



RainScapes Rewards



Rainwater Collection Rebate Application (Rain Barrels and Cisterns)

Application for Large-lot (greater than .5 acre) HOAs, Private Education Facilities, Nonprofits, and Multifamily Dwellings

Rainwater collection slows runoff and reduces the amount of stormwater entering local streams. Collecting and storing rainwater where it falls provides many benefits, including reduced water usage for irrigation, and reduced chemical and nutrient pollution entering waterways via runoff.

Rebate Terms

Program participants who follow application guidelines are eligible for a rebate of **\$1 per gallon of rain collected, with a maximum rebate of \$1000 per property** for rainwater collection using rain barrels or ground cisterns. Program participants must collect a **minimum of 55 gallons**.

Gaithersburg's Rainscapes program also offers rebates for **conservation landscaping**, as well as **rebates for single family residential and small-lot** (less than .5 acre) HOAs, private education facilities, nonprofits, and multifamily dwellings. For more information regarding Gaithersburg's Rainscapes Rewards program, please visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov/environment.

Eligibility

- To participate, the subject property must be located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Gaithersburg. *If you are unsure about the location of your property, contact Environmental Services at environment@gaithersburgmd.gov or 301-258-6330.*
- Projects are not eligible if they are associated with permit approval requirements for new building construction, additions, or renovations.
- Projects that are partially or completely finished before approval will not qualify for rebates.
- All requirements as outlined below, in the application, and in the Design Criteria and Guidelines for Project Eligibility (attached) must be met. All decisions are final and at the sole discretion of the City of Gaithersburg.
- ***This program does not supersede any zoning requirements.***

Application Process and Requirements

- 1. Submit your application, property owner agreement, and "before" photos for approval.**
The application is available online or at City Hall. Completed applications can be submitted to environment@gaithersburgmd.gov or mailed to 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg MD 20877.
- 2. Receive application approval from Rainscapes Rewards Program.**
Wait to receive project approval before purchasing materials or beginning the project. Projects must be completed within three (3) months of approval.

3. Purchase materials and complete your project.

You must retain and submit itemized receipts and/or invoices for all project costs. Documented costs must equal or exceed the rebate amount requested. The project must adhere to the most recent Design Criteria and Guidelines for Project Eligibility.

4. Submit your reimbursement form, receipts, and/or invoices.

Send your reimbursement form, itemized receipts, and/or final invoices to Environmental Services. Scanned copies or photocopies are acceptable.

5. Final inspection.

Contact Environmental Services at environment@gaithersburgmd.gov or 301-258-6330 to schedule a final inspection. The final inspection will verify project installation, and the project area will be photographed.

6. Receive reimbursement check.

Once all requirements are met, the rebate will be approved, and a check will be issued by the City of Gaithersburg's Department of Finance within three (3) to six (6) weeks.

Please mail or email the completed application with required information and **wait to receive approval** from the City of Gaithersburg. If you have any questions, please contact Gaithersburg Environmental Services at environment@gaithersburgmd.gov or 301-258-6330.

**City of Gaithersburg – Environmental Services Division
Rainscapes Rewards Rebate Program
31 South Summit Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
environment@gaithersburgmd.gov**

Gaithersburg would like to thank Montgomery County's Rainscapes Rewards Program for sharing their curriculum and program materials. Although Gaithersburg residents are ineligible for the County rebate, much of the Gaithersburg program is modeled after Montgomery County's program. Feel free to reference their website for any additional information.

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rainscapes



Design Guidelines and Criteria for Project Eligibility

Revised March 2013

These guidelines and criteria will be periodically updated to ensure currency with the latest technical information and best practices – please verify that you have the latest version.

Rain Barrel and Aboveground Cistern Requirements:

- Written approval** from Gaithersburg Environmental Services is required before you begin installation or construction. Projects that are partially or completely finished before approval will not qualify for rebates.
- Minimum size: 55 gallons**
- Rain barrels must include:**
 - Secure lid and screen for safety and mosquito control
 - Overflow drainage outlet
 - Water access tap
 - Positive drainage leading at least six (6) feet away from any foundation
 - Solid, level support base

Additional Resources

Montgomery County Rain Barrel Manual:

<http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dep/downloads/Rainscapes/MocoRainbarrels.pdf>



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Rebate Application – Rainwater Collection (Rain Barrels and Cisterns)

Application for Large-lot (greater than .5 acre) HOAs, Private Education Facilities, Nonprofits, and Multifamily Dwellings

Applicant Information and Eligibility

Name/Property Owner (please print)

Address

City

State

ZIP

Property Address (if different than above)

Phone

Email

Building Type (specify):

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MET:

- Yes No Is this building a large-lot (greater than .5 acre) HOA, private education facility, nonprofit, or multifamily dwelling structure?
- Yes No Is this building within the jurisdictional boundaries of Gaithersburg?

