

# 2016 Adult Rain Barrel Contest

## Application for Participation

The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is sponsoring a contest to educate the community on the benefits of using rain barrels to reduce rainwater runoff and improve our waterways. Selected local artists will be invited to paint creative designs on a rain barrel. The 55 gallon plastic barrels will be fully assembled with two coats of primer. The participant is responsible for supplying their own paint for their design.

**To apply for this program, please complete and submit this application by March 18, 2016.**

Names of all contributing artists: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from physical): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**In the space below, please describe your artistic rain barrel design.**

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**Please attach a preliminary sketch of your artistic rain barrel design.**

We're always looking for new places to display our finished rain barrels. If you have an idea for a location to place one, please let us know.

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**Please read the guidelines before submitting your application.**

**Return completed application to:**

Delaware Department of Natural Resources  
c/o Sara Wozniak  
2430 Old County Road  
Newark DE 19702

## Adult Rain Barrel Program 2016

Local artists are challenged to creatively paint rain barrels as part of a fun way to educate the community on the benefits of using rain barrels to improve our waterways. The Delaware Department of Natural Resources will choose artists based on their applications and designs. Once participants have been selected, they will have four weeks to finish their painting and submit final photographs and information requested. The rain barrel designs will be voted on by the public online at [www.delawarewatersheds.org](http://www.delawarewatersheds.org). The top five finalists will be chosen by the online vote and then a professional judging panel will choose a grand prize winner from those finalists. The grand prize winner will then be displayed at the Delaware State Fair. The grand prize winner will also participate in Governors Day at the Delaware State Fair.

Thousands of people will be exposed to this artwork, as this program will be publicized and photos of all decorated barrels will be posted on the Delaware Watersheds website ([www.delawarewatersheds.org](http://www.delawarewatersheds.org)) and all barrels will be displayed at the Delaware Agricultural Museum. Additionally, following the contest, artistic barrels will be used at local events, local businesses, nonprofits, and with local governments. The grand prize barrel will be displayed at the Governor's Residence.

### **ARTIST GUIDELINES:**

*Artists considering participation should review the following:*

To participate, each artist must be willing to donate time, creativity, a short biography and interpretation of design, paint, and the use of brushes or other application tools. In exchange, the Rain Barrel Program will provide a fully assembled and primed rain barrel, top coat, bubble wrap, free publicity, and a location to display your work.

### **TIMELINE:**

- March 18:** A completed application must be received for consideration.
- Week of April 11:** Supplies will be delivered to selected participants.
- May 16:** Support information is due, including title of the work, artist's bio (100 word maximum), photos of finished barrel and interpretation of the piece (75 word maximum) to Sara Wozniak at [sara.wozniak@state.de.us](mailto:sara.wozniak@state.de.us).
- Week of May 23:** Selected artists must arrange to drop off their finished barrels. Chosen artists will have option of a dropoff location in each county. Please have the painted barrel in the bubble wrap provided.
- May 30 – June 8:** Online voting period on [www.delawarewatersheds.org](http://www.delawarewatersheds.org).
- June 1 – July 19:** All artists' barrels will be displayed at the Delaware Agricultural Museum.

☐ **July 21 – July 30:** The grand prize barrel will be displayed at the Delaware State Fair. The winner will be recognized by the Governor on Governors Day.

### **PAINTING AND PLANNING GUIDELINES:**

- ☐ Check out past designs and winners at [www.delawarewatersheds.org](http://www.delawarewatersheds.org)
- ☐ To help plan your barrel, the spigot on the rain barrel will serve as the front. Usually, the back will be against a wall. The barrel must be returned with the spigot and overflow parts in place.
- ☐ Completed rain barrels must be functional and able to withstand the weather. Artists are not allowed to adhere anything (such as paper, tiles, etc.) to the barrels.
- ☐ After acrylic paint is applied, allow **at least 48 hours of drying time** before applying the top coat.
- ☐ **Artwork does not need to have an environmental theme.** Artwork may include one small logo (if desired), but theme cannot be commercial or advertisement. However, please avoid topics of a political, religious or sexual nature.
- ☐ The finished barrel must be approved by the Rain Barrel Program selection committee before it is displayed.
- ☐ Decorated rain barrels are displayed at the Delaware Agricultural Museum during the contest. Barrels are displayed with interpretive signage and handouts that explain the benefits of rain barrels. Each sign includes the artist's contact information, the artist's interpretation of their work and acknowledgement of the program sponsors.
- ☐ The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and partners are not liable for any damage to the barrel during the display period.
- ☐ The artist relinquishes ownership of their artwork upon delivery of the finished barrel to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control for educational purposes.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

Sara Wozniak at [sara.wozniak@state.de.us](mailto:sara.wozniak@state.de.us).

## What is a Rain Barrel?

A rain barrel is a container that collects and stores the water from roofs and downspouts for future uses such as watering lawns, gardens, and house plants; cleaning off gardening tools; and washing your car.

Rain barrels help to lower your water bills, particularly in the summer months by collecting thousands of gallons of free water a year that you don't have to buy!

Rain barrels are also important for our environment because they help reduce water pollution by decreasing the amount of stormwater runoff reaching our streams and rivers. Think about it. The average rainfall of one inch within a 24 hour period can produce more than 700 gallons of water that run off a typical house! While it's running from our homes and lawns, this stormwater picks up anything on the ground such as litter, excess fertilizer, pet waste, and motor oil and transports it to storm drains that DO NOT treat the water before dumping it directly into our waterways. So rain barrels play an important role in protecting our water resources by collecting the stormwater runoff from our homes before it reaches our local streams and rivers.

Using rain barrels is a great way to decrease your household's impact on local waterways and to help you become a good steward.

