## Rain Barrel Program



Through a partnership with The New England Rain Barrel Company we continued our annual rain barrel distribution program to help

residents conserve water, save money and reduce storm water run-off. By purchasing and installing a rain barrel residents can collect and store rainwater from their roofs that would otherwise be diverted into storm drains and streams. A one inch rainfall on a 1,000 square foot roof will yield over 620 gallons of water. By

keeping this storm water from running off of a property, one can help keep the local waterways cleaner and healthier. Stormwater can carry anything that may be on a lawn, roof or parking lot including fertilizers, uncovered soil or dog droppings to the storm drain systems and then eventually to the closest stream. Many times it is the volume of stormwater that can damage a stream by eroding the bank and scouring the bottom. Rain barrel use reduces the stress on municipal water systems during the summer months and improves storm water management.

A total of 43 barrels were sold during this program in 2010.

Albany County SWCD – 2010 Activity Highlights