

**MINUTES  
ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2014  
DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM  
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO HEADQUARTERS  
DELAWARE, OHIO**

1. Call to Order 12:00 P.M.

Chairman Weiler opened the meeting of the Environment Conservation Committee at 12:00 P.M. in the Department Conference Room, Department Headquarters, Delaware, Ohio.

2. Salute the Colors
3. Invocation: Chairman Weiler
4. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Weiler
5. Appointment of Committee Secretary

Strayer motioned that Atkinson be appointed committee secretary. The motion was seconded by Fantin.

**MOTION CARRIED**

6. ROLL CALL: Committee Secretary

Present:        Robert Weiler, Chairman, District 3  
                     Russ Strayer, District 2  
                     Leonard White, District 5  
                     Edward Fantin, District 6  
                     Ronald Crabtree, District 10  
                     Leonard Mazzaro, District 13

Staff:            Patrick Atkinson, Department Finance Officer

7. REMARKS BY CHAIRMAN (Attachment 1)

In his opening remarks, Chairman Weiler welcomed members of the committee and discussed the popularity of rain barrels. Chairman Weiler passed out a document outlining how to use a rain barrel. Chairman Weiler suggested the committee members discuss the use of rain barrels at their next meeting.

8. RALPH DOLL CONVENTION AWARD (Attachment 2)

The Ralph Doll Convention Award is presented at Department Convention for efforts to promote conservation throughout the year. Cliff Toalston worked hard to earn this award for his District many times.

Strayer motioned to continue the Ralph Doll Convention Award; Fantin seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED**

9. DISTRICT ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION AWARD

Weiler discussed the District Environment Conservation Award. The awards can be ordered from the American Legion Department of Ohio Headquarters. There is no criteria for presenting the award, Chairman Weiler recommended that the committee members present these awards anytime they see a Post conducting a conservation activity.

Strayer motioned; Mazzaro seconded to continue this award.

**MOTION CARRIED**

10. COLORING CONTEST / BIRDHOUSE-FEEDER PROJECTS (Attachment 3)

Weiler discussed the coloring contest materials and the birdhouse-feeder projects. Chairman Weiler suggested that certificates of appreciation be awarded to the children who participate in the contest. The committee discussed working with fast food chains to obtain gift certificates to present to the children.

White moved to continue the coloring contest and bird feeder-house projects and include a requirement that Posts issue Certificates of Participation to every child whom participates; Fantin seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED**

11. OLD BUSINESS

Renewal of membership (\$50.00) in the Ohio Environmental Council was discussed. This is already part of the budget and does not need to go to the Finance Committee.

Strayer made a motion to continue membership in the OEC and Crabtree seconded.

**MOTION CARRIED**

12. NEW BUSINESS

Crabtree discussed setting up conservation projects in his own district. Chairman Weiler stated he encourages the committee members to set up conservation projects in their districts.

The Committee would like to meet informally at the Mid-Winter Conference held January 16-18, 2014 in Columbus, Ohio. The Committee discussed changing the date of the annual meeting to Mid-Winter Conference. Chairman Weiler stated that Mid-Winter is halfway through the Legion year and the committee needs to get started earlier in the year.

Crabtree made a motion to change the annual meeting of the Conservation-Environment to the Saturday during Mid-Winter Conference; Strayer seconded.

**MOTION FAILED**

The Committee discussed the poor attendance to the meeting and discussed possible solutions. The Chairman stated that he would send out a mailing next year to notify the committee members of the meeting.

With no further business, Chairman Weiler gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 12:41PM.

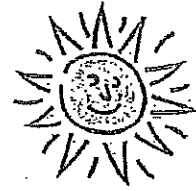
/s/ Patrick Atkinson

Patrick Atkinson  
Secretary



# Rain Barrels

*Save it for a Sunny Day!*



With a huge push to go "green" lately, homeowners have turned to installing and using rain gardens and rain barrels. Rain barrels are large containers, which come in plastic, wood, or clay, and come in various sizes. These barrels collect water from the roof top that comes down the downspouts. They have many advantages that benefit homeowners as well as the environment.

