

## **Rain Barrel Painting Contest**

### **Limestone County Master Gardeners**

Anyone can compete by designing and painting the best rain barrel. No age limits. This contest highlights the benefits of using rain barrels to reduce rainwater runoff and improve our waterways.

A rain barrel is a container that collects and stores the water from roofs and downspouts for future uses such as watering lawns, gardens, and house plants; cleaning off gardening tools; and washing your car. Rain barrels help to lower your water bills, particularly in the summer months by collecting thousands of gallons of free water a year!

**Design:** There is no required theme to the art work. However, contestants are encouraged to consider an environmental theme. Painted rain barrels will be judged according to how well the design fits the theme, creativity, and neatness. Painted rain barrels will be displayed and judged at the KALB sponsored **EARTH DAY event on April 25, 2020 -- KALB 2019 Earth Day and Outdoor EXPO** at Friendship Church (16479 Lucas Ferry Road in Athens) or **other location to be determined** from 10:00AM-3:00PM. Learn more at [KALBcares.com](http://KALBcares.com).

**Awards:** 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Small gift items. No cash award. Each person attending Earth day may vote once for their favorite barrel at the Limestone County Master Gardener Table. Some of the painted Rain Barrels may be for sale at Earth day.

**Materials:** Acquire and paint a plastic barrel between 30 and 65 gallons that is a fully assembled and functional rain barrel prior to the event. Recommendation: best to use two coats of quality outdoor primer. You will need brushes, various colors of acrylic paints (plastic spray paint is also good) and a clear topcoat is also recommended for it to last outdoors for years (the painting needs to be durable and permanent). The topcoat will also prevent the paint from chipping and fading. Already primed and ready to paint Rain barrels may be **purchased** from Limestone County Master Gardeners Assoc. for \$55.

**Deadline:** Drop off painted barrels at Earth Day Event venue (Friendship Church 16479 Lucas Ferry Road in Athens) event by 10:00am the morning of the Event for display and judging. Complete the contestant application. All judging will be completed by 1:00 PM. participants can then pick up their barrels. Awards at 1:00 pm. You may donate your Rain Barrel to either LCMG or KALB if you do not want to take it home.

**Painting and Planning Guidelines:** The spigot on the rain barrel will serve as the front and where the design should center. Try to avoid any impressed labeling on the barrel and choose the smoothest side to paint your design. Usually, the back of the barrel will be against a wall and that 20% of the barrel does not need to be painted with a design but the barrel needs to be completely painted. Artists are not allowed to adhere anything (such as paper, tiles, ribbons etc.) to the barrels. After acrylic paint is applied, allow at least 48 hours of drying time before applying the top coat. Artwork may include one small logo (if desired), but the theme cannot be a commercial advertisement. Please avoid topics of a political, religious or sexual nature. The finished barrel must be approved by the Rain Barrel selection committee before it is displayed at the Earth Day event on April 25, 2020. Barrels can be displayed with interpretive signage and handouts that explain the benefits of rain barrels. Attachment signs may include the artist's contact information and the artist's interpretation of their work. KALB and LCMG and partners are not liable for any damage to the barrel during the display period. The artist authorizes photographs to be taken and distributed of their artwork upon submission of their finished barrel to the event competition i.e. Newspaper, Facebook. To get a barrel or FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: Rick Pressnell email: [eastprecinct@yahoo.com](mailto:eastprecinct@yahoo.com) or at 703-965-9161.

**LCMG Rain Barrel Contest Application for Participation.**

LCMG and KALB is sponsoring a contest to educate the community on the benefits of using rain barrels to reduce rainwater runoff and improve our waterways. Participants are invited to paint creative designs on a rain barrel. The 30-65 gallon plastic barrels will be fully assembled with a coat of primer and preferably a top protective clearcoat. The participant is responsible for supplying their own rain barrel and paint for their design. To apply for participation in this program, please complete and submit this application - it may be submitted the day of the event or in advance.

Names of all contributing artists/organization/school:

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from physical): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**In the space below, please describe your artistic rain barrel design.**

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