

For Earth Day, How to Use Plastic Bottles to Capture Rain Water

March 21, 2024



The poster features a blue recycling symbol on the left and a globe on the right. The text reads: "Harvest Every Drop", "In recognition of Earth Day, there will be a Zoom Presentation on:", "Thursday, April 18 at 7:00pm EDT (4:00pm PDT, and 6:00pm CDT)", "Please Use the QR code to register for the Zoom and to learn more about this rainwater harvesting system that utilizes existing surface areas and plastic bottles to HARVEST EVERY DROP". A QR code is located below the text. At the bottom of the poster is a photograph of water droplets on a blue surface.

On Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 PM Eastern Time, **Madeline Abrams**, a high school student, will present on Zoom the environmentally-friendly way she developed to capture rain water using discarded plastic bottles to create an irrigation system for vegetable gardens and landscapes.

By using empty plastic bottles, cutting them in half lengthwise, and connecting them with waterproof tape, Madeline has created a gutter system to capture the rainfall that comes off of a roof. She then uses water bottles to create a downspout to direct the water to a holding tank similar to a rain barrel. Here is a link to the website she created, Harvest Every Drop, to share her invention: <http://harvesteverydrop.com>

Madeline recently presented her rain harvesting system virtually to 45 communities in New York, California, Uganda, Namibia, Lesotho, Angola and South Africa. Her invention is being shared with villages and communities as a way to conserve water and address the issue of up-cycling plastic waste which has become a major problem in many parts of the world and in our area. An article about Madeline's system was recently published in an international Rotary magazine covering Uganda.

Here is the registration link for Madeline's

program:<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtcOisqD0oGdOmdfRmAurvF3MY-caVGj2>

To date, 35 public libraries in the Tri-State, Boston, Hartford, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Palo Alto and Dallas areas will be participating by sharing the Zoom link with their communities.

After the presentation, Madeline will share the instructional video she created as a reference to build her watering system to help communities harvest every drop.

Madeline's goal is to spread her innovation as far and wide as possible to benefit communities and to help people harvest every drop.