Introduction to the RainXchange™ Rain Barrel
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Topics Covered

- Features & Benefits
- Step-by-Step Installation & Maintenance
- Sales Opportunities
Rain Barrels are a Green Solution for Water Conservation

Rain barrels are simple, low cost methods for homeowners to begin to capture and reuse rainwater.
Traditional Rain Barrels

- The majority of rain barrels currently in the market focus primarily on the function of capturing rainwater.
- People love the idea of using a rain barrel to conserve water, but have reservations about putting a large, unattractive tub off the side of their house.
Aquascape takes a slightly different approach. We believe that we can get more people involved with capturing rainwater and reducing storm water runoff if it comes in an attractive design. Who says rain barrels have to be an eyesore?
Features & Benefits

• Beside the decorative design, there are a number of features and benefits of the RainXchange™ Rain Barrel that separate it from other barrels on the market.
• The first is its large 75-gallon capacity, which allows the homeowner to capture more water than traditional 55 gallon barrels.
Integrated planter helps naturalize the rain barrel into the landscape design.
Inlet Filter Screen

Inlet filter screen removes leaves, sticks, and other debris before the water enters the rain barrel. The screen also keeps insects, such as mosquitoes, from entering the rain barrel.
The RainXchange™ Rain Barrel includes a unique internal overflow system. This eliminates unsightly overflow hoses protruding from the side of the barrel.

The RainXchange™ Rain Barrel’s large 1 ½” overflow is capable of handling typical gutter flows. Most other barrels on the market have small 1” or less overflows. These inadequate designs will potentially cause overflow problems along the foundation of the residence.
See the RainXchange™ Rain Barrel in Action

Available in Two Finishes

Sandstone  Terra Cotta
How to Install
the RainXchange™ Rain Barrel
Installation is Easy!

• Every rain barrel includes installation instructions and maintenance owner’s manual.
• A copy of this manual and additional information can be found at www.rainxchange.com.
Installation Tools Needed
(not included with the rain barrel)

• Hacksaw to cut the downspout
• Level
• Tape measure
• Pencil or marker
• Pliers
• Screw driver
• Gloves
• Safety glasses
Step 1: Install the Spigot

Wrap threads of spigot with Teflon tape

Thread spigot into bulkhead
Step 2: Install Overflow Elbow

1. Wrap threads of elbow with Teflon tape
2. Thread elbow into bulkhead
3. Position overflow pointing outward
Step 3: Install Overflow Pipe

- Wrap threads of overflow pipe with Teflon tape
- Thread pipe into bulkhead
Step 4: Prepare the Rain Barrel Location

Firmly pack and level base. The rain barrel can also be raised on paver blocks to help increase water pressure and provide additional clearance beneath the spigot.
Step 5 & 6: Place Rain Barrel and Cut-off Downspout

Measure and trim downspout so the downspout elbow clears the top of the rain barrel lid.
Step 7: Install Downspout Elbow

Regions with heavy rainfalls or homes that have a large roof area feeding into the downspout should use option B to help direct the flow down into the rain barrel opening.
Step 8: Place Overflow Drain Pipe

Divert excess water away from the foundation by inserting the downspout pipe cut off in the earlier step, or a section of buried corrugated pipe, over the end of the overflow elbow.
Step 9: Secure the Cover

The rain barrel includes two removable zip-ties that can be used to secure the cover in place.
Step 10: Start Capturing Water
Accessing the Water

Water can be accessed using a watering can or short garden hose.
• **Planting Area**
  
  – The RainXchange™ Rain Barrel can be planted with a variety of ornamental plants. If drainage is necessary, there are three dimples located on the bottom of the planter area. Drill ¼”- ½” holes using the dimples as a starting point.
  
  – It is recommended that when using the planting area, a layer of fabric or container liner, such as coconut fiber, moss, or planting media be used to prevent any soil from passing through the drainage holes and entering the barrel.
When using more than one rain barrel to capture rainwater, you will need the RainXchange™ Rain Barrel Connection Kit (Item #98811) to attach the barrels to each other. This allows the water to flow from the first barrel to the next when the water capacity reaches the maximum amount.
The RainXchange™ Rain Barrel should require very little maintenance. Periodically check that the filter screen is clean. To clean, just brush off any leaves, sticks or debris that may have collected on top of the screen.
Winterization

• The rain barrel will need to be prepared for the winter if the temperature in the area will get below 32º F (0º C.)

• Option #1 – Leave the rain barrel outside
  – Open the brass spigot and let the water drain out. Remove the lid and unscrew the overflow pipe from the bulkhead fitting located in the bottom of the barrel. The overflow pipe will not be installed during the winter allowing the water entering the barrel to drain out. Replace the lid. Leave the spigot open during the winter.

• Option #2 – Remove the rain barrel for winter storage
  – The rain barrel can also be removed from the outside of the house during the winter. Follow the steps in option #1 and tip the barrel to remove any remaining water. Add a temporary downspout extension onto the existing downspout to ensure proper drainage away from the foundation.
Here is a sampling of cities in water-stressed areas around the country that have adopted rainwater capture and usage. These areas are not only promoting rainwater harvesting, but some are actually requiring it due to limited water supplies:

**Tucson, Arizona:**
- First municipality in the country to require new commercial properties to harvest rainwater for landscaping.
- Implementing similar requirements for residential developments.

**Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico:**
- Require new homes to use rainwater harvesting.
Find Rebates and Incentives Near You!

• Here is a sampling of cities that are **not** in water-stressed areas. Some actually have an abundance of rain. In these areas, storm water management is the driving force.

• The objective is to keep the water where it falls rather than let it surge through the storm water management system. The water can be utilized or allowed to soak back into the ground between rainfall events.
  – Rain barrel program
    • Rochester, NY
    • Madison, WI
    • Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte counties, FL
  – Rain water promotion and regulation clarification
    • San Francisco, CA
  – Rain garden promotion
    • Kansas City, MO
Find Rebates and Incentives Near You!

• Aquascape’s RainXchange™ website has a reference list of regions that offer rebates and incentive programs.
• Please help us grow this list by submitting information on programs that you find in your region at: http://www.rainxchange.com/contact_us/program_contact.php
Simple Solutions for Complex Problems

Please visit www.rainxchange.com for more information on the RainXchange™ Rain Barrel and other rainwater harvesting solutions from Aquascape