

Coachella Valley Water District  
Residential Landscape Rebate Program Application

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**ELIGIBILITY**

All Projects must be pre-approved before work begins. Do not remove grass or begin your project before applying and receiving pre-approval from CVWD. **No retroactive rebates will be approved.** Eligible Projects are funded on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is no guarantee that funds will be available for an entire Program year (July 1 through June 30).

**Eligibility Criteria**

1. Participant must be a CVWD customer. Only domestic water customers are eligible for this program. Private pumpers, recycled water and canal users are not eligible. Customers residing within CVWD's service area who do not have a CVWD account are not eligible for CVWD programs.
2. Applicant must be the owner of the property site, or be a designated representative with photo ID and written authorization to represent the property owner or HOA.
3. Customer must have a fully functioning irrigation system.
4. Customer's account must be in good standing.

**CONDITIONS**

1. Applicant must:
  - Complete and sign a rebate application.
  - Complete and sign an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form W-9. The federal tax code treats landscape rebates as taxable income.
  - Provide a current photo of existing living or dead turf for each zone listed in the application. Exposed areas of dirt with no remnants of grass do not qualify for a rebate.
  - Submit a **Landscape Plan (Plan)** for all areas to be converted and include a minimum of 25% plant canopy at maturity for each area to be converted. If applicant needs help creating plans, CVWD suggests contacting local nurseries and contractors to see if they offer design services. The plan will include:
    - Approximate square footage for all areas where your turf will be removed.
    - Plant list and quantities with plant locations on the plan with a minimum.
    - Major plant materials that will be used including locations and quantities (i.e., trees, shrubs, groundcover areas).
    - Location and dimensions of new hardscape areas to be installed such as patios, walkways, retaining walls, etc. Indicate if the hardscape materials will be permeable or not.
    - Irrigation plan with the type of irrigation and component layout.
2. Customer agrees to schedule, and allow, CVWD representative(s) onto the property for Pre-site and Final Inspections.
3. Receive written approval before starting Project conversion. Notification will be sent to the email address on the application or by USPS if none was provided.
4. Receiving pre-approval is solely an estimate and does not guarantee a rebate. Rebate amounts are subject to change upon verification of the final inspection.
5. Customer must complete Project conversion within 90 days after written approval is given.
6. Completed Project will include a minimum of a 25% plant canopy per the CVWD approved Plan.
7. Drip irrigation systems may incorporate subsurface/in-line drip tubing and non-adjustable, pressure compensating bubblers and emitters. Adjustable bubblers and emitters are not allowed.
8. **No mixed zones are permitted.** A mixed zone has different types of irrigation on the same zone. Mixed zones do not qualify for a rebate.
9. Customer will ensure retrofitted areas have an operating pressure within the sprinkler/drip irrigation per manufacturer's specifications. This may require installation of a pressure regulator.

## PROJECT CRITERIA

1. Grass must be replaced with a combination of desert-friendly plants and permeable landscape surfaces with a minimum of 25% plant canopy.
2. Artificial turf projects are acceptable up to a maximum of 10,000 square feet which equates to a maximum of \$20,000. Customer will post or provide copy of receipt for newly installed artificial turf upon project completion.
3. Turf/grass areas replaced with concrete or other non-permeable hardscape are not eligible for rebate and will not be included in the Project Area.
4. Turf removed and replaced with concrete or all-gravel yards are not eligible for rebate.
5. Grout and/or mortar used with pavers are not considered permeable and will disqualify the site for the rebate program if installed.
6. Pavers or bricks that are sand filled and/or spaced sufficiently to allow water to pass through can be included in your conversion so long as all program requirements are met.
7. Weed barriers must be permeable. **Plastic sheeting as a weed barrier is not allowed** and will disqualify the site for the rebate program.
8. All exposed soil must be covered with a 2-3" layer of mulch (acceptable mulch includes compost, bark, wood chip, decomposed granite, river rock)
9. Existing overhead irrigation systems within the Project area must be capped off and converted to drip irrigation or bubblers. If artificial turf is used, some spray heads may remain.
10. Retained spray irrigation must be on a separate valve from any drip irrigation.
11. All retrofitted areas must have an operating pressure within the sprinkler/drip irrigation per manufacturer's specifications.
12. Drip irrigation requires the installation of a **pressure regulator or pressure regulating valve**.
13. Customer must submit photos of completed Project conversion for each area included in the application.
14. Customer will contact CVWD Water Management to schedule a post conversion **Final Inspection** upon Project's completion.
15. If customer fails the Post Conversion Inspection, CVWD will attempt to allow the customer to make changes to the project to comply with the Program and be eligible for the rebate. CVWD will conduct one additional post inspection within 30 days of the failed inspection. CVWD will not provide more than two inspections for failure to follow Program guidelines.
16. After the Project conversion is completed, approved and verified, a rebate check will be mailed to the property owner's billing or mailing address associated with the customer account within 90 days.
17. The converted Project areas must remain in compliance with all Program conditions for a period of at least five (5) years from the date of Project approval.

## RELEASE OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNIFICATION

By applying for or participating in any component of CVWD's Programs, personal information listed on your application may be subject to disclosure to any member of the public who requests it pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

Neither CVWD, its contractors or agents, makes any representation or warranty regarding the contracted services or products that you may select for your Project under the Program. Removal of turf and installation of water efficient devices and plants does not guarantee reduced water use. Any and all claims or causes of action you may have in connection with any defect or failure of performance of any contracted service or installed product or device provided to you for your Project may only be pursued with the contractor you hired or the appropriate manufacturer/distributor.

By participating in the Program and accepting the rebates provided, you thereby release CVWD, its contractors and agents, from any and all claims and causes of action that may arise out of your removal of turf from your property and/or the purchase, installation, and/or use of water efficient devices and plants in connection with this desert landscaping rebate program.

## **RELEASE OF CLAIMS AND IDEMNIFICATION (Continued)**

Neither the CVWD, nor its contractors or agents, makes any representation or warranty regarding the irrigation controller utilized in the Residential Smart Controller Program. By participating in the program, you waive and release the CVWD, its contractors and agents, from any and all claims and causes of action arising out of the installation or use of the irrigation controller in connection with the Smart Controller Program. Any claim you may have based upon any defect or failure of the performance of the irrigation controller installed in conjunction with this rebate program shall only be pursued with the controller manufacturer.

CVWD and its representative will take photos of landscapes being renovated through the Program and may use pre and post conversion photos for reproduction or promotional purposes. Identification location features, such as address numbers, will not be included in any promotional materials.

CVWD is responsible for operating and enforcing the Terms and Conditions of the Program. As the Program participant, you are responsible for ensuring that your Project complies with all applicable Federal, State, County, local laws, CVWD rules and regulations, as well as applicable CC&Rs and/or HOA restrictions. Quality of work and appearance of the converted area are the responsibility of the participant.

Further, you agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the CVWD, its directors, officers, employees, contractors, and agents, from all liability and claims of any kind arising out of, or related to, your removal of turf and purchase, installation, and use of water efficient devices and plants in connection with this Program.