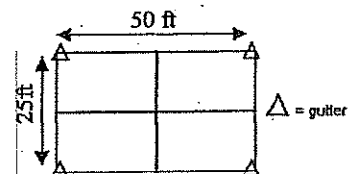
## Benefits:

- Cost-effective alternative to using tap water for watering your lawn and garden.
- This is great for organic gardeners.
- Helps reduce excess runoff into our streams, storm sewer systems and Lake Erie.
- Takes advantage of already existing source of fresh rainwater
- Helps to keep yards, basements, and crawl spaces from flooding.
- Applicable to all types of sites (residential/commercial/industrial).
- Inexpensive to install and maintain.

## How Much Water Can I Collect?

- First you need to calculate your downspout drainage.  
 $\text{Downspout Drainage} = \text{Area of roof} / \text{number of downspouts}$   
 $\text{Area} = \text{length} \times \text{width}$
- Then find out how many gallons of water will drain from your roof in a one inch rain (use the table below).
- Finally divide the total gallons by the desired container size of your barrel.

### EXAMPLE



Area =  $50 \times 25 = 1250$  sq. ft.  
 Downspout drainage =  $1250 / 4 = 312$   
 Gallons of Water (1 in. Rain) = 702  
 Max barrels = 12-13

Roof Size Sq. Ft.	Gallons of Water (1 in. Rain)	Roof Size Sq. Ft.	Gallons of Water (1 in. Rain)	Roof Size Sq. Ft.	Gallons of Water (1 in. Rain)
50	28	1000	562	2000	1124
100	56	1100	618	2100	1184
200	112	1200	674	2200	1236
300	168	1300	730	2300	1292
400	224	1400	787	2400	1348
500	280	1500	843	2500	1405

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR RAIN BARREL ASSEMBLY

**Inlet** – Measure the diameter of the underside lip of the basket and mark that on top of drum and use holesaw of that diameter to cut hole, or measure and drill hole along perimeter and then use jigsaw to cut. Be sure of where you want the hole in relation the edge of the drum before marking. TIP-cut on small side and enlarge if needed.

**Overflow** – Use 1-5/8" holesaw and cut hole in side of barrel about 2-3 inches down from top. Be sure to leave room for lid clearance. You'll want to leave some room at the top in case heavy rain – even a larger overflow will not keep up with a good downpour and if there is a little room at the top of the drum, it will help. After having glued together the trap adapter to the elbow, paint if desired and use a washer on either side of the drum and use plastic nut on inside of drum to tighten with elbow facing ground. Be sure to decide in advance which side of the drum you want the overflow to be aimed before drilling hole. Take 2" discharge hose and clamp and secure to end of elbow and this will direct overflow water out.

**Outlet** – Drill a 1-1/2" hole near the bottom (up about 2" or so) to accept the bell shaped end of the closet spud. Sometimes the spud will fit in from the outside, but most often you will have to unscrew and insert from inside of drum. Then put rubber and metal washer back on from outside and screw and tighten. Make sure it stays centered in the hole and do not over tighten. You may have to have someone hold the inside with pliers or vise grips as you tighten from outside. Next, use Teflon tape at each of the connections to prevent leaks. The 3/4 x 3/4 x 3/4 tee goes on first with the side tee pointed horizontally to the left/right (give thought here as to which direction for possible later 2<sup>nd</sup> linking barrel and on which side that would be). After the tee goes the spigot/garden valve/ boiler drain toward the front (sometimes, depending on the fitting you bought, you may have to use 3/4" adapter (3/4" close) here to match male and female ends.) The opening that was facing the side will now accept another 3/4" close fitting and then the 3/4 x 3/4 x 1/2 tee with the 1/2 opening facing up. Into the top of the tee screw in the plastic fitting with the 1/4 barbed fitting. Onto the fitting push the 3' length of clear tubing and secure with 3/8" hose clamp. The tubing will need trimmed to be able to drill a hole through the top and secure to ring of drum with piece of wire when finishing. The remaining 3/4" opening facing to the side will accept either a 3/4" plug (if no 2<sup>nd</sup> barrel will be linked), or a 3/4 threaded x 3/4 barbed fitting to link to 2<sup>nd</sup> barrel with 3/4" clear hose as described below.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Barrel** – If linking a second barrel, use the 3/4" threaded x 3/4" barbed fitting in the last galvanized opening and run a length of hose (length to be determined by distance to next barrel when set up) to the same plastic fitting on a second barrel and secure each end with 3/4" hose clamps. The fittings on the bottom of the second barrel will be just as with the first (though without inlet and overflow). The bottom closet spud on the second barrel will be attached to a 3/4 x 3/4 x 3/4 galvanized tee, on a horizontal plane with the straight through section facing left and right. A 3/4" galvanized plug will be put in the end section to stop flow. (this can be replaced with another plastic fitting to continue linking drums in line). Multiple drums can be linked together, though take care to keep on even line, or the overflow on the first barrel may not function properly.

