
CREATING A DRY WELL FOR GRAY WATER:
SHORT-TERM STORAGE OR SANITARY
DISPOSAL OF GRAY WATER.

GETTING STARTED



- A sturdy plastic barrel works as a container. The barrel will be completely hidden when the job is finished.
- Dig a hole for the container where the drainpipe ends.

SIZING THE GRAY WATER CONTAINER

KITCHEN SINK.....5 TO 15 GALLONS PER PERSON PER DAY

BATHROOM SINK.... 1 TO 5 " " " "

TOP-LOADING WASHER.....30-50 GALLONS PER LOAD

FRONT-LOADING WASHER.. 10 GALLONS PER LOAD

BATHTUB.....25-40 GALLONS PER BATH

DRILL 3/4" HOLES A FEW INCHES FROM THE TOP OF THE BARREL. THESE HOLES WILL ALLOW GRAY WATER THAT IS NOT PUMPED OUT OF THE BARREL TO SEEP INTO THE EARTH.



PLACE AN OLD
PIECE OF CARPET
OR HEAVY CLOTH
AROUND THE
EDGES OF THE
HOLE TO KEEP DIRT
FROM FILLING THE
HOLES IN THE
BARREL.



FILL THE SPACE
BETWEEN THE
BARREL AND
THE CARPET
WITH GRAVEL.



ATTACH THE DRAIN PIPE TO A VERTICAL FILL/VENT/ ACCESS PIPE. THE ACCESS PIPE SHOULD BE LARGE ENOUGH TO ALLOW A SUBMERSIBLE PUMP TO BE DROPPED INTO THE GRAY WATER. THE OLD CARPET PIECES ON TOP OF THE CONTAINER KEEP DIRT OUT OF THE BARREL.



TRIM THE VENT
PIPE. COVER THE
PIPE OPENING TO
KEEP OUT PESTS.
FINISH COVERING
THE BARREL
WITH SOIL. TAMP
GENTLY.



YOU CAN EMPTY THE BARREL REGULARLY WITH A SUBMERSIBLE PUMP, USING THE WATER FOR TREES OR OTHER VEGETATION, OR YOU CAN ALLOW THE WATER TO DRAIN INTO THE GROUND THROUGH THE 3/4" HOLES.

