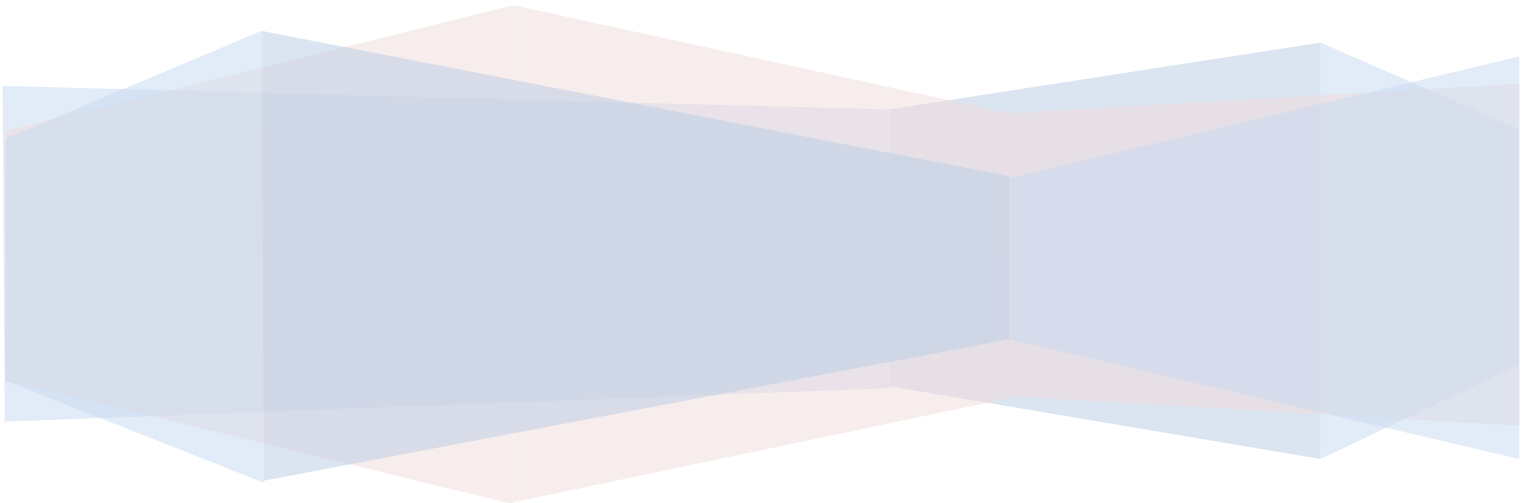


# mirainbarrel

## Terra Cotta Rain Barrel

### Instructions



## **Materials Included in Kit**

1. Screen
2. Overflow valve
3. Down spout adapter
4. 4 screws
5. 4 washers

## **Tools Required**

1. Drill
2. Philips head drill bit
3. 1" Drill Bit
4. Adjustable wrench

# Step One



Drill 1" hole at desired location.\*

\*Read attached note about rain barrel placement before drilling this hole. The location of the hole will depend on the placement of the barrel.

\*\* We suggest you place river rocks, over the entire top tray of the rain barrel to create a "natural" filter. This is both functional and aesthetically pleasing. The rocks keep small debris out of your barrel, works with our plastic mesh screen, also can eliminate mosquito problems since they no longer see the water below as standing water to breed in. The rocks are easy to clean, simply remove the tray and rinse below in the rain barrels spigot and replace.

# Step Two



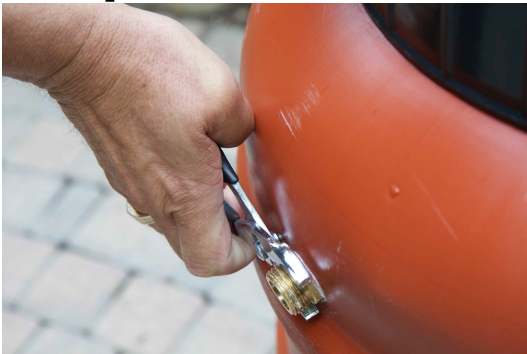
Screw in overflow valve

# Step Four



Use drill to fasten screen over hole. Place washers on top of screen as shown above.\*\*

# Step Three



Use adjustable wrench to tighten overflow valve.



It should look like this when done.

### **Advantages of Rain Barrels:**

*Source text: composter.com*

- Reduces the volume of water flowing to the sewer treatment facility
- Lowers the percentage of roof top rainfall as a component of urban runoff
- Backup source of water during times of drought or between rain showers
- Helps to keep our creeks and beaches clean
- Naturally softened water - great for delicate houseplants, auto cleaning and window washing
- Saves money by lowering your water bill
- Reduces the need for additional tax dollars earmarked for sewer expansion
- Chlorine-free water helps maintain a healthy biotic community in the soil
- Educational tool for teaching residents about water conservation

# How to Use Your Rain Barrel

## **Placement of Rain Barrel:**

Locate the downspout you wish to connect the rain barrel to. For best pressure results, set the drum on a secure stand i.e. cinder blocks, tree stump, or bricks. Most likely, you will have to cut the downspout to fit the size of barrel with the downspout adapter attached. Once you have established a location, the next step is determining where you want the overflow valve to be; this should depend on where you have selected to place your barrel and whether you are attaching the overflow to another rain barrel, or just diverting the extra. You should do this step before you drill the hole for the overflow valve so you can customize your barrel properly.

## **Preventing Mosquitoes:**

*Source text: composter.com*

- Place rain barrels on a pervious surface so that overflow water soaks into the ground instead of pooling on paved surfaces.
- Keep rain barrel lid sealed.
- Keep rain barrel free of organic material.
- During the rainy season, every 3-4 days, turn on the spigot or use your hand to splash off any water that may collect on top of the barrel. Mosquitoes need at least 4 days of standing water to develop as larva.
- If you believe mosquitoes are breeding in your rain barrel, empty your rain barrel completely. This will kill all mosquito larvae that may be in your barrel.

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