**Tips** – Make sure to place drums on flat, sturdy base as they weigh close to 500# each when full. Elevated drums will provide more pressure, but only 0.43#/sq in for each foot of elevation. When choosing spigot, look for one with good flow through – some are heavily restricted internally. Barrel will need cleaned periodically with soapy water and a thorough rinse. Disconnect and store for winter as water freezing will break fittings and spigot. When connecting barrels, it may be easiest to set them up no farther than 36" apart.

\*\*\*\*\* Rain Barrel Parts List \*\*\*\*\*

1 food grade/recycled plastic 55 gallon drum (open top best, closed will work though)

\*\*\*\*\* INLET \*\*\*\*\*

1 pond basket-5" dia or so from pond store – plastic basket with lip(plant basket)

\*\*\*\*\* OVERFLOW \*\*\*\*\*

1 – 1-1/2 x 1-1/4 PVC trap adapter (slip by threaded)

1 - 1-1/2" PVC street elbow or 90

1 – 2" hose clamp

1 – piece of 2" pump discharge hose x 3' to ? ' (depends how far you want to go)

1 – 1-5/8" holesaw to make opening near top of drum

2 – washers (approx 2-3/8 OD x 1-5/8" ID) cut from rubber sheet if need be

\*\*\*\*\* OUTLET \*\*\*\*\*

1 – 3/4 x 1 brass closet spud – good hardware/plumbing store

1 – 1-1/2" holesaw to make opening near bottom of drum

1 – 3/4 x 3/4 x 3/4 galvanized tee

1 – 3/4 galvanized plug

1 – 3/4 valve/spigot/boiler drain/garden valve (look for big opening to max. flow)

2 – 3/4 close galvanized couplers

1 – 3/4 x 3/4 x 1/2 galvanized tee

1 – PVC 1/2 male x 1/4 barbed fitting (for sight gage)

1 – 3/8 hose clamp

1 – piece of clear tubing (3/8 OD x 1/4 ID) x 3' long

1 – small piece of wire to hold top of sight gage to top of drum

\*\*\*\*\* LINK TO 2<sup>nd</sup> BARREL (in needed) \*\*\*\*\*

2 – 3/4" male x 3/4" barbed plastic fittings

1 – piece of clear tubing (1" OD x 3/4" ID) x 2' max.

2 – 3/4" hose clamps

\*\*\*\*\* MISC \*\*\*\*\*

Teflon tape for threaded fittings

PVC cement for overflow pieces

Paint (for overflow) and drum if necessary

Utility knife or jigsaw to cut opening in lid for pond basket

## **RALPH DOLL ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION AWARD**

PARTICIPANTS ARE URGED TO READ THE CONVENTION AWARDS INSTRUCTION SHEET BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO COMPLETE THIS FORM. IMPROPERLY PREPARED FORMS ARE CAUSE FOR DISQUALIFICATION.

THE RALPH DOLL MEMORIAL CONSERVATION AWARD will be awarded to the POST that has performed the most outstanding SERVICE in the field of CONSERVATION.

Posts entering the contest must have the score sheet form in the hands of their District Commander at least ten (10) days prior to the District Convention. At the District Convention, the Commander will announce the two (2) high scores in the District. He will then forward the forms and supporting information of the District finalists to the Department Headquarters.

The Department Commander shall then appoint a sub-committee from the Department Executive Committee to determine the winner. The winner shall be announced at the Department Convention.

A suitable award will be presented that will become the permanent property of the winning Post.

