

City of San Diego Public Utilities

Commercial-Multi Family Outdoor Water Conservation Rebate Program

Rebate Process:

- Get an Application:
http://www.sandiego.gov/water/pdf/conservation/conservation_rebateapplication01.pdf
- Submit an Application:
[waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov](http://www.sandiego.gov/waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov)
- Get a Pre-Site Inspection and approval
- Submit **Plant Coverage Worksheet, MAWA/ETWU sheet**, and design plans within 45 days. See pps. 3, 4 & 5
- Complete the project within 120 days and schedule a Post-Site evaluation **619-533-6661**
- Submit Receipts (rebate may not exceed materials receipts total)
- Receive your rebate!!

Requirements:

- Minimum Conversion of 1000SF
- Replace living lawn with low/medium water use plants
- Ensure plant coverage at maturity is at least 50%
- Trees are encouraged, although do not count towards 50% coverage
- Mulch must be spread at least 3" deep, except in areas where groundcover is used
- Weed barrier must be placed below permeable hardscape
- Irrigation system must be capped if not being used
- Converted area must be 100% permeable to air and water
- Original receipts or invoices, showing itemized cost of materials, must be submitted

Rebate--\$1.50/SF (up to 6,000 SF & \$9,000)

Sustainable Landscape-Turf Replacement Rebate Guidelines



Did you know that more than 50% of the water consumed is used to maintain landscapes?

City of San Diego Public Utilities Department commercial and multi-family residential customers can receive a rebate for turf replacement!

- Funding for a limited number of rebates is available through the City of San Diego Transportation and Storm Water Department and a State of California grant and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis until exhausted. *This program is subject to change without prior notification.*
- Applicant's water account must be in good standing.
- Customer must agree to and sign the application agreement before rebate is administered.
- Site changes made related to rebate program must comply with all applicable laws, codes, policies, covenants, conditions, and restrictions.
- Project site shall be maintained and available for future inspection, monitoring, and photos (up to five years) to a Public Utilities representative. Addresses to project sites participating in the rebate program will be available to the public. Customer names will **not** be made public or associated with the address.
- Conceptual design plan with MAWA/ETWU worksheet and plant coverage worksheet must be submitted. See following pages for example.
- Rebate amount **CANNOT** exceed total material costs on receipts or \$1.50/square foot up to \$9,000.
- **Rebate check will be sent to the customer of record 6-8 weeks after post-installation site visit is successfully completed.** Please consult with a tax advisor if you have questions regarding any potential tax implications of your rebate.

If you have questions after reading these guidelines, please call 619-533-4126 or e-mail waterconservationrebates@sandiego.gov.

What does not qualify for a rebate?

Sustainable Turf Replacement

- High water use plants (as classified by WUCOLs)
<http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/wucols00.pdf>
- Lawns that do not have existing irrigation systems
- Vegetable gardens, high water use plants, artificial turf
- Backyard conversions
- Exposed soil surfaces (exceptions made to accommodate specific garden design motifs)
- Impermeable surfaces such as bricks and flagstone mortared into place, or concrete.
(Pervious surfaces that are part of the project area are eligible for rebate so long as total project area includes living plant coverage area of at least 50% at maturity)
- Water features or fountains
- Planting of invasive species. For list of invasive species go to the [California Invasive Plant Council website](#) or the [San Diego County Invasive Ornamental Plant Guide](#).
- All labor and taxes

What is a Sustainable Landscape?

Sustainable landscapes are intended to be in balance with the local climate and environment and designed to require few added resources, thereby reducing waste and minimizing air, water and soil pollution. The Sustainable Landscape-Turf Replacement Rebate Program is intended to encourage the replacement of high water using turf grass with ornamental plant material that thrives with little to moderate amounts of water during the extended dry periods that characterize San Diego's climate. The scaled use of turf, with a focus on the use of water wise plant material, abundant mulch, efficient irrigation and reduced runoff are all components of sustainable landscaping. The objective of this rebate program is to encourage a reduction in water use through the conversion of grass to water wise plant material, while maintaining a high level of living landscape to benefit the environment. Additional steps such as converting overhead sprinklers to low flow micro-irrigation and installing a Smart Controller can further reduce water use and help control irrigation runoff.

Conceptual Design Example: Planting Plan with Irrigation Hydrozones



Irrigation Legend/ Hydrozone Legend

Plant Legend

PLANT	SYMBOL
STRELITZIA NICOLAI GIANT BIRD OF PARADISE	
SCHEFFLERA ARBORICOLA VARIEGATA	
PHILODENDRON SELLONUM	
PHILODENDRON ZANADU	
CHAMAEROPS HUMILLIS MEDITERRANEAN FAN PALM	
PHOENIX ROBELENII ROBELINII	
CYCAS REVOLUTA SAGO PALM	
ALPINIA ZERUMBET 'VARIEGATA' VARIGATED GINGER	
CORYLINE AUSTRALIS 'RED STAR'	

Hydrozone 1:

- 3/4" back-flow device
- a 25-PSI 3/4" preset pressure regulator
- 1/2" drip irrigation hose
- 1/4" micro tubing
- 20 one GPH pressure-compensating drip emitters



Hydrozone 2:

- 3/4" back-flow device
- a 25-PSI 3/4" preset pressure regulator
- 100' Inline Drip tube 2.3 l/h, spaced at 1.00 m



Graphic scale
and North arrow



Hardscape/Mulch

Mulch: All areas not to be covered by plant canopies are to be covered with 3" of wood bark mulch.

