

## WATER EFFICIENCY

# Residential Cash for Grass Rebate Application



Date:\_\_\_\_\_ Water utility account #:\_\_\_\_\_

Customer name:\_\_\_\_\_

Service/mailling address:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number:\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_

Conversion Area *(please check all that applies):*      ☐ Front      ☐ Back      ☐ Strip area less than 10' *(in any direction)*

I agree no work/turf removal was or will be performed prior to a City of Roseville pre-inspection.

Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

I understand the conversion project must be completed within 90 days from pre-inspection date.

Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

I irrevocably authorize the City of Roseville, or anyone authorized/designated by the City, to use or reproduce any and all photographs which have been taken of myself as part of the Cash for Grass Rebate Program by the City or the City's authorized agent(s) for any purpose determined by the City without compensation or further notice to me.

Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the program information as stated in the following pages of these application materials, including Program Terms and Conditions in Section 1-3 and Instructions in Section 4. I understand that by signing below, I agree to allow an official from the City of Roseville to verify project completion at said property. I agree to indemnify and hold the City of Roseville, the Regional Water Authority, and their respective directors, officers, employees, and agents, harmless from any and all liability claims for damage, including any attorneys' fees and costs, connected to or in any way arising from the Cash for Grass Rebate Program, the inspection of the premises to verify proper installation, and any other activity related to this program.

Initials:\_\_\_\_\_

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_

*(Review instructions for information on submitting this application)*



There is never enough water to waste. The City of Roseville underwrites this rebate program to help residential customers save water and protect our water future.

# Residential Cash for Grass Rebate Terms and Conditions

This program is available from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, pending council approval. Rebates are “first come, first served”. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the City of Roseville reserves the rights to terminate this program at any time, for any reason. Program changes are not retroactive to applicants who applied under a prior year’s program.

The following terms and conditions apply to the Cash for Grass program. Please read carefully prior to submission of any application.

## To qualify for a rebate, the applicant must:

- Be the City of Roseville water utility account holder and homeowner of record. Site must have a water meter installed and billed on a metered rate for at least 12 months to be eligible.
- No work/turf removal allowed prior to a City of Roseville Pre-Inspection. No exceptions.
- Participate in a pre-inspection with a representative of the City of Roseville prior to any work or turf removal. Photos will not be accepted in lieu of a pre-conversion site visit.
- Convert lawn/turf in accordance with the terms and conditions of the rebate program within the required time period of 90 days from pre-inspection date.
- Complete plant coverage worksheet prior to post-inspection.
- Schedule a post-inspection with a City of Roseville representative once conversion has been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the rebate.

## 1. Pre-conversion eligibility

- Areas to be converted must receive their water from the City of Roseville and be billed on a metered rate. The applicant’s utility accounts must be in good standing.
- Areas to be converted must be maintained lawn at a single-family residence. A maintained lawn shall consist of, at minimum, 75% turf coverage, a maximum of 20% weed coverage and no more than 5% bare area. Turf height shall be 2-3” for cool season turf and 1-2” for warm season turf and shall be mowed and edged regularly and be even and green during growing season. Non-living or unmaintained turf will not qualify.
- At least three hundred (300) square feet of lawn must be converted. Smaller projects will be considered at the City’s discretion. Turf areas less than 10’ in any direction will be exempt from the minimum square footage requirement through the “Flip the Strip” (details on page 3).
- A Cash for Grass Rebate Application must be submitted to the City of Roseville and the applicant must participate in a pre-conversion site review conducted by the City prior to the removal of any lawn. Photos will not be accepted in lieu of a pre-inspection. Conversions that are initiated without the City’s approval are ineligible.

## 2. Landscaping requirements for the converted area

### A. Plant coverage requirements

#### Front yard landscape:

Upon completion and continuing for the term of this agreement, converted areas must contain enough plants to create at least 50% living plant cover when the plants are fully grown. Plants outside the converted area are not considered in the calculation even if they are adjacent to, or overhang into, the converted area.

