

City of Alexandria Hosts “Build Your own Rain Barrel” Workshop

Saturday, May 30
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Interested in saving the environment, living “green,” and protecting the Chesapeake Bay? The City of Alexandria, in partnership with other regional organizations, invites residents to attend a “Build Your Own Rain Barrel” workshop on Saturday, May 30 from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon to be held at Francis C. Hammond Middle School, 4646 Seminary Drive, Alexandria, VA 22304.

Rain barrels can be placed under your downspouts to capture runoff from the roof. The rainwater you collect can help you save water for use in your yard and house plants, eliminate potential flooding in your basement, and reduce stormwater management costs. The use of rain barrels also helps to decrease the volume of storm runoff, which in turn, helps to moderate stream erosion and the resulting pollution that is impairing the Chesapeake Bay.

Registration for this workshop is required. Please visit www.arlingtonenvironment.org/barrel.htm to register online. To pay by check: Make check payable to NVSWCD. Please use the registration form found here: http://arlingtonenvironment.org/rain_barrel_registration.doc Press "Insert" and type in the requested information. Print out the form and mail, along with your check, to: Rain Barrel Program, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, 12055 Government Center Pkwy, Suite 905, Fairfax, VA 22035. The cost for a build-your-own-barrel is \$52 for guaranteed registration with PayPal/credit card payment (includes a \$2 processing fee). If you prefer to send a check, the cost is \$50, but be aware that your spot at the workshop will not be confirmed until payment is received. Ready-made barrels are also available for a slightly higher cost.

The workshop is sponsored by the Northern Virginia Rain Barrel Program. Partner organizations and agencies include the City of Alexandria, Arlington County, Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment, Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Fairfax County, Fairfax County Public Schools, the City of Falls Church, the Reston Association, and Fairfax County Park Authority. This project received funding from the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund provided by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), via DCR Grant 2007-WQIF-06.

For more information about the Rain Barrel Workshops please contact Jesse Maines, Office of Environmental Quality, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, at 703.519.3400 ext. 166.