## Rain Barrel Tips: Chaining Multiple Barrels Together

It doesn't take much rain to fill a 60 -gallon barrel; a $1 / 4$ " rainfall on one side of a typical garage roof will almost fill one barrel. You can chain barrels together to capture more.

## Automatic Diverter: Chaining Bottom to Bottom



The installation shown has an automatic diverter. The two barrels are connected at the bottom. You will need a hole that has a hose connection on each barrel and a piece of female-to-female hose to link the two hose connections together. You will also need a drain spout on one of the barrels to use the water for plant irrigation.

The advantage of the bottom connection scheme is that you need to connect only one drain spout to service both barrels. Both barrels will fill and drain at the same time.

## Automatic Diverter: Chaining Top to Top



This installation also has an automatic diverter. In this installation, the second barrel won't start to fill until the first one is full. The disadvantage is that you must have a separate drain spout for each barrel. The advantage is that you don't need a special hose.
"Save the Rain" Type Diverter: Chaining Top to Top


The "Save the Rain" Diverter requires an overflow strategy. This picture shows a complete installation using the top-to-top strategy. Notice that the second barrel has a substantial corrugated hose to divert any overflow to a safe location. In this configuration, you will need two drain spouts, one on each barrel, to use the water for plant irrigation.

