



Water Conservation & Storage Program (Pilot)

Frequently Asked Questions

**** Program eligibility, cost, registration information, and other important details specific to the program are at the end of this document.**

Region of Queens Municipality has launched the Water Conservation & Storage Program (Pilot) as a way to help residents to conserve, collect and store non potable water for everyday non-drinking uses. Through the program, residents of Region of Queens Municipality can purchase rain barrels and water totes at a subsidized rate to help conserve water and reduce use of household wells during dry weather. The goal is to help households become better prepared while encouraging water conservation across the Region.

INFORMATION ABOUT COLLECTING WATER AND USE OF COLLECTED WATER

Rain Barrels & Water Totes

- **Can I drink water from rain barrels or water totes?**

No. Water from rain barrels or water totes should not be used for drinking, cooking or brushing your teeth.

- **What can I use a rain barrel or water tote for?**

Rain barrels and water totes are intended for non-potable uses such as:

- Watering gardens, flowers, and trees

- Outdoor cleaning

- Washing equipment

- Toilet flushing

- Laundry

- Cleaning

- Other non-drinking household uses and outdoor uses

- **Can I use rain barrel or water tote water on my vegetable garden?**

Yes. Water from rain barrels and water totes can be used to water gardens, flowers and trees. Wash fruits and vegetables with clean drinking water before eating.

- **Will the Municipality install my rain barrel?**

No. Residents are responsible for installing and maintaining their rain barrel. Simple instructions will be provided. There are also local companies who could provide this service.



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- **Why are the water totes non-potable?**

Water totes supplied through this program are for non-drinking water only. While some totes may have originally been food-grade, the Municipality cannot guarantee they will remain safe for drinking water once they are used in homes. To help protect residents, all totes in this program are considered non-potable.

- **Can I fill my rain barrel or water tote at Cowie Well?**

No. Cowie Well is a municipal drinking water source and is not intended for filling rain barrels or water totes. The program encourages residents to collect and store non-potable water, such as rainwater, for everyday non-drinking uses.

General

- **Who do I contact if I have questions?**

Region of Queens Municipality

Phone: 902-354-5741, ext. 2242

Website: www.regionofqueens.com





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PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AND INFORMATION

- **Who can apply?**

Any resident of the Region of Queens Municipality may apply, subject to program eligibility and available funding. Purchases are first come, first served, and limited quantities are available. **** Please note** that while any household may purchase rain barrels through the program, customers of the Region of Queens Water Utility are not eligible to purchase or receive water totes.

- **How much does it cost?**

Eligible low-income households receive one rain barrel and one water tote at no cost. Low-income eligibility will be confirmed by the Municipality based on the applicant's eligibility under Region of Queens Municipality's Administrative Policy 9 - Tax Exemptions .

- Cost of rain barrels and water totes are being subsidized by Region of Queens Municipality so residents have an affordable way to conserve water. The Municipality will pay 70% of the cost, and the resident pays the remaining 30%. The subsidized cost for a rain barrel is \$25, and a water tote is \$125 (prices include HST).
- The program is first come, first served, and limited quantities are available.
- Methods of payment accepted are credit card, debit, PayPal, and etransfer when ordering online, and cash when ordering in person at the Administration Building or at a community information session.

- **How many items can I receive?**

Eligible low-income households

One rain barrel at no charge, and

One water tote at no cost

Maximum purchases per household

Two rain barrels @ \$25 each, and

One water tote @ \$125

**** Applications are first come, first served, and limited quantities are available.**

- **Pickup & Delivery: Will I need to pick up my rain barrel?**

Rain barrels and water totes will be delivered to the registered civic address under the approved delivery model. Rain barrels are expected to be delivered between July 17 - July 31, 2026. Water tote delivery details will be shared before deliveries begin.





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- **What comes with my rain barrel?**

Each rain barrel comes with filter basket, a T-shaped overflow outlet, overflow hose, and spigot.

- **Does the program provide drinking water?**

No. This program helps residents collect and store non-potable water for everyday uses. Residents remain responsible for obtaining safe drinking water from an approved potable water source.

- **Why isn't the Municipality providing drinking water?**

The program is designed to help households collect and store non-drinking water for everyday uses such as watering gardens and flushing toilets. This helps residents save their drinking water for cooking, drinking and personal use.

- **Will this program solve my water shortage?**

No. The program is one tool to help households manage water more efficiently. Every property and every well is different.

- **What if my well runs dry?**

This program cannot prevent a well from running dry. It helps residents reduce the amount of drinking water used for everyday activities by storing water for non-potable uses. Conserving water early is the best way to help your well during dry weather.

Registration

- **How do I apply?**

Residents may apply:

- Online (a website link will be provided on July 22)
- By telephone - 902-354-3455, ext. 2234
- In-person at the Municipal Administration Building, 249 White Point Road, Liverpool from Monday through Friday (hours of operation - June are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and July 2 onward, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.),
- At a Community Information Session (drop in any time between 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.)
 - June 22, 2026** - Port Medway Fire Hall, 66 Long Cove Road, Port Medway
 - June 25, 2026** - West Queens Community Centre, 70 Riverhead Road, Port Mouton
 - June 29, 2026** - Greenfield Recreation Centre, 5048 Highway 210, Greenfield
 - June 30, 2026** - Queens Place Emera Centre, 50 Queens Place Drive, Liverpool
 - July 2, 2026** - North Queens Fire Hall, 9793 Highway 8, Caledonia





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- **What methods of payment are accepted?**

Methods of payment accepted are credit card, debit, PayPal, and etransfer when ordering online, and cash when ordering in person at the Administration Building or at a community information session.

- **When does registration open?**

Monday, June 22, 2026

- **When does registration close?**

Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

- **How are purchases processed?**

Purchases are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. There are limited quantities of rain barrels and water totes available.

