



# Conserving Water

## Solutions for Your Landscape

**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA  
IFAS Extension

<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/water>

:60 Public Service Announcement

## Rain Barrels

A rain barrel captures rainwater, which can then be used to water plants. Rain barrels can help you save water and money—whether you're under water restrictions or not!

Rain barrels are large containers covered with a screen to keep out leaves, insects, and other contaminants. They're typically placed under downspouts or roof valleys to catch runoff. They have a spigot or pump for accessing the water, or can be hooked up to a hose or seep irrigation system. They can be purchased from a garden center or easily made at home from fifty-five gallon plastic drums.

Rain barrels can capture a significant amount of water. For every inch of rain that falls on one thousand square feet of roof area, you could potentially collect about 600 gallons of rainwater! That's a lot of water you won't have to pay for.

And by capturing the water that falls on your roof, you can water your plants for free on any day you choose!

This public service announcement is brought to you by Gardening in a Minute. For more information about water conservation, visit Gardening in a Minute dot com or contact your University of Florida/IFAS county Extension office.

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The Conserving Water: Solutions for Your Landscape campaign was developed by the Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology.

Special thanks goes to Dr. Michael Dukes, Dr. Laurie Trenholm, Dr. Sydney Park Brown, St. Johns River Water Management District, Southwest Florida Water Management District, and South Florida Water Management District.

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