



Montgomery County, MD  
RainScapes Rewards Rebate



RainScapes projects are voluntary projects designed to reduce stormwater runoff and enhance the local environment. RainScapes Rewards Rebate projects are funded by the Water Quality Protection Charge (WQPC). Only new projects will be considered for a rebate. These projects cannot be used to fulfill a county required stormwater permit. Any projects above and beyond a stormwater permit are acceptable. In order to qualify for consideration for a rebate properties must be located within Montgomery County but outside of the municipalities of Rockville, Gaithersburg, and Takoma Park. These jurisdictions collect their WQPC separately.

<b>Project Timeline and Requirements</b>	
1.	Plan for the project by reading the requirements, website and design manual for the specific Rainscapes practice. Please also read our “How to apply for a Rebate” document.
2.	Obtain your 8 digit county tax ID number for the application
3.	Submit your RainScapes rebate application. If you don't get an email from <a href="mailto:RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov">RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</a> then you did not finish your application. If you need help please contact us through that email.
4.	If your application contains all the necessary information you will be contacted by the Department of Environmental Protection to schedule a mandatory preliminary inspection*. These inspections are required before project installation can begin. <b>*No preliminary inspection is needed for rain barrels or tree canopy projects</b>
5.	Supporting documents specific to each rebate type will need to be submitted. This can happen before or after the preliminary inspection. Please see the project requirements for a supporting documents list.
6.	Once you've passed the preliminary inspection and all the supporting documents have been reviewed, and approved, an application response letter* detailing approval and rebate funding level will be sent. A property owner agreement will also be sent at this time. <b>*Once you receive the approval notice installation of the project can begin.</b>
7.	Projects must be installed within six months of the date of the approval letter. Please don't hesitate to contact us with questions you may have.
8.	Contact the Department of Environmental Protection once the project is installed to schedule a final inspection.
9.	At the final inspection you may receive a list of necessary changes to be made before a rebate can be issued. Completion of any adjustments will need to be photo documented and emailed to <a href="mailto:rainscapes@montgomerycountymd.gov">rainscapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</a> . Depending on the number of adjustments a second final inspection may be necessary.
10.	Submit at the end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copies of the receipts itemized and the sales tax subtracted</li><li>• The original signed property owner agreement</li></ul>
11.	Once you've passed the final inspection, submitted receipts, and submitted your original signed property owner agreement your rebate request will be processed. The rebate check will be issued by the department of finance.

All decisions regarding eligibility of applications and processing of applications are final and are at the sole discretion of the Department of Environmental Protection

[RainScapes.org](http://RainScapes.org)



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**Design Criteria and Requirements for Project Eligibility**  
**Conservation Landscape**  
Updated: January 2014



**Required Supporting documents:**

- Planting plan with graphic scale showing plant quantities and locations
  - HOA approval letter if applicable

▪ **Residential**

- Pass preliminary inspection for site suitability
- Rebate amount:
  - \$2.00 a square foot with no ponding
  - **or** \$3.00 a square foot if installed with a berm to provide 2" of ponding
- Maximum rebate:
  - \$2,500.00
- Minimum size:
  - 250 square feet
- Location:
  - On private property
  - Does not divert water from the existing flow path
  - Does not back up water onto a neighbors property
  - Replaces existing turf, invasive plants, or eroded soils
  - Intercepts stormwater from an impervious surface
- Design/Installation:
  - Planting plan showing plant locations submitted and approved
    - Graphic scale on plan
    - Plant list
    - Plant quantities
  - 75% native plants, 25% can be non-native, non-invasive
  - Soils de-compacted at least 9"
  - Soil amended with 2" of compost
  - 3" of natural, un-dyed mulch
  - No artificial weed matting. (newspapers are OK)
- Final Steps
  - Submit itemized receipts with the tax subtracted
  - Submit the signed property owner agreement with original signatures (no copies)
  - Schedule and pass final inspection

▪ **Commercial/Institutional**

- Pass preliminary inspection for site suitability
- Rebate amount:
  - \$2.00 a square foot with no ponding
  - **or** \$3.00 a square foot if installed with a berm to provide 2" of ponding



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- Maximum rebate:
  - \$10,000.00
- Minimum size:
  - 350 square feet
- Location:
  - On private property
  - Does not divert water from the existing flow path
  - Does not back up water onto a neighbors property
  - Replaces existing turf, invasive plants, or eroded soils
  - Intercepts stormwater from an impervious surface
- Design/Installation:
  - Planting plan showing plant locations submitted and approved
    - Graphic scale on plan
    - Plant list
    - Plant quantities
  - 75% native plants, 25% can be non-native, non-invasive
  - Soils de-compacted at least 9"
  - Soil amended with 2" of compost
  - 3" of natural, un-dyed mulch
  - No artificial weed matting. (newspapers are OK)
- Final Steps
  - Submit itemized receipts with the tax subtracted
  - Submit the signed property owner agreement with original signatures (no copies)
  - Schedule and pass final inspection