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For Immediate Release

## Rain Barrel Rebate Program & National Drinking Water Week

**Waukesha, WI** – As Mayor Shawn Reilly commemorates National Drinking Water Week with a Mayoral Proclamation, the Water Utility reminds customers about the new Rain Barrel rebate program.

“Harvesting rain water is easy and a great way to conserve water,” says Mary Adelmeyer of the Waukesha Water Utility. “A 50-60 gallon rain barrel, which connects to a downspout to capture rain water, can collect a surprising amount of water: 1/10<sup>th</sup> of an inch of rain falling on a 1,000 square foot rooftop can fill a 50-gallon barrel. That’s 50 free gallons of naturally soft, chlorine-free water which is great for watering your flowers and plants, washing off your boots, washing the car or bike, or any other outdoor activities.”

Rain barrels can be purchased from local hardware stores or Retzer Nature Center. Rain barrels cost approximately \$70-\$100. To qualify for the \$20 rain barrel rebate, Adelmeyer tells us that the rain barrels must be installed in the utility’s service area, the original purchase receipt must be submitted within 90 days of purchase, and post-installation pictures must be included with the rebate application, which can be found on the utility’s website. Adelmeyer also shared that rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to the availability of funds.

In addition to the rain barrel rebates, the utility is also reminding customers about the \$100 WaterSense toilet rebate and the \$25 WaterSense shower head rebate.

The Mayor tells us that “National Drinking Water Week is the perfect time to remind people of the importance of conserving water; and to inform city residents and businesses about the water conservation programs and incentives that are available through the Waukesha Water Utility to help us conserve.”

For more detailed information, please visit the utility’s website at [www.waukesha-water.com](http://www.waukesha-water.com).