

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 14, 2023

Contact: Steve Smirti, Director of Communications (ssmirti@medford-ma.gov), 781-885-4296

Medford Offering Discounted Rain Barrels for 2023 Season

City is Partnering with Local Vendor TGARB for 2023 Rain Barrel Program

(MEDFORD)—The City of Medford is again offering residents access to discounted rain barrels through vendor partner, The Great American Rain Barrel (TGARB) for 2023, Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn announced. The barrels are being offered at \$84 for unpainted and \$89 for painted/colors. Orders must be submitted by April 30th at midnight and picked up at the distribution event on May 10th from 5pm-7pm at Medford High School.

"It's no secret that our weather patterns are changing, and the spring and summer months are getting increasingly hotter and drier leading to water scarcity in many parts of the state," Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn said. "With this rain barrel program, our community can conserve water usage, mitigate flooding events and help protect our waterways from pollution. I'm thrilled we're able to provide this cost-saving program again this year."

During Summer 2022, all of Massachusetts experienced drought conditions for the first time in more than seven years, with 40 percent of the state designated in the extreme drought category. Boston, which normally relies on over 3 and a quarter inch of rain in July, received just over half an inch, according to the National Weather Service. Droughts create challenges for local water supply by reducing surface water storage and the recharge of groundwater supplies, including private wells.

According to the EPA, rain barrels can save the average homeowner 1,300 gallons of water. Rain barrels can help conserve water and protect the environment by:

- Reducing runoff and non-point source pollution by capturing rainwater from the roof that would otherwise become runoff.
- Providing an additional source of water during droughts.
- Reducing erosion and flooding.
- Saving drinking water resources and money.

To find out more about the barrels and place your order online, please visit: www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/ and select Medford from the drop-down menu.

About the Great American Rain Barrel

The Great American Rain Barrel is a local food importing company that has been repurposing shipping drums into Rain Barrels since 1988. The Great American Rain Barrel Co. has been an approved vendor by the MASS DEP since 2010.