



# 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 <b>Application Process</b> 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 <b>RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</b> , 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 <b>RainScapes@montgomerycountymd.gov</b> . Depending on the number of adjustments, a second final inspection may be necessary.
10	Submit at the end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copies of the receipts, itemized and with sales tax subtracted</li><li>• Electronically-signed property owner agreement</li></ul>
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

# 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

- Planting plan (with graphic scale) showing plant quantities and locations
- 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
- Overflow must drain onto a pervious surface (grass, garden, etc.) or back into the downspout
- Overflow drainage outlet must be directed a minimum of 4' 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 barrel, 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 wood, no bags
- Overflow with pipe that releases water on to the ground
- 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.