The POINT SYSTEM assigned is only for preliminary grading as a process of elimination by District and Department Judges.

A COMPLETE EXPLANATION MUST BE INCLUDED WITH EACH PARTICIPATION ACTIVITY – INCLUDING MONIES SPENT, VOLUNTEER MANHOURS AND FACILITIES DONATED. POST MUST SUBMIT NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, PROGRAMS, EDITORIALS, ETC. TO DOCUMENT THEIR ENTRY.

POSTS/DISTRICTS MAY DUPLICATE THIS FORM ON ANY COLOR PAPER THEY WISH WITHOUT PENALTY; HOWEVER, THE SIZE MUST REMAIN THE SAME (8 ½" X 11").

# THE RALPH DOLL CONSERVATION AWARD SCORE SHEET

Post \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Community Population \_\_\_\_\_ Post Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Quota \_\_\_\_\_

<u>BASIS FOR THE AWARD</u>	<u>Post to Answer Yes or No</u>	<u>Maximum Points Allowed</u>	<u>District Judges Points</u>	<u>Department Judges Points</u>
1. Post participated in conservation education programs and/or projects, provided information, offered explanations to help teach the necessity of Conservation.				
A. Coloring Contest	_____	5	_____	_____
B. Wildlife Housing/Feeders	_____	5	_____	_____
C. Lectures/Seminars/Distribution	_____	5	_____	_____
D. Other	_____	5	_____	_____
2. Post supported Law and Order regarding Conservation.				
A. Attempted persuasion and/or education to halt violators who willingly or unknowingly polluted, contaminated, aggravated health, trash, or litter problems.	_____	5	_____	_____
B. Encouraged enactment of Conservation laws	_____	5	_____	_____
C. Encouraged enforcement of Conservation laws	_____	5	_____	_____
D. Other	_____	5	_____	_____
3. Post was involved in Conservation Projects				
A. Re-forestation – Tree Planting – Arbor Day	_____	5	_____	_____
B. Established or improved parks and/or recreation areas.	_____	5	_____	_____
C. Soil/Water Conservation – control run-off prevention or erosion	_____	5	_____	_____
D. Other	_____	5	_____	_____

<u>BASIS FOR THE AWARD (continued)</u>	<u>Post to Answer Yes or No</u>	<u>Maximum Points Allowed</u>	<u>District Judges Points</u>	<u>Department Judges Points</u>
4. Post promotes conserving fuel (coal, oil, gas, natural gas, solar, or electrical power)				
A. In conjunction with industry	_____	5	_____	_____
B. In conjunction with community	_____	5	_____	_____
C. In conjunction with individuals	_____	5	_____	_____
D. Other	_____	5	_____	_____
5. Post assisted or received assistance promoting an anti-litter/trash or recycling program.				
A. Promote concept – Don't Litter/Pick-up	_____	5	_____	_____
B. Promote concept – Recycling and Reclamation	_____	5	_____	_____
C. Encouraged enforcement of Conservation laws	_____	5	_____	_____
D. Other	_____	5	_____	_____
<b>E</b>				
<b>X</b> To how many conservation publications				
<b>T</b> does your Post subscribe or donate to				
<b>R</b> schools or youth groups. Two (2) points				
<b>A</b> for each publication.	_____	10	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>	_____	110	_____	_____

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Post Adjutant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Post Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Post Conservation Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of District Commander

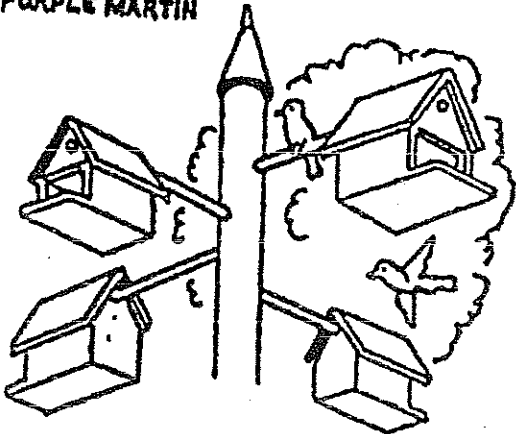
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



