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'Paint the Rain' to clean the river

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LAFAYETTE, Ind. (WLFI) - Stormwater run-off is one the largest pollutants of rivers and lakes. A group in Lafayette wants people to catch it before gets away.

The Wabash River Enhancement Corporation is promoting the use of rain barrels. Artists purchased a barrel and painted it Wednesday for display throughout the summer.

The "Paint the Rain" initiative aims to improve the water quality of the Wabash and its tributaries. Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski (D) says rain barrels are an easy way to be green.

"Rain barrels are a neat way for the individual property owner can play a part in helping us manage stormwater and helping promote water quality," said Roswarski.

"Water has been going into the Wabash for thousands of years, but every time it hits a hardscape, like your roof or your driveway, it picks up dirt, sediment and nutrients. All those end end up in the river. So as much of that as we can keep on the property, the better we're going to be," said the Wabash River Enhancement Water Shed Director Sara Peel.

Roswarski said improving the look of the Wabash helps promote economic development. The barrels will auctioned off this fall.

For more on how you can get your very own rain barrel, head to [this website](#).

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