



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 13, 2010

Rock Island County Contact: Laura Berkley
Staff Coordinator
Rock Island County Waste Management Agency
lberkley@bistateonline.org
(309) 793-6302 x148

Scott County Contact: Erin Robinson
Communication Coordinator
Waste Commission of Scott County
erobinson@wastecom.com
(563) 388-1403

BACKYARD COMPOST BIN & RAIN BARREL SALE AUGUST 28

Rock Island County Waste Management Agency (RICWMA) and Waste Commission of Scott County (Commission) are hosting a one-day-only backyard compost bin and rain barrel sale on Saturday, August 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Moline and Davenport. In Moline, the sale will be held in the parking lot at iWireless Center, 1201 River Drive. In Davenport, the sale will be held in the parking lot at Modern Woodmen Park, under Centennial Bridge, at 209 South Gaines Street.

Earth Machine™ Backyard Compost Bins will be available on a first come, first served basis for \$40.00, tax included. These regularly retail for \$100.00. Compost turners and kitchen scrap pails will also be available for purchase. Visa, MasterCard and personal checks will be accepted. For more information on the compost bins visit www.earthmachine.com.

In addition to the compost bins, River Action will be selling rain barrels for \$75, which includes a 60-gallon barrel, lid, mosquito netting, downspout diverter, spigot, and two overflow attachments. Credit cards and personal checks will be accepted. For more information on the rain barrels visit www.riveraction.org.

For more information on the one-day sale, contact RICWMA at 309-788-8925 or visit www.ricwma.org. Or contact the Commission at 563-386-9575 or visit www.wastecom.com.

Supplemental/Educational Information on Backyard Composting and Rain Barrels

- By using an Earth Machine Backyard Compost Bin, a single-family household can expect to divert approximately 600 pounds of waste per year.
- Just having 1,000 residents in your community actively composting could annually divert 600,000 lbs of organic waste from going to landfills.
- According to the Clean Air Council, forty-three thousand tons of food is thrown out in the United States each day.
- Homeowners can use the Earth Machine to compost fruit, vegetable scraps, crushed eggshells, tea bags, coffee grounds and filters from their kitchen. Then, add in layers of mulched leaves, dried grass, garden plants, old potting soil and soft plant stems from the garden. The resulting compost can be used as a rich soil additive for lawns and gardens, which improves the soil's water retention giving you greener grass, healthier flowers and better fruits and vegetables.
- Rain barrels decrease one's water consumption from municipal supplies lowering water bills.
- Collected rainwater can be used to irrigate lawns, water landscape beds or wash cars.
- Rain barrels reduce stormwater runoff lessening the impact on storm sewers, local streams, and rivers.

###