



**SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 995, SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101**

Date of Issuance: March 16, 2026

Contact: Katie Shea, Communications Specialist  
Springfield Water and Sewer Commission  
Tel: 413-452-1311  
Email: [katherine.shea@waterandsewer.org](mailto:katherine.shea@waterandsewer.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Springfield Water and Sewer Commission Announces Annual Rain Barrel Sale**

*Discounted rain barrels available to supplement outdoor water needs*

As spring arrives, the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission is pleased to announce it is again offering its annual rain barrel sale. Through the Commission's rain barrel program, the public can purchase discounted rain barrels at wholesale prices. Residents can order a 60-gallon rain barrel in one of three different colors from the Great American Rain Barrel Company for \$89 (plus tax) to help supplement outdoor water needs.

Orders must be placed by May 3, 2026, at midnight. The barrels will be available for pickup on Saturday, May 16, 2026, from 8AM -12PM at the Commission's Operations Center at 71 Colton Street in Springfield. Anyone interested in purchasing a rain barrel through the program is welcome to do so – you do not need to be a Commission customer.

Those interested in purchasing a rain barrel through the program should note that pick-up is only available on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at the designated time. Advanced or late pick-up will not be available.

To order, visit <https://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/>, select "Springfield" under community programs, and follow the ordering instructions outlined on the page. More information is also available on the Commission's website at <https://waterandsewer.org/education/rain-barrel-program/>, or by contacting the Commission at 413-452-1300 or email [info@waterandsewer.org](mailto:info@waterandsewer.org).

Rain barrels capture rainwater from rooftops and are retrofitted with a spigot for outdoor use. In New England, residential water usage can increase as much as 60% during the spring, summer, and fall seasons due to the watering of gardens and lawns, filling pools, and washing cars. Rain barrels are a low-cost conservation alternative to supplement some of these seasonal water needs. Although Cobble Mountain Reservoir is a plentiful water supply at 22 billion gallons, a rain barrel can help residents use water wisely. In addition, rain barrels capture rainwater that might otherwise have flowed into storm drains, reducing combined sewer overflow (CSO) discharges into waterways.



**SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 995, SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101**

Only ¼-inch of rainfall is needed to fill the 60-gallon rain barrel when it is connected to a household gutter. Rain in Massachusetts averages 130 days per year. If the rain barrel is used during half of those days, it will collect 3,900 gallons of water, an equivalent to approximately \$60 in tap water. For those who regularly water lawns and gardens, a \$89 investment in a rain barrel will pay for itself in less than two years.

**About the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission**

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission is an independent, regional public utility that provides drinking water and wastewater service to approximately 250,000 people in the lower Pioneer Valley. The Commission provides retail drinking water service to Springfield and Ludlow, and regional drinking treatment to Agawam, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, and Southwick, as well as emergency/peak service to several other communities. The Commission provides retail wastewater service to Springfield and regional wastewater treatment to West Springfield, Agawam, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham, and Ludlow.

**About the Great American Rain Barrel Company**

The Great American Rain Barrel Company is a local food-import company that has been repurposing shipping drums into Rain Barrels since 1988. The Great American Rain Barrel Co. has been an approved vendor by the MASS DEP since 2010.

**END**