

# SAVE WATER. STOP WATER POLLUTION.



**SAVE WATER.** People have collected, stored and used rain water for centuries. Harvested rain water was once an essential source of water for home use. Most residents of Columbia City pay a monthly water bill. Harvested rainwater is free. Homeowners can save up to 1300 gallons of tap water during spring and summer by using a rain barrel to water their gardens and landscapes. Harvested rain water is very good for flowers, trees and shrubs. Rain water is naturally soft water and doesn't contain chlorine or salt.

**STOP WATER POLLUTION.** Each time it rains or snow melts, storm water runs off over streets, driveways, parking lots and yards and picks up pollutants along the way. Sooner or later, this polluted runoff enters our lakes, rivers and streams. Polluted storm water is the biggest source of the water pollution that impairs Whitley County's lakes, rivers and streams. You can reduce the amount of polluted storm water runoff by installing a rain barrel to harvest rain water during the growing season.

**HOW CAN I HELP?** The City of Columbia City Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) offers a one-time rebate of \$30 to City residents who pay a monthly storm water fee and who purchase and install a rain barrel that meets the requirements of the MS4. These requirements and the rebate claim forms are posted on our City's storm water webpage, [www.columbiacity.net/community/stormwater-2/](http://www.columbiacity.net/community/stormwater-2/). Information about other ways to prevent storm water pollution is also available on the webpage.





**These rain barrels will save more than 6,000 gallons of water this summer and help to keep Columbia City green!**

**Find out how you can participate in the rain barrel program by reading the rebate claim forms posted on the storm water web page.**

