Go green with a blue rain barrel from Aquarion

Residents in the greater Bridgeport area can purchase rain barrels at cost through Aquarion Water Company so they can have a plentiful supply of free, clean water for various outdoor uses this summer.

The barrels collect water from rooftop run-off during rain storms — a one-inch rainfall on the typical roof will fill one of these 55-gallon containers. This untreated “soft water” is ideal for flower beds and organic vegetable gardens, and for other outdoor uses such as washing a car or cleaning exterior windows. And, by saving water in this manner, residents will reduce their use of treated tap water.

Aquarion President and CEO Charles V. Firlotte said, “The way we see it, what’s good for the environment is good for everyone, and these barrels are an excellent means of conservation. We’re making them available as an extension of our efforts to educate the public about using water wisely. These barrels will prove to be a great, practical conservation aid for families, as well as an educational tool for children.”

The blue barrels measure 3 feet high and 2 feet across. They are manufactured in the United States from recycled material and come with a five-foot hose that connects to a brass spigot near the bottom of the barrel. They also have several safety features to prevent children and pets from falling inside, while also keeping insects out.

The barrels usually cost about $120, but Aquarion is making them available for only $75.95. In addition, the first 100 customers to pick up a barrel also will receive a rain gauge, to help them monitor rainfall in their yard.

To order, go to www.aquarionwater.com by May 31 and click on the rain barrel link at the left side of the home page. The barrels will be available for pick-up Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Trumbull Town Hall.
Aquarion Water Company serves nearly 600,000 people in 36 communities throughout Connecticut. It is among the seven largest investor-owned water utility companies in the U.S., and the largest in New England.

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