If an established tree is located within the converted area, applicant can use one-half (1/2) of the total mature tree canopy towards the living 50% plant coverage requirement.

If the total area of an existing front yard landscape contains more than 75% of living low and/or medium water-use plants that are being irrigated with a low volume irrigation system the 50% living plant coverage requirement may be waived. Please contact a City of Roseville representative for more details.

Turf areas less than 10' in any direction shall be exempt from the plant coverage requirement, but any qualifying plant coverage installed in these areas may be counted towards the 50% coverage if a larger conversion project is being done.

Shrubs and perennials planted in former turf areas less than 10' in any direction shall not grow to exceed a height of 30" for safety and visibility.

**Back yard landscape:**

The 50% living plant coverage requirement has been waived for back yard landscape conversions.

All other program terms still apply.

**Plant selections:**

Participants must use drought-tolerant plants (climate adapted for the Roseville area). Local California native plant species are recommended. Only low and medium (also referred to as moderate) water-use plants can be used to meet the 50% living plant coverage requirement for the converted area. High water-use plants do not meet program requirements. For a list containing some of the most common low and medium water-use plants found in the Sacramento Region visit [roseville.ca.gov/plantlist](http://roseville.ca.gov/plantlist). Please check with the City of Roseville Electric Department regarding the Shade Tree program. The Shade Tree Program may be used in conjunction with the Cash for Grass Rebate.

**B. Artificial turf:**

Use of artificial turf is not permitted within this program. Rebates will not be issued for areas converted with artificial turf. No exceptions.

**C. Efficient irrigation:**

Watering systems used, if any, must be a low volume drip irrigation system with pressure regulation and filter. The system must be free of leaks and malfunctions. Installation and use of overhead spray systems (including micro spray), soaker hoses or emitters with an adjustable flow are not an authorized alternative and do not meet the terms of the program. If part of a lawn is converted, the sprinkler system must be properly modified to provide adequate coverage to the remaining lawn without spraying the converted area (narrow lawn areas often waste water and should be avoided). All newly installed equipment is required to minimize runoff, overspray and meet City of Roseville requirements.

For certain 'Flip the Strip' participants where a turf area less than 10' in any direction is being converted to plants, but the lawn in the main part of the landscape is not being converted and both areas share the same station/valve, (this is considered a mixed zone because the lawn and plants have different water needs and will be watered with a mix of irrigation equipment - sprinklers and drip). One of the following specific irrigation installations is suggested:

1. A spray-to-drip conversion kit is utilized at one of the sprinkler heads in the park strip and all other sprinklers are capped off. It is strongly recommended, but not required, that the drip tubing installed is emitter in-line drip of a flow rate no more than .4 gph and spaced 18" apart.
2. A spray-to-drip conversion kit is utilized at one of the sprinkler heads in the park strip and all other sprinklers are capped off. No more than two-point source drip emitters installed per plant and no more than 1 gph flow rate on each emitter.
3. All sprinklers are capped and the area is planted with climate adapted very-low water use (as defined by WUCOL IV) native plants.
4. All sprinklers are capped, and the zone goes completely unplanted.

**D. Surface treatments:**

The converted area must be completely covered by a 3" layer of mulch permeable to both air and water. Stabilizing surface treatments shall be used on slopes or base of slope to prevent runoff. Common mulching materials include rock, bark, and un-grouted flagstone or pavers. Impermeable treatments, such as concrete, grouted and/or sealed surfaces do not qualify. However, permeable treatments (pervious concrete, or brick or flagstone with permeable, mortar-less materials for grout lines) will qualify as long as the 50% plant coverage requirement is met. If a weed barrier is used

beneath the mulch, it must be manufactured to be permeable to both air and water.

