



RESIDENTIAL TURF REPLACEMENT REBATE PROGRAM

Terms and Conditions

On average, approximately half of a single family home's water use comes from irrigating their landscape. The residential turf replacement program's goal is to reduce the amount of water used to irrigate residential landscaping by replacing water thirsty lawns with drought tolerant plants (Program). The Program waives the \$167.23 fee to rent one bin to remove the turf however, an additional fee based on the weight of the turf to haul it away is not waived. If the bin is not placed in the driveway, a street use permit is required at an additional cost of \$185.12. Following are instructions on how to participate in the Program along with its terms and conditions.

How to Participate:

1. Determine if you are one of the first 50 residents to apply for the rebate by calling the Environmental Programs and Operations division (EPO) at 310-253-6400.
2. If you are one of the first 50 then read these Terms and Conditions and complete and submit a Rebate Application with "before" photographs of your existing turf landscape attached. Applications may be downloaded from the City's website at www.culvercity.org/waterconservation or be obtained by calling EPO at 310-253-6400. Once submitted and reviewed, you will be contacted by EPO with further instructions.

Terms and Conditions:

- I. Under this Program, the lawn or turf must be replaced with drought tolerant plants or mulch (see the websites listed under "Frequently Asked Questions" for recommended drought tolerant plants).
- II. The rebates are available to the first 50 residents who apply by June 30, 2016 and are awarded on a "first come, first served" basis.
- III. Only one rebate will be issued per household.
- IV. The City of Culver City reserves the right to terminate this Program at any time, for any reason.
- V. To be eligible for the rebate, the turf area must be irrigated with potable water.
- VI. The customer's refuse collection account must be in good standing.
- VII. Turf areas to be replaced must be either a single family or multi-family residence that has a dedicated system used to irrigate the landscaped area. If a new irrigation system will be installed as part of the customer's turf replacement project, it must be a low volume drip irrigation system equipped with a water pressure regulator, filter and emitters.
- VIII. The replacement area must be completely covered by a 2-3" layer of mulch that is permeable to both air and water. (Common mulching materials include rock, bark, wood chips, un-grouted flagstone or pavers.)
- IX. Customer applications must be tentatively approved by EPO prior to June 30, 2016. The turf replacement and submission of landscape after photographs must be submitted to EPO prior to July 31, 2016.
- X. Rebates will be issued only to the residential property owner or their legally authorized representative.
- XI. The City reserves the right to inspect the property to verify Program compliance.
- XII. Customers are solely responsible for obtaining permits, adhering to City laws related to landscaping and maintenance and for complying with any applicable laws, regulations, policies, conditions, covenants and restrictions and for any liabilities arising out of the replacement project.
- XIII. The replacement area must contain enough plants to create at least fifty percent (50%) living plant cover when fully grown.

- XIV. Before photographs must be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10. After photographs must be the in the same amount as the before photographs and be taken from the same angles. Preferably, at least one before and after photograph should depict the location's street address number.
- XV. Landscape after photographs are due no later than 60 days after the bin has been ordered by the applicant or by July 31, 2016; whichever occurs first.
- XVI. The City makes no guarantee that a bin will be available on the date(s) the customer orders it to be delivered. Check bin availability by calling 310-253-6400 prior to scheduling your turf removal and replacement project.
- XVII. Submit the signed Rebate Application:

- a) By e-mail to turfremoval@culvercity.org or
- b) U.S. Post:

City of Culver City
Environmental Programs and Operations
Attn: Turf Removal Rebate Program
9770 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90232



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Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What plants can I use to replace my turf?** The program does not require specific plants however, they are required to be drought tolerant species that when fully mature, will cover at least fifty percent of the replaced area. Customers are encouraged to consider keeping any existing trees since they provide shade. Following are links to websites that provide information about drought tolerant plants in Southern California:

