

# City of Leawood

---

Public Works Department  
4800 Town Center Dr.  
Leawood, KS 66211

Phone: 913-339-6700  
[www.leawood.org](http://www.leawood.org)

# Rain Barrels

---

For Zoned Areas :

---

RP-A5  
Tract size 0-5 acres  
Tract size 5+ acres

---

R-1  
Residential, hotels

---

RP-1 and RP-2  
Planned Zoning with dense setbacks

---

## City of Leawood NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accord with various Federal and State civil rights legislation, the City of Leawood does not discriminate against individuals regardless of race, ethnicity, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, medical condition or disability.

LEAWOOD PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



## What is a Rain Barrel?

A Rain Barrel is designed to catch the water that runs off the roof of your house. Instead of letting the water run out into the grass, a rain barrel allows for the water to be used at a later date. Rain Barrels range in size from just a couple gallons to thousands of gallons in special applications. Some things to take into consideration when choosing your rain barrel is; how much of your roof will drain to the barrel? or how much rain water can you use? Many different shapes and styles exist, so one can be found for any style of house or location.

**PLEASE NOTE...The City of Leawood has specific requirements for Rain barrels. Fancy colors or designs are not allowed. Refer to the Leawood Development Ordinance Article 4.**

## How effective are they?

A 1000 square foot roof during a mere one inch rain storm will have over 600 gallons of collectable water. They are also a great way of collecting water that is healthier for your plants than water that has been treated and comes from the faucet. Another benefit of Rain Barrels is that they take some of the strain off the local stormwater system. By implementing rain barrels we can also keep some sediment and other contaminant out of our waterways which will help to create a healthier environment in our community.

**SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: Leawood Development Ordinance ARTICLE 4 Supplement**  
**[INSPECTION REQUIRED]**

Rain barrels shall be permitted within the RP-A5, R-1, RP-1 and RP-2 districts only, provided that the following criteria are satisfied:

- a. The rain barrel shall be located in the side yard or rear yard.
- b. The rain barrel shall be no greater than 70 gallons, or greater than 5 ft. in height above grade.
- c. The rain barrel shall not be elevated more than 6 in. above adjacent grade and shall be placed on a level, hard surface of not to include wood or gravel.
- d. The rain barrel shall be fed by a downspout and be located within 6 in. of the house.
- e. The rain barrel shall be restrained in such a way to prevent tipping.
- f. A lid shall be fitted to the top of the rain barrel.
- g. The rain barrel shall be permanently fitted or constructed with an insect guard, which effectively prevents entry by mosquitoes or other insects.

## Cost Reimbursement Program

The City of Leawood will pay 50% of the cost of a rain barrel up to \$75 for one barrel or \$150 for two barrels. All you have to do is find a place in your yard that is a good location for a rain barrel. Once you have a location, create a plan and take some pictures. Finally, figure out what it is going to cost to implement your project. After this is all figured out, submit an application on the City of Leawood's website. The City will review your request and once approved all that will need to be done is a post-install inspection.

[www.leawood.org](http://www.leawood.org)

Look under "Sustainability" "Conservation" for more information on this topic. Or under Departments; Public Works; Stormwater Management; BMP Cost Share Program.