

PRESS RELEASE

THE EARTH MACHINE™ BACKYARD COMPOST BIN AND THE SYSTEM RAIN BARREL ARE COMING TO MARYLAND!

There's no better way to welcome Summer! Caroline, Talbot and Queen Anne's Counties are pleased to present a one-day-only backyard compost bin and rain barrel distribution event. This exciting green initiative will feature The Earth Machine™ Backyard Compost Bin, rated the bin of choice on the Disney Family website – one of the 15 Must-Haves for Moms, as well as the SYSTEM Rain Barrel. Both products will be available to area residents on a first come, first served basis. Earth Machine™ Backyard Compost Bins and SYSTEM Rain Barrels will be available for only **\$45.00** and **\$55.00**, respectively, tax included. This is a significant savings from the regular retail prices of **\$100.00** and **\$120.00**.

According to the EPA, landfills are the largest man-made source of methane gas emissions. Methane emissions occur when organic waste is landfilled, its decomposition under anaerobic conditions releases this powerful greenhouse gas which is 20 x's more potent than carbon dioxide. By using an Earth Machine™ Backyard Compost Bin, a single-family household can expect to divert approximately **600lbs** of waste per year. **Just having 1,000 residents in your community, actively composting could divert 600,000lbs of organic waste, per year, from going to landfills.**

Homeowners can use the Earth Machine™ to compost fruit, vegetable scraps, crushed eggshells, tea bags, coffee grounds and filters from their kitchen. Then, add in layers of mulched leaves, dried grass, garden plants, old potting soil and soft plant stems from the garden. The resulting compost can be used as a rich soil additive for lawns and gardens improving soil water retention giving you greener grass, healthier flowers and better fruits and vegetables. Join the millions that are composting using The Earth Machine™ Backyard Compost Bin, reduce curbside waste and help diminish climate change.

Using the SYSTEM Rain Barrel helps to reduce water pollution and soil erosion within your community while conserving a valuable natural resource. In the United States alone, outdoor water use can make up between 25% - 58% of overall domestic water demands. Rainwater harvesting can drastically reduce this demand preserving municipal water supply for potable drinking water. As global water supplies diminish, rainwater harvesting will become a critical issue. Sandra Postel writes in her book, Last Oasis, "Doing more with less is the first and easiest step along the path toward water security."

Join us for this one-day-only truckload sale of Earth Machine™ Backyard Compost Bins and SYSTEM Rain Barrels, Saturday July 17th, 2010 from 9 am to 3 pm at the parking lot at the following location:

CHESAPEAKE COLLEGE
NORTH PARKING LOT
1000 COLLEGE CIRCLE
WYE MILLS, MD

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
THE EARTH MACHINE™ OR
THE SYSTEM, VISIT
WWW.EARTHMACHINE.COM
AND WWW.SYSTEM.COM

COMPOSTING FACTS

- Over 600 lbs of organic yard and kitchen waste materials can be diverted per home through backyard composting. According to the Clean Air Council, forty-three thousand **tons** of food is thrown out in the United States each day.
- Curbside waste reduction through backyard composting saves valuable landfill space.
- Backyard composting reduces organic materials going to landfills, thereby reducing the production of methane gas, a potent and harmful greenhouse gas.
- Residents save their municipalities valuable tax dollars by composting at home. Backyard composting is much more cost effective and environmentally friendly than municipal collection and disposal.
- Compost is a great soil amendment for lawns, gardens, potting soils etc.
- Compost can also save money by: reducing your curbside waste, providing free soil amendment, and by retaining soil moisture, you will save on your water bills too.
- Residents *can* make a difference. Home composting using the Earth Machine™, combined with recycling and yard waste programs, can reduce resident waste at the curb by up to 80%! Leaves, grass and kitchen scraps represent as much as 50% of waste materials going to landfills.

For more event information, please contact **Caroline County** Department of Planning & Codes at 410.479.8100 or www.carolineplancode.org, **Talbot County** Planning Zoning Office at 410.770.8030 or e-mail scoyman@talbgov.org or **Queen Anne's County** Community & Environmental Planning at 410.758.1255 or www.qac.org

RAINWATER HARVESTING FACTS

- One inch of rain falling on a 1,000 ft² roof harvests as much as 600 gallons of rainwater.
- Rain Barrel use reduces rainwater run-off that carries sediment, grease, pesticides and fertilizers into local waterways.
- Rain Barrel use reduces soil erosion and improves the ability of rainwater to infiltrate soil at a reduced intensity.
- Residents save their municipalities valuable tax dollars by rainwater harvesting. In the United States alone outdoor water use makes up between 25% and 58% of total household tap water use. By utilizing the SYSTERN Rain Barrel, you can reduce your own water bill as well, by up to 40%!
- Rain Barrel use helps minimize sewer overflows during heavy rainfalls thereby reducing storm water overflow carrying pathogens, solids, debris and toxic pollutants into local surface water.
- As global water supplies diminish, rainwater harvesting will become a crucial water conservation practice. Residents can make a difference.

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9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at:

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For more information on composting and The Earth Machine™, visit www.earthmachine.com

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