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost to runoff.
- A simple and inexpensive way to conserve water and reduce runoff!



Why Use A Rain Barrel?

- Conserve Water
- Save Money
- Reduce Run – off
- Plants will LOVE it

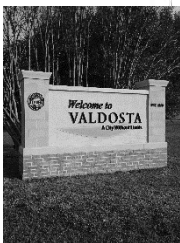


How Much Water Are We Talking?

Here's an easy formula:

1. Measure the square footage of the collection area (e.g. a roof that is 30 feet wide and 50 feet long = 1500 square feet.
2. Multiply the area by the amount of rain in inches.
3. Multiply that number by 0.623 (amount of water in gallons one inch deep in one square foot of space) = amount of gallons that can be collected.

Example: 1500 square feet of roof area X 1 inch of rain X 0.623 = **934.5 gallons!**

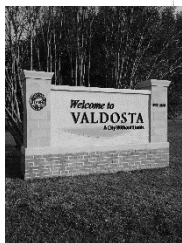


How To Make Your Own Rain Barrel?



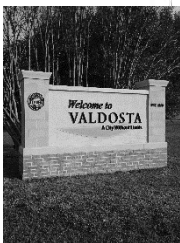
Tools & Supplies

- 1 barrel
- Half inch drill
- 1 ¼ inch drill bit
- 4 ¾ inch hole saw
- 5 Phillips head screws
- Phillips head bit
- Hardware screen
- Scissors
- Teflon tape
- 2 quarter turn ball valve spigot with bulkhead fitting



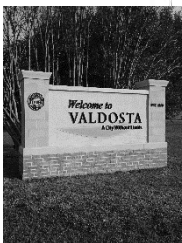
Step – by – Step Instructions

1. Drill 1 ¼” hole near the bottom of the barrel.
2. Drill 1 ¼” hole near the top and side of the barrel (the overflow).
3. Drill 4 ¾” hole on top of the barrel (opposite side from the first 1 ¼” hole).
4. Clean debris from barrel.
5. Install 2 spigots into 1 ¼” holes.
6. Measure and cut hardware screen to fit over the 4 ¾” hole on top of the barrel.
7. Screw on hardware screen.



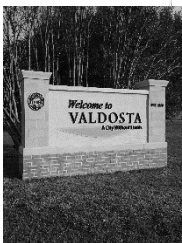
Installation

1. Prepare and level the area under your downspout for the barrel.
2. Create a platform to increase the pressure (e.g. bricks, cinder blocks, pressure treated wood, etc.).
3. Use a hacksaw to cut off part of the downspout. Leave space to reattach the downspout end – piece. Measure twice, cut once!!
4. Put the barrel in place.



Tips & Information

- Make sure your rain barrel is setting level. Water is heavy (about 8 lbs/gal)!
- Water should not be stored for extended amounts of time.
- Control mosquitoes by adding 1 tbsp. of olive oil.
- Clean the barrel twice a year.
- Raise rain barrel to increase pressure.
- Do not use rain barrel water for cooking or drinking!



Any Questions?

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