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News Release

“We work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations.”

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Special events and ways to mark August as National Water Quality Month

ABILENE, Texas – The City of Abilene’s Stormwater Services is marking August as National Water Quality Month by hosting two events, and promoting ways local residents can improve and safeguard our own water quality.

- **Raindrop Tour at the Abilene Zoo:** During the month of August, Zoo visitors can take the “Raindrop Tour,” following a signage scavenger hunt to learn about our water and ways to protect it at home.
- **Rain barrel giveaway:** Starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, August 9th, at the Environmental Recycling Center (2209 Oak Street), 100 rain barrels will be given away to Abilene residents. Barrels are limited to one per vehicle, residents must show an ID and Abilene utility bill.

Water quality is linked to a healthy ecosystem and quality of life. Here are a few ways area residents can help protect our local water:

- Make sure to clean up after pets.
- Properly dispose of household chemicals, oils, and antifreeze at the Environmental Recycling Center.
- Limit the use of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Prevent leaf litter and grass buildup in the curb or drainage way.
- Keep storm drains clean; remember “only rain down the storm drain!”
- Install a rain barrel to collect rainwater and use it to water landscaping.
- Adopt a street or creek to help clean up litter.

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