

\$50 Rebates Available Through City of Melbourne Water-Saving Programs

Melbourne, Fla., Oct. 24, 2017 — The City of Melbourne is offering rebates to encourage homeowners to install water-saving features in their homes.

Rebates for Installing High-Efficiency Toilets

All City of Melbourne residential water customers who get their water bill directly from the City can receive a \$50 rebate for replacing a toilet that was installed before 1994 with a new WaterSense certified high-efficiency toilet (flush rate of 1.28 gallons or less). For requirements and an application, visit: <http://www.melbourneflorida.org/departments/public-works-utilities/environmental-community-outreach/toilet-rebate>.

“A family of four replacing a toilet from the 1980s could expect to save approximately 25,000 gallons of water per year by installing a new WaterSense toilet. The older the toilet, the greater the savings will be,” said Environmental Community Outreach Manager Jennifer Wilster.

Rain Barrel Rebates

Residential water customers who reside within the city limits of Melbourne are eligible to participate in the city’s rain barrel rebate program. Qualifying customers will receive one \$50 rebate for installing a new 40-gallon or larger rain barrel. For more information and to apply, visit: <http://www.melbourneflorida.org/departments/public-works-utilities/environmental-community-outreach/rain-barrel-rebate>.

A rain barrel can save approximately 1,300 gallons of water during peak summer months. In addition to helping homeowners conserve water, rain barrels also help protect the Indian River Lagoon by reducing the amount of rainwater entering the stormwater system. During storms, rain barrels capture rainwater that otherwise would have rushed off of roofs, onto paved areas and into storm drains. This water can then be released more slowly, which in turn decreases pollutant loads and increases absorption by plants.

Both rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis until budgeted rebate funds are depleted or until Sept. 30, 2018, whichever comes first. Only one rebate per customer per item (rain barrel or toilet) is allowed.

Rebate application packets are also available by calling the Environmental Community Outreach (ECO) Division at (321) 608-5080 or e-mailing jennifer.wilster@mlbfl.org.