



## RainScapes Rewards Rebates Design Criteria & Requirements for Project Eligibility

# Cistern

### Rebate Amount

**\$1 per gallon**

**Maximum rebate:** Residential - **\$500** • Commercial/Institutional - **\$2,000**  
(exceptions can be considered on a case by case basis)

### Required Supporting Documents

- Location plan (with graphic scale); indicate foundation area
- HOA approval letter, if applicable

### Minimum Size

250 gallons

### Maximum Size

- **Residential** – 500 gallons (exceptions can be considered on a case-by-case basis)
- **Commercial/Institutional** - 2,000 gallons (exceptions can be considered on a case-by-case basis)

### Location

- On private property
- **Above ground**, installed on a solid, level support base that is designed to hold the weight of the water harvesting system when full. (A full 250-gallon plastic tank weighs over 2,000 pounds!)
- Set away from window wells so that they can't overflow into a window well
- Overflow must drain onto a splash block directed to a pervious surface (grass, garden, etc.) or be directed back into the downspout using an inline diverter
- Overflow drainage outlet must be directed a minimum of 4 feet away from building's foundation
- Positive overflow drainage away from foundation
- Overflow must not change the pre-existing flow path of stormwater
- After application submittal, you will be contacted for a preliminary inspection to ensure site suitability.

### Design/Installation

- If re-purposing a cistern, rain barrel, or container, it needs to be food grade
- Should have secure lid and/or screen
- Should have water spigot at the bottom of the barrel for releasing water

- Should be made of hard plastic or a metal tank designed for water; no bags
- Overflow with pipe that releases water on to the ground but directed away from cistern's base
- Clear access for cleaning the inlets when necessary

## Final Steps

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

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 for a property 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.)