### 3. Terms of the rebate

#### A. Term:

Applicants may apply once per fiscal year. Conversions must be completed within three (3) months following the pre-inspection site visit. If the 90-day requirement is not met, applicants will not be eligible to reapply until July 1st of the following year. Once the City receives notice of project completion, any wait time for the City's final inspection shall not be counted against this three-month period of time. The converted area must remain in compliance with all program terms and conditions for a period of five (5) years following receipt of the rebate. An applicant may be required to refund the entire rebate, or a portion thereof, in the City's sole discretion, if rebate program terms and conditions are violated. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this requirement is void upon transfer of ownership.

#### B. Rebate incentive amounts and limits:

The rebate incentive is \$1.50 for per square foot of grass converted, with two-thousand-dollar (\$2000.00) maximum per application. Only one rebate payment may be received per fiscal year under this agreement, if any. The City may reject or limit applications at any time, for any reason. Rebate payments, if any, will be issued only to the City of Roseville water utility account holder or property owner's legally appointed representative and, assuming program compliance, will be issued within thirty (30) to sixty (60) days following the City's final inspection.

#### Flip The Strip:

Areas less than 10' in any direction are rebated \$3.00 per square foot, and are excluded from the 300 square foot per site minimum requirement. Eligible areas shall be no wider than 10'. All other areas greater than 10' will follow the standard Cash for Grass rebate of \$1.50.

Rebates may be considered income or a subsidy for tax purposes and may be taxable to the customer or the third party receiving the rebate check. Customers are urged to consult their own tax advisors concerning the potential taxability of these rebates. Rebate(s) greater than \$600 will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service on IRS form 1099, unless the customer is exempt. The City of Roseville shall not be responsible for any tax obligations that may be imposed on a customer as a result of the receipt of a Water Efficiency Rebate.

#### C. Final inspection:

Once the City is notified of a project's completion, the City will conduct an inspection to verify program compliance. If the conversion fails inspection, the applicant will be permitted to bring the conversion project into compliance with the program terms and conditions for a period of fourteen (14) days or the remainder of the three-month, or authorized extended period, whichever is greater.

#### D. Additional responsibilities of the applicant:

The City enforces only the terms and conditions of this agreement. The applicant is solely responsible for complying with any and all laws, regulations, policies, conditions, covenants and restrictions that may apply and for any and all liabilities arising out of a conversion project. Applicants are encouraged to consult any applicable covenants, conditions and restrictions ("CC&Rs") or neighborhood Homeowner's Association ("HOA") regulations that may apply to an anticipated conversion project prior to submitting an application with the City. Applicants must also comply with all state and local laws relating to landscape maintenance. The quality, maintenance and appearance of the conversion are the exclusive responsibility of the applicant. Rebates may be considered taxable income. Any tax consequences arising out of the receipt of a rebate is the exclusive responsibility of the applicant. Applicants are solely responsible for understanding the rights and responsibilities of adjacent property owners and the impacts that their anticipated conversion project may have on drainage or discharge of water, boundary lines, fences, encroachments, trees, subjacent and lateral support, and other related items.

#### 4. Submission Instructions

**A.** Submit complete application to the City of Roseville. Applications may be sent electronically or via regular mail. **For any questions regarding the application or rebate process, call (916) 774-5761.**

| To submit electronically:                                                                                                       | To submit by mail                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Visit:</b> <a href="https://roseville.ca.gov/rebates">roseville.ca.gov/rebates</a> to download and complete application form | <b>Visit:</b> <a href="https://roseville.ca.gov/rebates">roseville.ca.gov/rebates</a> to download and complete application form.                                           |
| <b>Email completed application to:</b><br><a href="mailto:WaterRebates@roseville.ca.us">WaterRebates@roseville.ca.us</a>        | <b>Mail form to:</b><br>Environmental Utilities - Water Efficiency Division<br>City of Roseville Corporation Yard<br>2005 Hilltop Circle, Suite 110<br>Roseville, CA 95747 |
| <b>For questions, call:</b><br>(916) 774-5761                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                            |

**B.** Once the application has been received and rebate funds have been identified, a representative will call to schedule the pre-inspection.

**C.** Projects must be completed within 90 days from the date of pre-inspection with authorization to proceed, and no later than June 30, 2027, whichever comes first.