



News Release

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Reserve your rain barrel by June 1 for half the price: <http://www.rainbarrelprogram.org/ashleycooper>

Get a Great Deal on Rain Barrels!

Order by June 1 and pick up June 6 or June 7

[Charleston County Government](#) and [Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium](#) have partnered to offer rain barrels at a discounted price during May. Through the special partnership, the Ivy classic black 100% recycled rain barrels are only \$68 during May (normal retail is \$129) in an effort to encourage residents to conserve water resources and protect water quality. Water collected by the rain barrels can be used for gardens/lawns and to wash cars and pets.

The rain barrels can be purchased directly through the program's website, <http://www.rainbarrelprogram.org/ashleycooper>, using a credit card. There will also be a limited number of rain barrels on the day of the sale through a first-come, first-served basis.

The deadline to purchase rain barrels online is 11 p.m. on Sunday, June 1.

Two options for pick up dates and locations are:

1. Friday, June 6 between 3 and 6 p.m. at the [Ladson Exchange Park](#), 9850 US 78, Ladson
2. Saturday, June 7 between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. at [Charleston County's Public Services Building](#) located at 4045 Bridge View Drive in North Charleston.



Rain barrels capture rainwater from rooftops by connecting to the home's downspout. This water would typically be sent down the storm drain carrying potential contaminants and contributing to flash flooding.

"The field of rain water harvesting has really been increasing during the last five years and is encouraged by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency," said Neil Desai, an environmental engineer with [Charleston County's Public Works Department](#). "In the end it is an opportunity to collect water running off roofs and reuse that water, keeping it onsite, which eliminates a portion of your stormwater runoff. This is important because it keeps pollutants such as fertilizer and pet waste from ending up in our streams and ocean."

[Charleston County Government's Stormwater Management Program](#) works closely with [Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium](#), which has the resources, through partnership, to create a region-wide awareness campaign to educate the public about water quality and water quantity issues and the cumulative effects of stormwater.

"Harvesting rainwater is good stewardship practice for conserving and protecting clean water in our community," said Kimberly Counts, Co-coordinator of the Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium. "Rain barrels offer a practical, cost-efficient way to gather and store rainwater at your home for outdoor, non-potable use. Other reasons to collect rainwater include the potential to save money on utility bills over the long term, the ability to control moisture levels around the foundation of your home, to water your garden, and to prevent stormwater pollution."

The rain barrel program website, <http://www.rainbarrelprogram.org/ashleycooper>, includes a frequently asked questions section and a video on how to install the rain barrel.

Features of the Ivy rain barrel:

- Made in the U.S.
- 100% recycled plastic
- Dimensions 42.5" H x 22" W x 18" L
- Child proof, bug proof lid
- Best-in-class overflow set up
- 3/4" ball valve easily connects to garden hose
- Three rain barrels easily fit in the backseat of a midsized sedan
- All parts included and ready to set up

- Gravity fed. No pumps required
- Link two or more Ivy barrels together using the overflow hose supplied

Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium (*ashleycooper.org*):

- The Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium is a partnership between communities, universities, agencies and non-profits working together to implement a regional, watershed-scale stormwater runoff education strategy in the Charleston urbanized area.
- The effort was spearheaded in the Charleston region by [Clemson University's Carolina Clear Program](#).
- Participating communities include the counties of Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester and the municipalities of Charleston, Folly Beach, Goose Creek, Isle of Palms, James Island, Lincolnville, Mount Pleasant, North Charleston, Sullivan's Island, and Summerville.

For more information contact Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium:

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- See us on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/charlestoncountygov>
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- written by Jennie Flinn -