

## Step 4: Dispensing the water

Eventually your rainbarrel will fill up with rain, so it will be necessary to somehow dispense it. One way to do this is by installing a spigot, you will require:

- faucet/spigot (3/4" works well)
- pipe coupling (same size as the faucet)/ a brass nut works well too
- washer (1-1/16" inner diameter)

1. Drill a hole roughly 4 inches from the bottom of the barrel to screw the faucet into.
2. Put a washer on the outside of the barrel, and carefully screw the spigot into the hole.
3. Secure the spigot with the pipe coupling and voilà!

Overflow can also be an important issue – it might be a good idea to create another hole near the top of the barrel, in case of heavy downpour.

## Images

[http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us/files/HCIInternet/EPandT/Environment/Images/RainCatcher\\_rain\\_barrel.jpg](http://www.co.hennepin.mn.us/files/HCIInternet/EPandT/Environment/Images/RainCatcher_rain_barrel.jpg)

<http://home.comcast.net/~leavesdance/rainbarrels/construction.html>



This document was prepared by Prevention NDG for the Éco-quartier program in the NDG borough.

## Step 1: Finding a Barrel

Clean the barrel with a water-vinegar mixture: an excellent eco-cleaner!

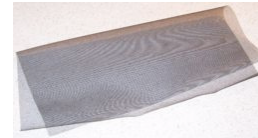
If you are having trouble finding one, Coop La Maison Verte (5785 Sherbrooke Ouest) and the Éco-quartier in Ahuntsic (10 326, blv St Laurent) sell rain barrels as well.

## Step 2: Creating a Hole

Now that you have your barrel, create a hole in the top to allow water to enter the barrel from your eavestrough. A good way to do this is by using a jigsaw. The downspout of your eavestrough should easily fit inside the hole.

## Step 3: Protecting the Water

A screen is an excellent way to protect the water from mosquitoes, animals and leaves. Mosquitoes breed in still water, so this is a necessary step! A simple flexible window screen works very well in this case.



## References

<http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/conservation/rainbarrel/>  
[http://www.commentfaiton.com/fiche/voir/2529/construire\\_reservoir\\_eau\\_pluie](http://www.commentfaiton.com/fiche/voir/2529/construire_reservoir_eau_pluie)

<http://www.instructables.com/id/SXHZ9FQFR7EUWV5/>  
[http://www.cityofbremerton.com/content/sw\\_makeyourown-rainbarrel.html](http://www.cityofbremerton.com/content/sw_makeyourown-rainbarrel.html)

<http://home.comcast.net/~leavesdance/rainbarrels/construction.html>

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# How to Make Your Own RAIN BARREL



## Why make your own rain barrel?

- Collecting rain in your rainbarrel is an excellent way to conserve water! Rainwater is usually soft and free of dissolved minerals: it's great for your indoor plants, garden and lawn, or even washing your car!

- You also prevent the water from unnecessarily entering the city's drainage system and wastewater treatment plant, thus improving efficiency!

## Step 1: Finding a Barrel

Make sure that the barrel is food-grade, otherwise it could be contaminated with gasoline or another harmful materials. Try your best to reuse one! A few possibilities: car washes, soda bottling plants and online classified websites.