<http://lasmmcnps.org/plantingtips.html>

<http://www.lvmwd.com/home/showdocument?id=711>

2. **May I receive credit for replacing my lawn with artificial turf?** No.
3. **Why does the City require plants instead of artificial turf?** In addition to saving water, trees, shrubs and mulch provide shade, absorb carbon dioxide, supply oxygen, reduce soil erosion, gives wildlife a home, decreases energy use and reduces storm water runoff.
4. **May I receive a credit for replacing the turf with a patio, a walkway or an extension of my driveway?** The customer may replace their turf with a patio, a walkway or a driveway extension provided doing so complies with Chapter 17.310 of the Culver City Municipal Code.
5. **I stopped watering my lawn to save water and now it is dead. Do I still qualify for the rebate?** Yes.
6. **May I receive credit for replacing my high water use grass with a low water use grass?** Provided the replacement ground cover is drought tolerant, it may replace the turf. Examples of drought tolerant grasses include Deergrass, Sheep Fescue, Purple Needle and Giant Wild Rye.
7. **If I have children and/or dogs, how do I incorporate water efficient landscaping into my yard?** A customer does not have to eliminate all of their lawn area to participate. Some replacement projects simply involve reducing the amount of lawn area or creating a buffer area around the edge of an existing lawn.
8. **What if my Homeowners' Association or CC&Rs require me to keep grass in my yard?** A customer must be sure to follow all applicable Homeowners Association conditions, covenants and rules that apply when considering any landscape project.
9. **What is mulch and why is it required?** The most common types of mulch are decorative rock, bark or wood. Mulch helps preserve moisture by reducing water evaporation. Without mulch, wind and heat pull the moisture out of the soil and more water is then needed to keep plants healthy. In addition, the temperature of the soil constantly fluctuates causing stress to plants and wood and bark mulches help

retain the temperature of the soil. Additional benefits include the reduction of weed growth, erosion and certain insect diseases. To be effective, a 2-3" layer of mulch is required.

10. May I receive a rebate for removing my high water use plants instead of turf? No.

11. Why do I need a filter and water pressure regulator? If your turf replacement project includes installation of a drip irrigation system, the emitters have very small openings for the water to pass through. A filter prevents sediment from clogging emitters, ensuring that plants will get the correct amount of water. A water pressure regulator keeps the irrigation system at the manufacturer's recommended pressure point (usually between 20 and 40 pounds per square inch). Not installing a water pressure regulator may cause fittings and lines to fail, creating wasteful breaks and leaks in your system. The City also recommends installing a smart irrigation system equipped with a moisture sensor that (after proper programming) measures soil moisture that automatically adjusts to rainfall to provide the right amount of water to your landscape.



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Application

Until June 30, 2016, the City of Culver City is offering a rebate to the first 50 residents who remove their turf and replace it with drought tolerant plants. The rebate covers the cost to rent one bin to dispose of the turf and is valued at \$167.23 however, an additional fee that is based on the weight of the turf to haul it away is not waived. Larger yards may need more than one bin to remove the turf at an additional charge. If the bin is not placed in a homeowner's driveway, an additional street use permit is required at a cost of \$185.12 to place it on the street. To inquire about the availability of the rebate program prior to completing this application, contact the City's Environmental Programs and Operations division at 310-253-6400. If you are one of the first 50 residents to apply, review the program terms and conditions, complete this application and submit it to the City's Environmental Programs and Operations division.

To qualify for the rebate, the customer must:

- Be the property owner of record of a residence or their legally authorized representative.
- Replace the turf with drought tolerant plants.
- Agree to comply with all the program's terms and conditions
- Submit before photographs depicting the turf areas to be replaced with this application.
- Submit after photographs depicting the drought tolerant planting.

Customer name: _____ Date: _____

Daytime phone number: (_____) _____ E-Mail: _____

Customer address for turf removal: _____

Estimated square footage of turf to be removed: _____

What is your connection to the property where the turf is being replaced?

Property Owner Legally Authorized Representative

In addition to the foregoing qualifications, I declare that I am the property owner of record or their legally authorized representative. I have been provided a copy of the Rebate Terms and Conditions, which I have read, understand and agree to, which are incorporated herein by this reference:

Authorized Signature: _____ Date _____