



# *News Release*

**Lexington County Public Works**  
440 Ball Park Road  
Lexington, SC 29072  
[www.lex-co.sc.gov/stormwater](http://www.lex-co.sc.gov/stormwater)  
(803) 785-8201 Fax (803) 785-8593

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Wrenn Barrett, Director  
Phone: (803) 785-8201  
E-MAIL: [wbarrett@lex-co.com](mailto:wbarrett@lex-co.com)

**Monday, May 2, 2016**  
*For immediate release*

## **“Build Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop” Hosted by the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium**

The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium will host a “Build Your Own Rain Barrel” Workshop on Friday, May 20, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. beginning with a class at Emergency Medical Services located at 407 Ball Park Road and culminating at the Public Works garages located at 440 Ball Park Road where the rain barrels will be constructed by workshop attendees. Representatives from the Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium will present information about stormwater runoff and rainwater harvesting before helping each attendee to build a rain barrel to take home.

Workshop attendees will learn how to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff from their properties through rainwater harvesting. Rainwater harvesting is simply the capture of rainwater on your property for reuse. Rain barrels typically collect runoff from a roof; this water can then be used to water a garden, wash a car, or a variety of other uses.

Stormwater runoff occurs when impervious surfaces such as buildings and pavement prevent the natural infiltration of rainwater into the soil. When stormwater washes into storm drains, it flows directly into lakes, rivers, and streams; it is not treated at a wastewater treatment plant. The increase in volume of water to local streams and creeks not only causes issues such as erosion, siltation, and flooding, but stormwater picks up pollutants such as motor oils, pesticides, fertilizers, litter, and bacteria. This pollution is deposited into local waterways that also serve as drinking water and recreational resources. Therefore, reducing stormwater runoff helps to save water, save money, and reduces stormwater pollution

The cost to attend the workshop and make your own rain barrel to take home is \$25. **To register for the workshop**, contact Tina Blum, Lexington Soil and Water Conservation District, at (803) 359-3165 ext. 3 or [tina.blum@nacdn.net](mailto:tina.blum@nacdn.net)

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Questions: Mary Hite, Stormwater Outreach Assistant  
Email: [mhite@lex-co.com](mailto:mhite@lex-co.com)  
Phone: (803) 785-8201  
Website: [www.lcswc.com](http://www.lcswc.com)