Pavers: Santa Barbara Gold Meshed Natural Stone Slate

Conceptual Design must be completed by a Landscape Architect, Designer, Certified landscape Irrigation Auditor, or Landscape Contractor.

If applying for Micro rebate, show filter, regulator, emitter types in legend for these areas.

If irrigation is planned show dedicated hydrozones and legend -- if no irrigation is planned show hydrozones only.

CITY OF SAN DIEGO - LANDSCAPE TURF REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

PLANT COVERAGE WORKSHEET

Date: _____

Start by researching your plants through books or online to find the following information:

A) List common/botanical name of the plant: ie; Cleveland Sage. Salvia Clevelandii
Info can be found on plant containers, Garden books, internet, etc.

B) List page from WUCOLS document or other reference that provides water-use data:
www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/wucols00.pdf

C) List plant water use requirement ie; high, med, low.

D) Enter plant width/diameter: from internet, Garden Books, or other.

G) Enter quantity of plants you will use.

J) Enter area (in sq. ft) of grass to be replaced for rebate.

Name:
Address:
Telephone #:
E-Mail:

#	Common Plant Name	Botanical Name	WUCOLS pg #/ other	Water Use	Plant Width: dia.	Plant Radius (1/2 Dia)	Coverage Value (SF)	Qty	Total SF Coverage
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
17									
18									
19									
20									
I. TOTAL PLANT COVERAGE VALUE (SF)									
J. TURF CONVERSION AREA (SF)									
K. % PLANT COVERAGE : G/H X 100									

Total % Plant Coverage should be at least 50% to qualify for rebate.

If you have questions, please send e-mail to: sandiego.gov/water/conservation or call (619) 533-4126

MAWA and ETWU Calculations Worksheet

The following worksheet is based on San Diego County Water Authority's "A Homeowner's guide to a WaterSmart Landscape"

Rebate Project Name	
ET _o (per "Definitions", next page)	
Total Conversion Area (s.f.)	

Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA)

Landscape Area (LA) (s.f)	MAWA (modified) (ET _o)x(0.62)x[(0.7xLA)]

Estimated Total Water Use (ETWU)

Hydrozone #	Plant Factor (PF)	Irrigation Efficiency (IE)	Hydrozone Area (HA) (s.f)	ETWU (ET _o)x(0.62)x(PFxHA/IE)
TOTAL				

MAWA		gallons
ETWU		gallons

Ensure that ETWU is less than or equal to MAWA

MAWA and ETWU Calculations Worksheet Definitions

ET_o= Reference Evapotranspiration, as indicated below

ETWU= Estimated Total Water Use (in gallons per year)

HA= Hydrozone Area (in Square feet) (planted area where plants are grouped by water needs)

IE= Irrigation Efficiency, as indicated below

LA= landscaped Area (area to be converted)(includes SLA which is "0", since it does not apply to the rebate)

MAWA= Maximum Applied Water Allowance (gallons per year) (per state water ordinance)

PF= Plant Factor, as indicated below

Region	ET _o	Region	ET _o
Barrio Logan	41	Ocean Beach	41
Black Mtn Ranch	47	Old San Diego	47
Carmel Mtn Ranch	51	Otay Mesa	51
Carmel Valley	47	Otay-Nestor	41
Centre City	41	Pacific Beach	41
City Heights	47	Pacific Hghlds Ranch	47
Clairemont Mesa	47	Torrey Pines	41
College Area	51	University	47
Del Mar Mesa	47	Uptown	47
East Elliot	51	Via De La Valle	47
Eastern Area	51	Peninsula	41
Encanto	51	Rancho Bernardo	57
Fairbanks Cnty Club	47	Rancho Encantada	57
Greater Golden Hill	47	Ranch Penasquitos	51
Greater North Park	47	Sabre Springs	51
Kearney Mesa	47	San Pasqual	57
Kensington-Talmadge	51	San Ysidro	47
La Jolla	41	Serra Mesa	47
Linda Vista	41	Scripps Miramar Rch	51
Midway-PCH Corridor	47	Skyline-Paradise Hills	51
Mira Mesa	41	Southeast San Diego	47
Mirimar Ranch North	51	Tierrasanta	51
Mission Beach	41	Tijuana River Valley	41
Mission Valley	47	Torrey Highlands	47
Navajo	51	Torrey Hills	47

Irrigation Efficiency	
Irrigation Type	Irrigation Efficiency Assumed worst case
Drip/Micro Spray	0.7 - 0.9
Bubblers	0.8 - 0.85
Stream Rotators	0.7
Rotors	0.7
Traditional Spray	0.55 - .60

Plant Factor	
Plant Water Use	Plant Factor
Very Low	>0.1
Low	0.1 - 0.3
Medium	0.4 - 0.6
High	0.7 - 0.9
SLA	1