

More Information?

For RainScapes Rewards rebate applications, news, and more information, visit:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rainscapes

For information about stormwater management, watersheds and water quality protection in Montgomery County, visit:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep

Apply online at:

www.rainscapes.org



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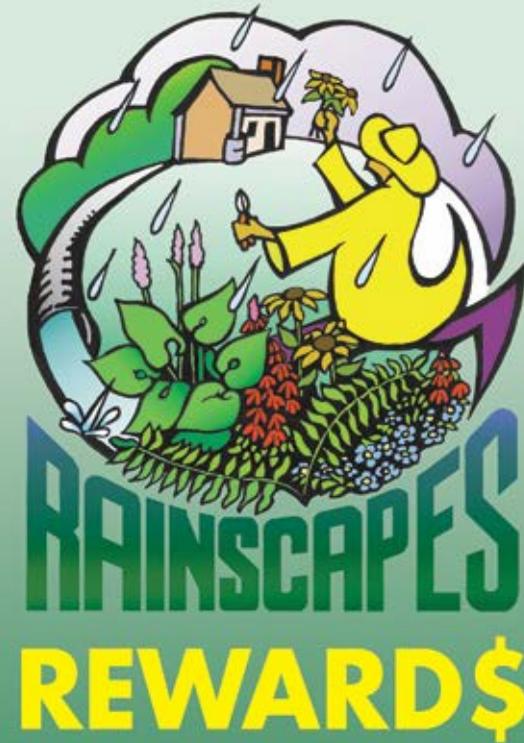
“Get green”
to “Get cash”



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Helping
HOMES and BUSINESSES
Reduce Stormwater Runoff
with
Environmentally-friendly
Landscaping



Montgomery County, Maryland

What is RainScapes Rewards and What's In It For You?

The RainScapes Rewards Program offers Montgomery County residents and businesses financial incentives and technical assistance to install landscaping techniques that reduce stormwater runoff (or rain water runoff) coming off their property. Go to the RainScapes website at www.rainscapes.org to determine the amount of rebate that is available for your property.



RainScapes landscaping techniques help prevent water pollution, recharge groundwater, and protect the ecosystem of our streams and rivers, one property at a time. They also save money by reducing water and energy use, and add beautiful features to improve property value.

Why is Stormwater Runoff a Problem?

On impervious urban surfaces—pavement, driveways, roads, rooftops, and even lawns—rainfall does not soak into the ground. Instead it becomes stormwater runoff, which carries urban pollutants—excess lawn-care chemicals, sediment, debris and trash, and leaking auto-fluids—directly through storm drains into local streams and creeks, and eventually into our rivers. Stormwater's fast, erosive flows damage the habitat and biology of our smaller streams. Stormwater is the leading cause of pollution and degradation in Montgomery County's streams, and the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers.



How To Get a RainScapes Rewards Rebate

Properties eligible for the rebates must be located in Montgomery County, Maryland outside the municipal limits of the Cities of Rockville, Takoma Park, and Gaithersburg.

Applicants must fill in a Rebate application.

The application outlines:

1. eligibility requirements
2. design requirements for each RainScape technique
3. site inspection process
4. documentation requirements

**FIND THE REBATE APPLICATION AND
MORE INFORMATION AT:**

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rainscapes

APPLY ONLINE AT:

www.rainscapes.org

Consider a RainScapes Technique For Your Yard or Property

A variety of landscaping features help the soil to capture and soak in rainfall instead of allowing it to run off as stormwater. These landscaping features are available for RainScapes Rewards rebates:



Landscaping with Native Plants

replaces traditional lawns that use expensive chemicals and are time-consuming to maintain. Instead, gardens are planted with easy-to-maintain native plants which are adapted to local rainfall conditions, able to survive drought periods, and offer a beautiful aesthetic to the property.

Permeable Pavers

allow rainwater to rapidly infiltrate and enter the ground where it is naturally filtered, rather than end up in drains as stormwater runoff. Replacing impervious surfaces such as concrete or asphalt driveways with permeable pavers reduces runoff.



In a **Rain Garden**, plants are planted in a spoon-like, concave area filled with a special soil mix. The depression collects rainfall and allows it to filter into the ground. Native plants in the rain garden with strong, deep roots also help to filter and drain water into deeper layers of the soil.



Pavement Removal

is the most direct way to reduce impervious area! After removing pavement, the area should be prepared and planted so that water can soak in rather than run off.



A **Green Roof** is a type of building roof that is partially or completely covered with vegetation. The roof is first covered with a waterproofing membrane, then with a system to hold an amended soil mixture. It is planted with low-maintenance, drought-resistant plants such as sedums. The roof is structurally strong enough to retain some rainfall, while allowing larger volumes to drain through and off the roof. The result is both reduced and cleaner stormwater runoff than from a regular roof. Green roofs also lead to building or home energy savings.

Planting Trees

helps to increase leaf canopy. Leaves intercept raindrops and retain them, thus reducing stormwater runoff. Trees have an extensive underground root system that absorbs rainfall into the ground. Trees are also shown to reduce home energy bills and increase property value up to 20%.



A **Cistern** is a water harvesting container that is larger than a rain barrel, and can be located either above-ground, or partially under-ground. Water captured in cisterns may



be used to water your garden, lawn or other plantings. Due to its larger size and ability to be buried, a cistern can be a very effective runoff reduction technique that works well where space is limited, but requires good planning for the intended water use and maintenance needs. Potable or other domestic use of cistern water is currently not allowed under plumbing codes.

A Dry Well

is a type of infiltration system that collects stormwater from rooftops or driveways and filters the rainwater through a small stone-filled pit, then into the underlying soils. An underground pipe or grass swale typically directs runoff from roof downspouts into the dry well. Linear dry wells along driveways receive runoff from sheet flow or other measures to direct the water into the stone pit. Dry wells are a low-maintenance technique to reduce stormwater runoff, promote infiltration and groundwater recharge, and filter pollutants and they work well in areas where space is limited and landscaping features are not desired.

A Rain Barrel

is a container or system which collects and stores rain water from rooftops. Rain barrels conserve water, reduce stormwater runoff from individual properties, and provide free water for various yard uses.

