

Downspout Diverters

Downspout diverters are installed directly to the downspout to create a seamless flow of water from the downspout into the rain barrel. There are a variety of models available.

MODEL TYPE 1: *Downspout Diverter with a Hose*. Water flows through the downspout, enters the diverter and empties into the barrel via a hose attached to a hose adapter on the barrel's lid.

- ◆ Automatically handles overflow—when barrel is filled, excess water backs up through the hose and back into the downspout. Additional overflow ports on the barrel are not needed, or should be capped until a second barrel is attached.
- ◆ Can only be used on downspout that fully extend from the roof to the ground
- ◆ Compatible with rain barrels that have solid lids



The Garden WaterSaver™ (www.gardenwatersaver.com. Also available from other websites)

- 2X3" downspout: \$21.95 plus shipping
- 3X4" downspout: \$23.95 plus shipping
- Kit includes: diverter, seven feet of hose, fastening screws, installation instructions and cutting template
- Made of plastic
- Comes with one "deactivating plug" to shut off diverter when the rain barrel is not in use during the wintertime



The Rain Reserve™ (www.outdoordecor.com. Also available from other websites)

- Starter kit: \$42.95 plus shipping
- Kit includes diverter, tubing, fastening screws, installation guide and "recycled rainwater: do not drink" decorative sticker for the barrel
- Made of UV resistant hybrid corn plastic
- Comes with two "deactivating plugs" to shut off diverter when the rain barrel is not in use in the wintertime



“Downspout Diverter” (available from www.gardeners.com)

- Fits 3x4 downspout only: \$29.95
- Kit includes: diverter, five feet of hose, rubber adapters and installation guide
- Made of powder-coated steel.

MODEL TYPE 2: Downspout Diverter with Arm. Water flows through downspout, enters diverter, and flows out arm. The arm flips up when the rain barrel is not in use during the wintertime

- ◆ Does not automatically handle overflow—must be paired with a rain barrel that has an overflow
- ◆ Can only be used on a downspout that fully extends from the roof to the ground
- ◆ Compatible with rain barrels that have screened lids

The Save the Rain™ Diverter (www.rainbarrelsource.com. Also available from other websites)

- 2X3” downspout: \$29.99 plus shipping
- 3X4” downspout: \$39.99 plus shipping
- Made of galvanized steel



Other “Water Diverting” Accessories

If you have a downspout that is cut so it empties a few feet off the ground:



Plastic Flexible Downspout (available in the gutter and roofing section of your local hardware store. Comes in different colors)

- Price range: \$2.50—\$10, depending on brand and size
- Attaches to end of downspout with screws, can be extended to empty over the lid of a screened rain barrel.

Don't have a downspout? Use a rain chain where a downspout would go! Available as simple chain links or as more elaborate chains, such as fish, umbrellas and bells. Range in price from \$35-\$150 depending on length and link design. Available at some local hardware stores, but do shop around on the internet to see a wide range of rain chains.



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension in Onondaga County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Employment and program opportunities are offered to all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability. The resources listed on this handout are for informational purposes only. The products, services and companies listed does not imply an endorsement by Cornell Cooperative Extension.