



Words of Wisdom - CATCH THE RAIN

The idea of capturing rainwater in cisterns is generations old. Recycling rain water reduces your personal energy consumption by using less treated water. By collecting rainwater, one can save energy, water, and money *—as much as \$600 a year*. Rain barrels also help reduce erosion and storm water runoff and increase water quality. About **40% of typical household water** use in the summer is for lawns and gardens. Instead of paying for this water—on your utilities bill, or on the electric bill for a well pump—you can capture the water from your roof, store it, and draw on it for your gardening needs. Also, provide water to areas that can't be reached by your hose.

1 inch of rain on 1 square foot of roof yields 0.6 gallons and 1 inch of rain onto a 10 ft x 10 ft. area (100 sq. ft) yields 60 gallons.

Steele County SWCD now has rain barrels for sale at \$49.00 plus sales tax. If you have any questions, please call 507-451-6730 Extension 3.