



RainScapes Rewards Rebates

RainScapes Rewards projects are designed to reduce stormwater runoff and enhance the local environment. These voluntary projects are funded by the Water Quality Protection Charge (WQPC). RainScapes Rewards projects cannot be used to fulfill a county-required stormwater permit, and only new projects will be considered for a rebate. In order to qualify 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.)

Project Timeline and Requirements	
1	Read the website and design manual for the specific Rainscapes projects. Please also read our Application Process document.
2	Go to the online application, and fill it out.
3	Submit your RainScapes rebate application. If you don't get an email from RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov , 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. <i>Note: No preliminary inspection is required for rain barrels</i>
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 your supporting documents have been approved, you will receive an application response letter. This letter gives approval details and rebate funding level. A property owner agreement will also be sent at this time. Once you receive the approval letter, installation of the project can begin.
7	Projects must be installed within six months of the date of the approval letter. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.
8	Once the project is installed, contact the Department of Environmental Protection to schedule a final inspection.
9	At the final inspection, you may receive a list of necessary changes/adjustments to make before a rebate can be issued. Completion of any adjustments will need to be photo-documented and emailed to RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov . Depending on the number of adjustments, a second final inspection may be necessary.
10	Submit at the end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copies of the receipts, itemized and with sales tax subtracted ▪ Electronically-signed property owner agreement
11	Your rebate will be processed for payment after your project passes final inspection and you have submitted your receipts and property owner agreement. The rebate check will be issued by the Montgomery County Department of Finance.



RainScapes Rewards Rebates Design Criteria & Requirements for Project Eligibility

Permeable Paver Retrofit

Rebate Amounts

\$14 per square foot of retrofit area

Maximum rebate: Residential - **\$7,500** • Commercial/Institutional - **\$20,000**

Required Supporting Documents

- Right of Way permit, if storing construction materials or equipment in County's right-of-way
- Proof that contractor attended a **PICP (Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavers)** training course through **ICPI (Interlocking Concrete Paver Institute)** or submission of contractor portfolio showing at least 5 permeable projects
- PICP-Specialist designation for commercial/institutional

Minimum size

- **Residential** – 100 square feet
- **Commercial/Institutional** - 200 square feet

Location

- Must be on private property. May not be built in County's right-of-way.
- Replaces existing impervious surface (driveway, walkway, patio, etc.)
- Projects within close proximity of large canopy trees will be approved on a case-by-case basis.
- Does not redirect existing flow of water to a paved surface or a neighbor's property
- Does not back up water onto a neighbor's property
- Installed in soils which pass a perc test (See "How To Do a Perc Test" handout)
 - Perform the perc test as close as possible to the project location
 - Perc rates from 0-36 hours are ideal.
 - Perc rates over 36 hours indicate poor draining soils. In this case, an underdrain is required.
- After application submittal, you will be contacted for a preliminary inspection to ensure site suitability.

Design/Installation

- **Residential:** Installed by a certified ICPI contractor with additional training in PICP or Installed by an experienced contractor who has submitted a portfolio of 5 permeable paver projects
- **Commercial:** Installed by a contractor with a PICP Specialist designation
- Installed according to RainScapes Permeable Paver Manual or PICP specs
- Cannot be installed on a slope greater than 10%. Slopes between 5%-10% should be installed on a terraced sub-grade with flow barriers (ICPI-82 Spec)
- A waterproof liner needs to be used within 10' of a house foundation (basement/crawl space) and 5' from a slab.
- Any sub-soil within 10' of house foundation must have positive drainage away from foundation.
- Aggregates used need to be washed natural stone. Recycled construction materials are not allowed.
- Geo-textiles should only be used on sidewalls. A choker course of pea gravel (2"-4") should be used between the aggregate and sub-soil.
- Connecting the downspout to the system is required where possible
 - Ideally, the downspout overflows onto a splashblock that is directed onto the pavers
 - A downspout filter and overflow (PVC Y-connection) must be used if the downspout is connecting into the sub-base.
- Plans (plan view and profile view) must be submitted for projects with underdrains, overdrains and piped overflows.
 - Plans should include pipe location, pipe elevation, pipe size and overflow location.
 - If pop-ups are used, they should follow RainScapes pop-up specifications.
- Project should be installed in appropriate weather conditions utilizing proper sediment control procedures.

Final Steps

- Submit itemized receipts (tax will be subtracted).
- Electronically sign and submit the Property Owner Agreement.
- Schedule and pass final inspection.