

# **2017 Kids Rain Barrel Art 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 students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade 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 participants are responsible for supplying their own paint for their design. Prizes will be given to the top three finalists.

**To apply for this program, please complete and submit this application by March 17, 2017.**

Group/School Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Student(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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 all guidelines before submitting your application.**

**Return completed application either by mail or email:**

BY MAIL: Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control  
c/o Sharon Webb  
100 W. Water St., Suite 6B  
Dover DE 19904

BY EMAIL SCAN: sharon.webb@state.de.us

## **Kids Rain Barrel Program 2017**

Students 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 and Environmental Control will choose participants based on their application and design ideas. Once participants have been selected, they will have four weeks to finish their painting and submit final photographs and information requested. All rain barrels will be displayed at the Delaware Agricultural Museum. 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 displayed at the Delaware State Fair. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will be selected by voting visitors. Finalists will be recognized at Governors Day at the Delaware State Fair.

### **ARTIST GUIDELINES:**

*Artists considering participation should review the following:*

To participate, participants 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 17:** A completed application must be received for consideration.
- Week of April 3:** Supplies will be delivered to selected participants.
- May 8:** 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 Sharon Webb at [Sharon.webb@state.de.us](mailto:Sharon.webb@state.de.us).
- Week of May 15:** 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 9:** Online voting period on [www.delawarewatersheds.org](http://www.delawarewatersheds.org).
- May 31 – July 19:** All barrels will be displayed at the Delaware Agricultural Museum.
- July 20 – July 29:** The top five barrels as determined by the online vote will be displayed at the Delaware State Fair and a winner will be selected by voting visitors. 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:**

Sharon Webb at sharon.webb@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.