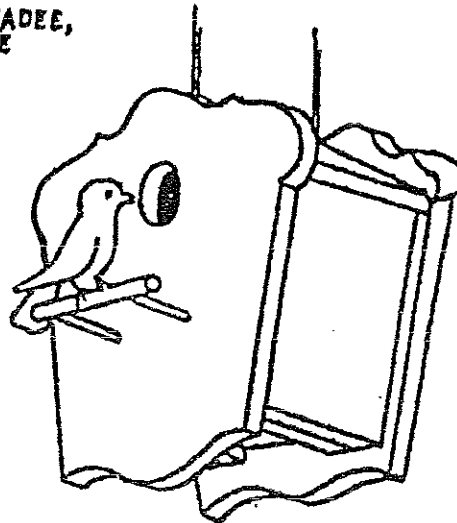


## BIRDHOUSE/FEEDER PROJECT

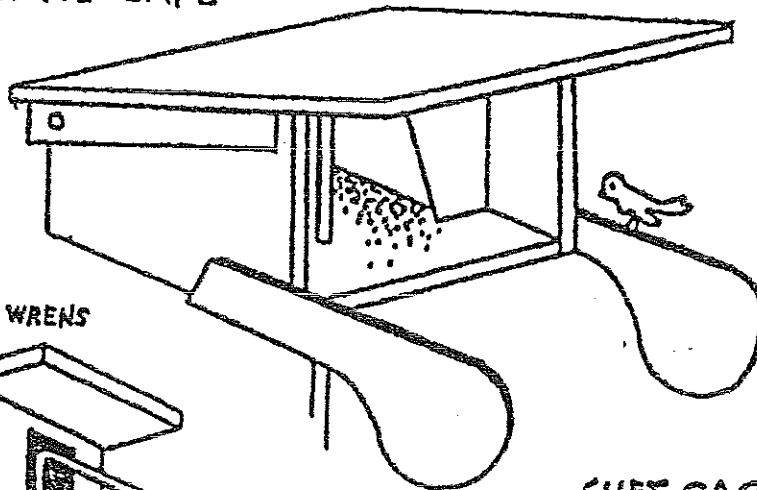
FOR ROBIN, PHOEBE,  
PURPLE MARTIN



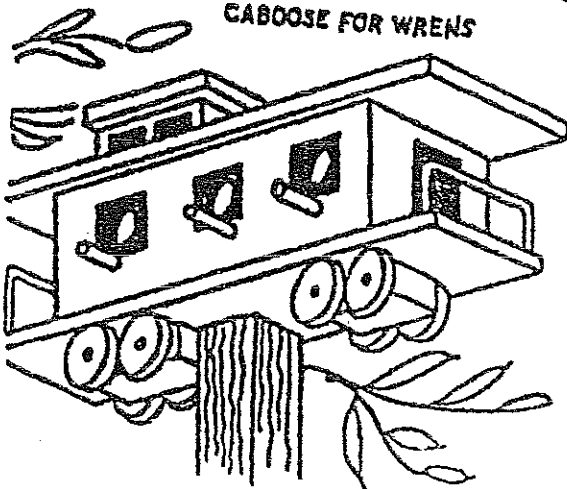
DEEP BOX FOR CHICKADEE,  
NUTCRACKER, TITMOUSE



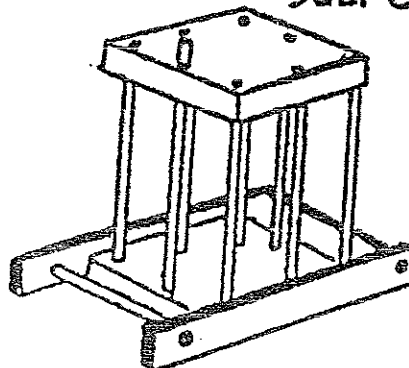
VANE CAVE



CABOOSE FOR WRENS



SUET CAGE



WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU USE YOUR IMAGINATION AND SKILL TO BUILD A BIRDHOUSE/FEEDER FOR USE IN YOUR OWN YARD OR NEIGHBORHOOD OR OTHER APPROPRIATE PLACE. THERE ARE MANY SOURCE BOOKS AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY OR BOOK STORE. GOOD LUCK!!!!