

PCWA Lawn Replacement Rebate Program

Terms and Conditions

The Lawn Replacement Rebate Program provides rebates to Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) customers to convert water-thirsty lawns to water-efficient landscapes. Funding is limited and applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. PCWA reserves the right to terminate this program at any time, for any reason. The following terms and conditions apply to the Lawn Replacement Rebate Program. Please read carefully prior to submission of your application.

I. Eligibility

A. The Lawn Replacement Rebate Program is available to residential and nonresidential customers, who receive water through a treated water metered service in the PCWA service area, so that we are able to measure water savings. The applicant's water account must be in good standing.

B. Lawn areas to be converted must be currently maintained and be irrigated by an operating sprinkler system.

C. A minimum of 300 square feet of lawn must be converted.

E. The Program Rebate Application must be submitted to PCWA and the applicant must participate in a pre-conversion site inspection conducted by PCWA prior to the removal of any lawn. Conversions that are initiated prior to PCWA's approval are ineligible. No exceptions will be made.

II. Landscaping requirements for Converted Areas

A. **Fifty Percent (50%) Plant Cover:** The converted area must include a sufficient number of plants to ensure at least 50% of the area is covered when the plants are fully grown. Tree canopy will not be used to determine the 50% coverage requirement. To determine mature plant size, consult the *Sunset Western Garden Book*. Plants outside the converted area are not considered in the calculation even if they are adjacent to, or overhanging into the converted area.

B. **Plants:** Plants must be low water using and adaptable to our local climate. Plants must be listed on the PCWA Approved Plant List. For a copy of the list, visit <http://www.pcwa.net/>. A printed list is available for those without computers. Plants not found on this list will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and they must still be low water-use plants.

C. **Concrete:** Impermeable surfaces, such as concrete, that do not allow water to penetrate into the ground, are not allowed as part of the conversion area. Permeable hardscape is allowed; however, the 50% Plant Cover rule still applies to the entire area.

D. Artificial Grass: If artificial grass is used in any part of the conversion, the artificial grass must be installed by a licensed contractor. The contractor must install the artificial grass in accordance with the manufacturer's installation specifications. The installation must be permeable to water and air. Only polyethylene and nylon artificial turf products are eligible for rebates. Patio carpet and other "Astroturf" type products are not eligible.

NOTE: the 50% plant cover requirement listed above in Section II-A still applies.

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E. Mulch: All planting areas must have a minimum of two (2) inches of mulch. If a weed barrier is used below the mulch, it must be permeable to air and water.

F. Efficient Irrigation: Irrigation systems, if used, must be low volume drip, equipped with a proper pressure regulator, filter and emitters. The system must be in good working order, free of leaks and malfunctions. If only part of a lawn is converted, the converted area must be irrigated on a separate valve from the remaining lawn. The sprinkler system for the remaining lawn must be modified to provide adequate coverage and may not overspray onto the converted area. For information on drip irrigation, visit <http://www.pcwa.net>.

III. Terms of the Rebate

A. Term: Conversions must be completed within four (4) months. To ensure water savings are achieved, the converted area must remain in compliance with the program terms and conditions for a period of five (5) years following receipt of the rebate. An applicant may be charged part or the entire rebate amount at PCWA's discretion if the terms or conditions have been violated.

B. Rebate Amounts: The rebate is one dollar (\$1.00) per square foot of grass converted. The maximum rebate for single-family residential sites is \$1000, and for non-residential sites is \$2,000. Rebates will be issued to the water customer or to that customer's legally appointed representative. **Please keep all receipts to help ensure the rebate.**

C. Applying for Program: Customers interested in participating should visit our website at <http://www.pcwa.net> in the Water Efficiency Section. Customers shall read the Terms and Conditions and Frequently Asked Questions to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements. Then request a pre-site inspection online or by calling (530) 823-4850.

D. Pre-Project Inspection: PCWA will bring the application, take before photos, measure the proposed conversion area and verify eligibility.

E. **Approval:** Once the application is signed and the pre-site visit is complete, customers may remove the lawn and install the project according to the Program Terms and Conditions.

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F. **Post-Project Inspection:** It is the customer's responsibility to notify PCWA when project is complete and ready for post-inspection. PCWA will conduct the post-project inspection to verify project was completed according to the Program Terms and Conditions. If the conversion fails inspection, the applicant will be given thirty (30) days, or the remainder of the four (4) month period, whichever is greater, to bring the project into compliance.

G. **Additional Responsibilities of the Applicant:** PCWA enforces only the terms and Conditions of this agreement. The applicant is solely responsible for complying with any and all laws, regulations, policies, conditions, CC & R's, covenants and restrictions that may apply, and for any and all liabilities arising out of a conversion project. Applicants must comply with all local permitting requirements, and with all state and local laws relating to landscape maintenance.