



For immediate release

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April Showers Bring....Discounted Rain Barrels to Millcreek, Murray & Salt Lake County Residents

Rain Barrels Made Available to Help Local Residents Save Water & Money

The Utah Rivers Council is proud to announce the highly anticipated return of our popular **RainHarvest** program with Millcreek, Murray and the Salt Lake County Watershed Program. Millcreek, Murray and Salt Lake County residents can purchase rain barrels for a greatly subsidized price of just \$50, while supplies last. Rain barrels are also available for just \$75 for residents outside Millcreek, Murray and Salt Lake County boundaries. Both prices are a significant discount from the barrel's \$129 retail price. Residents can order discounted rain barrels now at <http://utahrivers.org/rainharvest/>.

“This program is an important step toward conserving and protecting clean water in our community because it offers an inexpensive and proven option to help people make a difference in their own backyards.” said Millcreek Mayor Jeff Silvestrini.

“We want to encourage as many residents as possible to conserve water,” said Murray Mayor Blair Camp. **“Harvesting the rain can help us reduce demand on our water systems and helps improve water quality at the same time.”**

Urban Utah residents have some of the highest water use (per-person) in the U.S. and rain barrels are one of many tools Utahns can use to reduce our high water use. About 4,000 barrels have been purchased through the Utah Rivers Council's RainHarvest program, meaning that 200,000 gallons of water are saved every time it rains enough to fill a 50 gallon barrel. Capturing rainwater also improves water quality by storing water on site and preventing urban runoff from flowing through streets and gutters and washing pollutants into streams and lakes. Rainwater harvesting is legal in Utah.

“Installing rain barrels on downspouts that are draining to driveways, alleys, and other areas which flow into storm drains, can greatly reduce the amount of runoff entering local streams,” said Bob Thompson, Salt Lake County Watershed Section Manager. **“Storm drains flow directly into our streams and rivers. No filters. No treatment, so reducing runoff improves water quality.”**

“Once someone starts capturing the rain, they grow passionate about conserving water and more conscious of how our water use is connected to our rivers and the fish and wildlife species they support,” said Nick Schou, Conservation Director for Utah Rivers Council.

After the barrels are purchased online, people can pick them up at a designated date and location where volunteers will be on hand to teach participants about the importance of rainwater harvesting and other water conservation strategies.

For more information contact Nick Schou at (801) 486-4776 or (801) 599-9223.

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