**Please note: A zip code or mailing address does not indicate the property is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of Gaithersburg. If you are unsure of your property, contact Environmental Services at environment@gaitthersburgmd.gov or 301-258-6330.*

Rain Barrel/Cistern Project Details

1. Please provide a physical description of the location of the rain barrel(s) or cistern(s)? (e.g. back of building on the right, front of building on left, etc.):

2. Will you be installing a rain barrel(s) or cistern(s)?

3. Number of barrels/cisterns:

Size:

4. Is this a standalone barrel/cistern, or will multiple be linked together?

5. Where will you obtain your barrel/cistern?

6. Who will hook up your barrel/cistern?

Roof Area and Drainage Information

7. What is the roof drainage area going to the barrel/cistern (square feet)?

4. Are you interested in helping with public outreach efforts related to your rain barrel installation and participation in the Rainscapes Rewards program? For example, you could act as a neighborhood mentor. Yes No

Project Site Photos (Before Shots)

Please attach, either digitally or hard copy, photos of the project site. (Max 6)

Signature/Agreement

Yes, I have read and agree with all Rainscapes Rewards rebate program requirements.

Name/Signature

Date

Gaithersburg Rainscapes Rewards Property Owner Agreement

between
City of Gaithersburg, Maryland
and

Property Owner(s): _____

Property Address: _____

This Agreement is between City of Gaithersburg, Maryland (the "City"), a municipal corporation of the State of Maryland, and _____ ("Participants" or "Property Owners"), owners of the property located at _____ in Gaithersburg, Maryland (the "Property"). This Agreement becomes effective once the designated representatives of both the Participant(s) and the City (collectively, the "Parties") have signed it.

The purpose of the Agreement is to specify the general terms and conditions of the Property Owner's participation in the City of Gaithersburg's Rainscapes Rewards Program (the "Program").

Definitions

Rain barrel means a container that holds at least 55 gallons or more of precipitation for landscape irrigation or other non-potable uses.

Cistern means a container that holds at least 55 gallons or more of precipitation for landscape irrigation or other non-potable uses.

Conservation Landscaping is the removal of turf grass, impervious surface, and/or non-native invasive species and replacement with plant species that have more extensive, deeper root systems.

Background

1. The Mayor and City Council has authorized the creation of a rebate program to be administered through the Environmental Services Division (ESD). The purpose of the rebate program is to provide financial and other appropriate incentives to property owners to encourage the use of environmentally sensitive, low-impact stormwater runoff control techniques to reduce the impact of uncontrolled stormwater runoff and improve stream water quality in Gaithersburg.

2. Under the Gaithersburg Rainscapes Rewards Program, the City makes rebate payments available to owners of properties that do not currently have on-site stormwater management controls, and who utilize approved stormwater management techniques as outlined in the Design Guidelines and Criteria for Project Eligibility included in the Rainscapes application packets.

3. The Property Owner(s) has met all applicable eligibility requirements, qualifications, and project standards and criteria as outlined in the Gaithersburg Rainscapes Rewards Application and the associated application has been approved by ESD on _____.

Mutual Agreements:

The Parties agree as follows:

1. The Property Owner shall be responsible for all maintenance associated with any project receiving funding through the Program (the "Project(s)").

2. The Property Owner shall allow representatives of the City to enter the Property to inspect the Project(s) at all reasonable times.
3. The Property Owner shall comply with all applicable regulations, criteria, guidelines, and equipment warranties associated with the Project(s), including obtaining any necessary permits and approval of Homeowners Associations (HOAs).
4. The City may make public the results of any program evaluation or data collection, including any photographs, images, or recordings, undertaken by the City in connection with the Program.
5. The Participant must promptly notify ESD of any change in ownership of the Property after the Parties have executed this Agreement.
6. The Property Owner, by participating in the Rainscapes Rewards Program, hereby releases the City of Gaithersburg and its agents, officers, directors, employees, or any other persons acting on its behalf from any liability for damages or injuries resulting from its participation in the Program. The Property Owner agrees to indemnify and hold The City of Gaithersburg harmless for any injuries, damages, or claims arising from the Program.
7. The Parties further agree that the City and other interested persons may, after reasonable notice to the owner(s), enter the premises cited above for the limited purpose of demonstrating the Project(s) to those interested in pursuing a similar project elsewhere in the City.

Total Cost of Project: _____

Total Amount of Rainscapes Rewards rebate: _____

For Property Owner(s)

For City of Gaithersburg, Maryland

Property Owner's Signature

Property Owner's Signature

[Property Owner Signature]

[Property Owner Signature]

Date: _____

Date: _____



RainScapes Rewards



Rebate Reimbursement Form – Rainwater Collection (Rain Barrels and Cisterns)

Rebate Recipient (Check will be made payable to this name)

Name/Property Owner (please print)

Address

City

State

ZIP

Property Address (if different than above)

Phone

Email

Number of rain barrels/cisterns installed

Amount of total receipts

Rebate amount requested

Applicant checklist

- Application and "before" photos were submitted and approved
- Signed Property Owner Agreement, itemized receipts, and/or final invoices were submitted

TO BE COMPLETED BY STAFF ONLY:

Date of final site visit

- Photographs of completed project taken by City staff
- Project APPROVED as conforming to design criteria
- Project DENIED as not conforming to design criteria

Details/Comments:

Design Criteria

- Rain barrel(s)/cistern(s) at least 55 gallons in size
- Has secure lid & screen for safety/mosquito control
- Includes an overflow drainage outlet
- Includes a water access tap
- Includes positive drainage away from foundation
- Includes solid, level support base

CHECK REQUEST

Date Requested

Reason for Request

Charge to Account Number

Instructions for Processing

Date Needed

Amount Requested (\$)

PO/Res. No.

Printed name of requestor

Signature of department head or designee

Signed name of requestor